

FINANCE COMMITTEE MONTHLY MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2021
OPEN MEETING VIA CONFERENCE CALL

OPEN SESSION

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Cynthia Penny-Ardinger
Dontae Carroll
Jeffrey Rosen
John von Paris

STAFF ATTENDING: Jeffrey Davis
Cheryl Dickinson
David Greene
James Harkness
Natalie Henson
Kimberly Millender, Esquire
Ken Montgomery
Mary O’Keeffe
Jim Ports
Deb Sharpless
Dayna Taitt
Christina Thompson
Clayton Viehweg
Eric Willison

OTHERS ATTENDING: Courtney Highsmith – MDOT TSO
David Calvert - PFM

At 9:00 a.m., Member John von Paris, Chair of the Finance Committee, called the Finance Committee Meeting to order.

APPROVAL – OPEN MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 15, 2021, MEETING

Member John von Paris called for the approval of the meeting minutes from the open meeting held on June 15, 2021. Member Jeffrey Rosen made the motion, and Member Dontae Carroll seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL – DEBT POLICY

Ms. Dayna Taitt requested a recommendation for approval from the Finance Committee to the full MDTA Board for the approval of the Debt Policy. The Board Policy on Debt Management establishes the guidelines for the process by which the MDTA issues and manages debt and provides guidance to the MDTA Board and staff to ensure that a sound debt position and strong credit quality is maintained. Annual review of the Debt Management Policy is required. Ms. Taitt noted that there were no recommended changes to the Debt Policy.

Member von Paris called for a motion to recommend approval of this item to the full MDTA Board at its next scheduled meeting. Member Carroll made the motion, and Member Penny-Ardinger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

UPDATE – INVESTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Clayton Viehweg and Mr. David Calvert (PFM) provided an update on the activities of the Investment Committee for the three- month period ended June 30, 2021. The update included a review of market conditions, portfolio strategies, and total return performance. Mr. Viehweg and Mr. Calvert also discussed certain market drivers that may influence portfolio performance in the coming months, including the economy, fiscal policy, and Federal Reserve monetary policy.

APPROVAL – INVESTMENT POLICY

Mr. Clayton Viehweg requested a recommendation of approval from the Finance Committee to present the Investment Policy to the full MDTA Board at its next scheduled meeting. The Board Policy on Investment Management establishes guidelines for the safeguarding and management of the MDTA's cash and investments. The Policy requires annual review and approval by the Board. Changes to the permissible Investment Obligations definition within the Trust Agreement were approved by the MDTA Board in May 2020 and became effective through a springing amendment process when majority bondholder approval was achieved with the Series 2021 bond issue on April 7, 2021. With the legal limitation changes now effective in the Trust Agreement, the Investment Committee recommends the same revisions to the internal investment management policy. The following changes to the Investment Policy are currently recommended including (1) Modify the language in Section V(a)(vii) to match the revised Trust agreement permitting the purchase of Municipal Securities that are rated by one Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization in at least the second highest rating category, and (2) Clarify language in Section I(a)(iii) requiring Finance Committee notifications of a municipal security downgrade for a bond with only one credit rating.

Member von Paris called for a motion to recommend approval of this item to the full MDTA Board at its next scheduled meeting. Member Rosen made the motion, and Member Penny-Ardinger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**UPDATE AND APPROVAL – FORMER MARYLAND HOUSE TRAVEL PLAZA
MURAL SCENE PANELS**

Mr. David Greene provided an update to the Finance Committee on the MDTA's request for Board of Public Works approval to transfer the remaining Former Maryland House Travel Plaza Mural scene panel depicting Frances Scott Key in front of U.S. Flag to the Maryland Commission on Artistic Property of the Maryland State Archives.

Member von Paris called for a motion to recommend approval of this item to the full MDTA Board at its next scheduled meeting. Member Carroll made the motion, and Member Penny-Ardinger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

UPDATE – ASSET MANAGEMENT PRESENTATION

Mr. James Harkness, Acting Chief Engineer in the Office of Engineering and Construction provided an update to the Finance Committee on the MDTA Asset Management System.

There being no further business, the meeting of the Finance Committee adjourned at 10:08 a.m., following a motion by Member Carroll, and seconded by Member Penny-Ardinger.

John von Paris, Chairman