

MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023  
9:00 A.M.

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

OPEN SESSION

Paul J. Wiedefeld, Acting Chairman

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

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

STAFF ATTENDING:

Col. Kevin Anderson  
Jeffrey Brown  
Percy Dangerfield  
Jeffrey Davis  
Tonya Dorsey  
Allen Garman  
Chantelle Green  
James Harkness  
Natalie Henson  
James Kittleman  
Jeanne Marriott  
Selena McKissick  
Kelly Melhem  
Kimberly Millender, Esq.  
William Pines  
Bradley Ryon  
Joseph Sagal  
Deb Sharpless  
Agnes Vadasz

OTHERS ATTENDING:

Robert Hayes, Sr. – Former MDTA Employee

At 9:01 a.m. Acting Chairman Paul J. Wiedefeld called the meeting of the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) Board to order. The meeting was held in-person at MDTA Headquarters, 2310 Broening Highway, Baltimore MD 21224 and was livestreamed on the MDTA Board Meeting web page.

**APPROVAL – OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2023**

Upon motion by Member William H. Cox, Jr. and seconded by Member Mario J. Gangemi, the open session meeting minutes of the MDTA Board meeting held on January 26, 2023 were unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL – CLOSED SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2023**

Upon motion by Member Jeffrey S. Rosen and seconded by Member John F. von Paris, the closed session meeting minutes of the MDTA Board meeting held on January 26, 2023 were unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION – YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION**

Mr. Will Pines read and presented a Years of Service Recognition Resolution to Mr. Robert Hayes, Sr.

On the occasion of Mr. Hayes' retirement from his distinguished career of service, the Acting Chairman and Members of the Maryland Transportation Authority Board hereby express to him their most sincere appreciation for his excellence and commitment.

**APPROVAL – CONTRACT AWARDS**

***\*\* At 9:07 a.m. Member John F. von Paris recused himself from Contract No. SV-3092-0000. He left the room prior to the presentation and vote for this item and did not participate in the discussion or vote of the item. \*\****

• **SV-3092-0000 – Transportation and Consulting Services**

Mr. Jeffrey Davis requested approval from the MDTA Board to execute Contract No. SV-3092-0000 – Transportation and Consulting Services with WSP USA, Inc. in the amount of \$8,698,099.00.

Mr. Davis explained that this contract is for transportation consultant services to support the Maryland Transportation Authority in transportation system analysis and needs forecasting, performance evaluation and reporting, and project/task management services and staff support.

Upon motion by Member Mario J. Gangemi and seconded by Member William H. Cox, Jr., the Members unanimously gave approval to execute Contract No. SV-3092-0000 – Transportation and Consulting Services.

***\*\* At 9:10 a.m. Member von Paris returned to the meeting room after the previous agenda item had been presented, discussed, and approved. \*\****

**UPDATE – PROCURMENT REPORT ON OPEN CONTRACTS**

Mr. Jeffrey Davis 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 217 total contracts totaling \$2,737,957,731.10.

**APPROVAL – QUARTERLY REVIEW OF INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND BENCHMARKS**

Mr. Allen Garman requested MDTA Board approval to continue with the current investment strategies and benchmarks for the current quarter.

Mr. Garman explained that for the trailing twelve-month period ended December 31, 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 Jeffrey S. Rosen and seconded by Member Cynthia D. Penny-Ardinger, continuation of the current investment strategy was unanimously approved.

**UPDATE – 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER OPERATING BUDGET COMPARISON**

**\*\* During the presentation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Operating Budget Comparison Update the MDTA Board Meeting was paused due to technical issues with the livestreaming cameras. The technical issues were resolved within a few minutes and the meeting resumed. Mr. Brown re-started his update from the beginning upon resuming the meeting. \*\***

Mr. Jeffrey Brown updated the MDTA Board on actual versus projected year-to-date spending for the second quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Operating Budget. As of December 31, 2022, 38% of the budget was spent compared to a target of 49%. Object 03 (Communications) and Object 13 (Fixed Charges) were above budget. All other Objects are at or below the targeted spending level. The primary drivers for the underspending are personnel vacancies, delayed invoicing by vendors and the timing and/or seasonality of expenses.

**UPDATE – 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER CAPITAL BUDGET COMPARISON**

Ms. Jeanne Marriott updated the MDTA Board on the second quarter Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Capital Budget Comparisons. As of December 31, 2022, 38.8% of the FY 2023 budget was spent as compared to the targeted spending level of 50%. The total budget for FY 2023 is \$556.0 million. The actual spending through the second quarter was \$215.7 million.

### **UPDATE – TRAFFIC AND REVENUE**

Ms. Deb Sharpless gave a quarterly and year-to-date update to the MDTA Board regarding traffic and toll revenue trends compared to the previous year and the forecast.

Ms. Sharpless explained the quarterly review looks at traffic and toll revenue trends and compares actual system-wide experience with traffic and toll revenue forecasts. CDM Smith continues to track and evaluate the performance of traffic at the lane level and traffic and revenue collected on a cash basis.

She further explained that the key takeaways are: 1) Passenger vehicle traffic levels continue to track closely to pre-pandemic levels; 2) Commercial vehicle traffic levels continue to outperform pre-pandemic levels; and 3) Systemwide, transactions and revenue exceed the forecast by 5.6% and 10.9%, respectively and when adjusting for timing differences, systemwide revenue exceeds the forecast by 6.5%.

### **UPDATE – LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Mr. Bradley Ryon gave an update to the MDTA Board regarding the bills that have been filed that will have an impact to the MDTA. Mr. James Kittleman updated the Board on the number of legislative casework/inquiries that their office has received thus far.

### **UPDATE – HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Member W. Lee Gaines, Jr. presented an update on the Human Resources Committee meeting that took place on February 7, 2023. The Human Resources Committee Members were given updates on: Placement and Career Transition Services provided to the Toll Collection Staff; 2022 Recruitment Activities and New Initiatives for 2023; Overview of the Classification and Compensation Activities undertaken in 2022; Overview of Salary Increases Employees will receive on July 1<sup>st</sup> due to Collective Bargaining Negotiations; Career Development Program and Partnerships MDTA has in place with Several Higher Education Institutions; Training Available via Cornerstone OnDemand and Reported Increased Employee Usage; Biannual Supervisor Essentials Training; and MDTA's newly established Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee and Advised of the Climate Survey provided to Employees.

### **UPDATE – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. William Pines gave the Executive Director's Report. He advised the MDTA Board that 2023 will be another productive year for the MDTA as we continue to advance vital transportation that delivers Governor Moore's vision for our great State.

Mr. Pines then gave updates on the following items: February 1<sup>st</sup> full draw of the TIFIA loan following the interest rate lock that occurred in April 2022; February 3<sup>rd</sup> MDTA Police 56<sup>th</sup> Recruit Class Graduation Ceremony at Towson University with Acting Chairman Wiedefeld and Member Cox; MDTA Police First Sergeant Brendan Foard participated as a "Super Plunger" as part of the

2023 Polar Bear Plunge Maryland State Police fundraising event to benefit the Maryland Special Olympics; February 8<sup>th</sup> Hard Hat Tour of the New Great Wolf Lodge Resort Maryland located in Cecil County; February 17<sup>th</sup> Executive Director and Chiefs Virtual Town Hall for all MDTA Employees; March 8<sup>th</sup> Doing Business with MDTA Event that is upcoming; Upcoming ETL Section 200 Toll Hearings; Outstanding Achievement in Coatings Work in a Fixed Shop Project Award received for the new Nice/Middleton Bridge Project; MDTA presented at several workshops/seminars at the MDQI Conference; and announced that MDTA's Chief Operating Officer Joey Sagal has been chosen for Leadership Maryland's Class of 2023. Mr. Pines then turned the floor over to Mr. Joseph Sagal.

Mr. Sagal thanked Will for the kind remarks. He then explained that he wanted to inform the MDTA Board that on February 17<sup>th</sup> Executive Director Will Pines received the American Council of Engineering Companies of Maryland (ACEC/MD) President's Award. He further explained that the ACEC/MD represents over 90 multi-sized consulting engineering and related-service firms located throughout the State, serving both the public and private sectors and that the President's Award honors an individual whose actions have greatly contributed to the advancement of the consulting engineering profession and the citizens of Maryland. To receive this award is a very high honor and prestigious in the industry and receiving this award demonstrates the industry's high regard for Mr. Pines' integrity, knowledge, and experience. Mr. Sagal then turned the meeting back over to Mr. Pines.

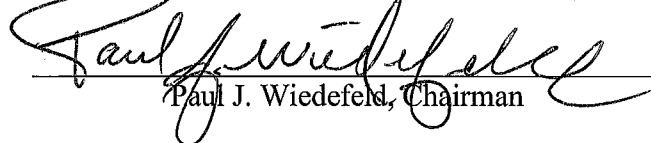
Mr. Pines then presented Ms. Natalie Henson with the Employee of the Quarter Award for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2022. Ms. Henson started working with the MDTA on April 26, 2017 after serving over a decade at MDOT TSO. She is a dedicated MDTA employee who goes above and beyond the requirements of her job; available after hours when needed; relied on heavily by the Executive Office for her skill set, institutional knowledge, and her ability to handle any situation; she volunteers for many tasks that benefit the MDTA; is a key player in all Executive Office events; Co-Chair of the MDTA Maryland Charity Campaign Committee; always available to help other divisions; and the MDTA benefits in both tangible and intangible ways from her professionalism. Her integrity, leadership, and positive attitude are not lost on those interacting with the Executive Office or those sitting on this Board. After the presentation of the award Mr. Pines concluded his remarks.

#### **VOTE TO ADJOURN MEETING**

There being no further business, upon motion by Member Jeffrey S. Rosen and seconded by Member William C. Ensor, III, the Members unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

The next MDTA Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 30, 2023 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:

  
Paul J. Wiedefeld, Chairman