



MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
FEBRUARY 17, 2021

- I. **Call to Order:** Due to the outbreak of COVID-19 and the declaration of a state of emergency by Governor Bill Lee, the Regional Transportation Authority held a meeting via teleconference on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 to conduct essential business to protect the health, safety and welfare of Tennesseans in light of the COVID-19 outbreak. This meeting was held in accordance with Executive Order No. 71 in order to discuss essential business. A quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Chair, Mayor Randall Hutto.

Executive Committee Members in Attendance:

Mayor Randall Hutto – Wilson County
Governor’s Appointee Ed Cole, Secretary – Davidson County
Mayor Ken Moore – City of Franklin
Mayor Jerry Kirkman – City of Westmoreland
Mayor Bob Rial – Dickson County
Mayor Anthony Holt – Sumner County
Mayor Billy Vogle – Robertson County
Governor’s Appointee Kelly Dannenfelser – Williamson County
Governor’s Appointee Ken Davis – Wilson County

Others Present:

Mayor Rick Bell – City of Lebanon
Kenny Martin (Alt.) – City of Mt. Juliet

- II. **Approval of the October 21, 2020 Minutes**
A motion was made by Mayor Ken Moore and seconded by Mayor Bob Rial and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- III. **Public Comments:**
There were no public comments at this time.
- IV. **Finance Committee Report:** Chief Financial Officer Ed Oliphant reported the following:
- a. **Monthly Financial Report Compared to Budget Report (EXC-D-21-001):** Chief Financial Officer Ed Oliphant reviewed the year-to-date data of the statement of operations for the month of December 2020 compared to the FY2020 budget and the balance sheet as of December 31, 2020. Chief Financial Officer Ed Oliphant was present to answer any questions and there was one question on the floor:
- Secretary Ed Cole asked if there was any sense estimate of additional funds available through Federal stimulus funds beyond the CARES Act money RTA received in early 2020. CFO Ed Oliphant said that there was a second stimulus that came out under the CRRSA legislation, but the Greater Nashville region did not receive any funding due to the amount of prior funding received under the CARES Act. CEO Bland further explained that, in CRRSA, funding to any urbanized area was capped at 75% of total

operating expenses when added to CARES Act funds. Because CARES Act funding for the Nashville region exceeded the 75% cap, we were not eligible for additional funds. Congress is now considering a 3rd round of stimulus. Current legislation increases the cap from 75% to 132%, so Nashville would be eligible for additional funds if it were approved in its current form. However, because CARES Act funding to the RTA equals approximately 177% of FY2018 operating, Nashville MTA would likely be allocated most of any ensuing package.

- b. **Conflict of Interest (EXC-D-21-002)**: Chief Financial Officer Ed Oliphant reviewed the Annual Conflict of Interest report with the Executive Committee as distributed. There were no questions.
- c. **Annual Risk Assessment (EXC-D-21-003)**: Chief Financial Officer Ed Oliphant reviewed Annual Risk Assessment as distributed to the Board. With the pending re-application for CMAQ funds with TDOT this year, this is a primary risk item for the upcoming budget year as it is the single largest funding source for RTA Commuter Bus Operations. There were no additional questions.

V. **Operations Committee Report**: CEO Steve Bland reported the following on behalf of Mayor Jerry Kirkman:

- a. **Monthly Operating Statistics (EXC-D-21-004)**: CEO Bland reviewed the RTA Monthly Dashboard Report through the month of December 31, 2020 with the Executive Committee. Director of Service Quality Dan Freudberg was present to answer any questions and there were none at this time.

VI. **CEO's Report**:

1. This past month, staff had the opportunity to meet with Lebanon Mayor Bell to discuss plans and projects for the Star, and how it fits into the City's plans, as well as to provide him with overall information on the RTA. Mr. Bland thanked Mayor Bell for his.
2. As CEO Bland previously reported, Mayor Cooper's Nashville Transportation Plan includes a number of programmed upgrades to the Star. CEO Bland stated that he had the opportunity to give the Mayor's Senior Advisor for Transportation and Infrastructure, Faye DiMassimo, a tour of the various stations on the line in both Davidson and Wilson Counties, and to provide overall background on recent upgrades and planned improvements. CEO Bland thanked Mayor Hutto for taking time out of his schedule to meet with them to discuss the role of the Star in Wilson County.
3. The RTA's Oversight Hearing with the Senate Government Operations Committee was originally scheduled for today, but we were notified last week that it is being postponed to a future date.
4. The Governor submitted his proposed budget for FY2021-22. The budget incorporates a cut in funding to public transportation of \$16 million, or approximately 21%. Indications are that the cut is due to decreased fuel tax collections, with simultaneous relief to public transit agencies through the Federal CARES Act. Our understanding is that this cut will come from the IMPROVE Act Discretionary Capital program, so it probably will not have an impact on our operating budget but will reduce funding for our capital improvement program.

CEO Bland concluded his remarks and was available for any questions from the floor and there were none at this time.

VII. **Chair's Report**: Mayor Hutto thanked everybody attending the meeting and then called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

VIII. Adjournment: Proper motion was made and seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Ed Cole, RTA Secretary &
Davidson County Governor Appointee