

MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022
9:00 A.M.

2310 BROENING HIGHWAY, BALTIMORE MD 21224
IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAMED OPEN MEETING

OPEN SESSION

James F. Ports, Jr., Chairman

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Dontae Carroll – Via Telephone
William H. Cox, Jr.
William C. Ensor, III
W. Lee Gaines, Jr.
Mario J. Gangemi
Cynthia D. Penny-Ardinger, Esq.
Jeffrey S. Rosen
John F. von Paris

STAFF ATTENDING:

Donna DiCerbo
Tonya Dorsey
Allen Garman
Chantelle Green
James Harkness
Natalie Henson
Joseph Jachelski
Selena McKissick
Kelly Melhem
Kimberly Millender, Esq.
Mary O'Keeffe
Will Pines
Joseph Sagal

OTHERS ATTENDING:

Ebony Moore, MDOT TSO

At 9:00 a.m. Chairman James F. Ports, Jr. called the meeting of the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) Board to order. The meeting was held in-person at 2310 Broening Highway, Baltimore MD and was livestreamed on the MDTA Board Meeting web page.

APPROVAL – OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 28, 2022

Upon motion by Member Mario J. Gangemi and seconded by Member W. Lee Gaines, Jr., the open session meeting minutes of the MDTA Board meeting held on July 28, 2022 were unanimously approved.

APPROVAL – CLOSED SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 28, 2022

Upon motion by Member William H. Cox, Jr. and seconded by Member Jeffrey S. Rosen, the closed session meeting minutes of the MDTA Board meeting held on July 28, 2022 were unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION – YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

Mr. Will Pines announced the Years of Service Recognition for retired employees First Sergeant John W. Irwin and Corporal Kenneth Withrow.

On the occasion of First Sergeant Irwin's and Corporal Withrow's retirement from their distinguished careers of service, the Chairman and Members of the Maryland Transportation Authority hereby express to them their most sincere appreciation for their excellence and commitment.

APPROVAL – CONTRACT AWARDS

• **J01P2600128 – Two-Way Communications Radios for Police Vehicles**

Ms. Donna DiCerbo requested approval from the MDTA Board to execute Contract No. J01P2600138 – Two-Way Communications Radios for Police Vehicles with Motorola Solutions, Inc. in the bid amount of \$393,244.88.

Ms. DiCerbo explained that this contract is for the purchase of 56 two-way encrypted communication radios for installation in new law enforcement vehicles. These additional police vehicles were collectively bargained between the MDTA and Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #34 for the Civil Disturbance Team (50 vehicles) and Sergeants (16). The radios are required for notification and communication between dispatchers and law enforcement personnel for safety and security on MDTA managed roadways and facilities and other TSO agencies (MAA, MPA) as well as statewide police resources as requested. Currently there are only 10 police radios on-hand for installation once the vehicles are delivered.

She further explained that a single offer was received on this PORFP, and it was determined by the Procurement Officer that the Offeror's pricing was fair and reasonable.

Upon motion by Member William H. Cox, Jr. and seconded by Member William C. Ensor, III, the Members unanimously gave approval to execute Contract No. J01P2600138 – Two-Way Communications Radios for Police Vehicles.

- **MDTA 2019-01B – Small Business Reserve (SBR) – Construction Management and Inspection Services**

Ms. Donna DiCerbo requested contingent approval from the MDTA Board to execute Contract No. MDTA 2019-01B – Small Business Reserve (SBR) – Construction Management and Inspection Services (CMI) with O’Connel & Lawrence (OCL) in the bid amount of \$2,000,000.00.

Ms. DiCerbo explained that the service to be performed under this SBR contract are CMI Services for the MDTA. The consultant shall provide professional Construction Management Services related to supplementing and supporting the construction phase of the MDTA Consolidated Transportation Project. The Consultants shall perform services in the following general areas; service shall include, but not be limited to; constructability reviews, conduct detailed inspections of all construction work including erosion and sediment control, and assist the MDTA's compliance officer with monitoring and enforcement of the Minority Business Enterprise goals.

Upon motion by Member Mario J. Gangemi and seconded by Member John F. von Paris, the Members unanimously gave approval to execute Contract No. MDTA 2019-01B – Small Business Reserve (SBR) – Construction Management and Inspection Services (CMI).

UPDATE – PROCURMENT REPORT ON OPEN CONTRACTS

Ms. Donna DiCerbo presented the MDTA Board with a verbal report on how many contracts are currently open with the MDTA excluding state credit card purchases. There are currently 226 total contracts totaling \$3,071,495,807.09.

APPROVAL – DEBT POLICY

Mr. Allen Garman requested MDTA Board approval of the MDTA’s Debt Policy.

The Debt Policy contains elements of State law, Trust Agreement covenants, and provisions to ensure credit strength, with the goal of maintaining strong bond market access at the lowest possible financing rates. Mr. Garman noted that following a recent review of the Debt Management Policy by internal staff and external municipal advisory firms, no changes to the policy were recommended.

Upon motion by Member W. Lee Gaines, Jr. and seconded by Member Jeffrey S. Rosen, the MDTA Debt Policy was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL – QUARTERLY REVIEW OF THE INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Mr. Allen Garman requested MDTA Board approval to continue with the current investment strategy.

Mr. Garman explained that for the trailing twelve-month period ended June 30, 2022, investments conformed to Investment Policy limitations. Portfolio structuring by account adhered to Board approved strategy and should remain consistent, despite short-term return volatility associated with the rising interest rate environment. No changes in performance strategy or benchmark are recommended.

Upon motion by Member W. Lee Gaines, Jr. and seconded by Member Cynthia D. Penny-Ardinger, continuation of the current investment strategy was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL – INVESTMENT POLICY

Mr. Allen Garman requested MDTA Board approval of one proposed technical correction to the MDTA Investment Policy.

Mr. Garman explained that following a recent review by the Investment Committee, including input from the financial advisory firm, only one technical correction was made with reference to Section 6-222 of the State Finance and Procurement Article; no material changes to the Investment Policy are currently recommended.

Upon motion by Member Jeffrey S. Rosen and seconded by Member William C. Ensor, III, the proposed Investment Policy technical correction was unanimously approved.

UPDATE – HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Member Dontae Carroll presented an update on the Human Resources Committee meeting that took place on August 11, 2022. The Human Resources Committee Members were given updates on: Classification actions related to *E-ZPass* Support Managers as well as the new prevailing hiring rate set for the Facility Maintenance Technician and Facility Maintenance Supervisor positions; Training and career development activities to be carried out by the Career Counselor and the newly developed Career Readiness Workshop for the Toll Collection staff; Retention data for employees who participate in the Career Development Program and positive attrition rates; Standard Operating Procedures; PULSE Performance Appraisal E-Filing Project; Essential Employee Acknowledgement E-Filing Project; and MDTA's vacancy rate and current initiatives to fill vacant positions.

UPDATE – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Will Pines gave the Executive Director Update. Mr. Pines spoke on the following topics: Customer Assistance Plan; DriveEZMD and E-ZPass education; Bay Bridge Travel Marketing Campaigns; Highlighted notable achievements of the I-895 Bridge and Baltimore Harbor Tunnel Rehabilitation project; Customer Performance metrics; the August 10th MDTA Police Promotional Ceremony; the Maryland House's participation in the August 20th America's 9/11 Ride; MACO Summer Conference; Back-To-School Drive benefiting the Boys and Girls Club of Maryland; Mr. Jim Port's Anti-Litter Campaign; Upcoming Press Release reminding drivers of best time to travel during the Labor Day Holiday; and the upcoming three Bay Crossing Study Tier 2 NEPA Open Houses.

During Mr. Pines remarks, there was an in-depth discussion regarding the Customer Assistance Plan. Mr. Jim Ports and Mr. Pines discussed the various methods that are being used to make customers aware of the Plan and the upcoming November 30th deadline. These include monthly press releases that go out via various different methods; and a mailing that went out directly to everyone with outstanding balances that have not yet made payments. The Board discussed possible other reminders that we may be able to do prior to the completion of the program.

Mr. Ports also spoke about his Anti-Littering campaign. His campaign includes a video that he recorded regarding the litter along state highways, the amount of trash picked up over preceding years and the cost to pick it up, as well as the recyclable trash bags for your cars that he gave out at the travel plaza.

VOTE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

At 10:19 a.m., upon motion by Member William H. Cox, Jr. and seconded by Member W. Lee Gaines, Jr., the Members voted unanimously to move into Closed Session under the Maryland Open Meetings Act, the MDTA Board met in Closed Session under the General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b)(7) and (13) to receive legal advice and discuss the results of an internal audit related to the 3G contracts and implementation.

In attendance for the Closed Session were Chairman Jim Ports; Members Carroll (via telephone), Cox, Ensor, Gaines, Gangemi, Penny-Ardinger, Rosen, and von Paris; Will Pines; Kimberly Millender, Esq.; and Ebony Moore.

VOTE TO ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION

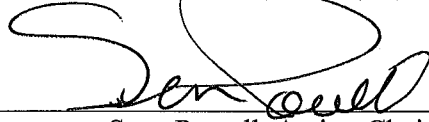
At 11:49 a.m., a motion was made by Member Mario J. Gangemi and seconded by Member Cynthia D. Penny-Ardinger, which was unanimously approved, to adjourn the Closed Session and return to Open Session. There were no actions taken in Closed Session that require ratification.

VOTE TO ADJOURN MEETING

There being no further business, upon motion by Member William H. Cox, Jr. and seconded by Member Mario J. Gangemi, the Members unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

The next MDTA Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 29, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at MDTA, 2310 Broening Highway, Baltimore MD and will be livestreamed on the MDTA Board webpage.

APPROVED AND CONCURRED IN:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Powell", written over a horizontal line.

Sean Powell, Acting Chairman