

MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2019
2310 BROENING HIGHWAY, BALTIMORE, MD 21224

OPEN SESSION

R. Earl Lewis, Jr., Acting Chairman

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

P. Jack Basso
Katherine Bays Armstrong – via Telephone
Dontae Carroll
William H. Cox, Jr.
William Ensor
W. Lee Gaines
Mario J. Gangemi
John von Paris

STAFF ATTENDING:

Donna DiCerbo
Allen Garman
David Goldsborough
Chantelle Green
David Green
Natalie Henson
Meshelle Howard
Richard Jaramillo
Col. Jerry Jones
Jeanne Marriott
Kimberly Millender
Sushmita Mitra
Tonya Morant
Mary O'Keeffe
John O'Neill
Chris Paris
Mike Rice
John Sales
Deborah Sharpless
Darol Smith
Christina Thompson
Tim Wendt
Tina Williams
Eric Willison

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Jeff Blake, MDTA Retiree
James F. Ports, Jr., Maryland Department of Transportation
Sean Powell, Maryland Department of Transportation

At 9:00 a.m. Acting Chair R. Earl Lewis, Jr. called the meeting of the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) Board to order.

APPROVAL – OPEN SESSION MINUTES OF MAY 23, 2019

Upon motion by Member William Cox and seconded by Member W. Lee Gaines, the open meeting minutes of the MDTA Board meeting held on May 23, 2019 were unanimously approved.

RESOLUTIONS – YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

Mr. John O'Neill read the Years of Service Recognitions for the following retired employees: Mr. Jeffrey Blake and Mr. Rex Smith. On the occasion of their 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 – RESOLUTION 19-05 – BAY BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION ADVISORY GROUP (BBRAG) RECONFIGURATION

The creation of Bay Bridge Reconstruction Advisory Group (BBRAG) was officially approved at the MDTA Board Meeting on May 24, 2005. The goal was to form a group of citizens residing on both the Eastern and Western Shores of the Chesapeake Bay who had interest in the William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Bridge (Bay Bridge) and who could work with their respective communities and local businesses to educate, assess potential concerns, and gain input on Bay Bridge-related issues and relay that information back to the MDTA.

The BBRAG serves to provide MDTA with an independent, citizen-based perspective on the agency's operations at the Bay Bridge. The BBRAG was meant to serve as a clearinghouse for Bay Bridge users to share issues of concern; and to work collaboratively with MDTA staff by providing pertinent input related to traffic and customer service issues. Currently, BBRAG has 11 members of which only 6 members regularly attend the meetings. And, much has changed in Bay Bridge operations over the past 14 years. As such, a re-configuration, as presented in Resolution 19-05, will serve to refocus BBRAG on its original purpose and better align it to match MDTA's current vision and Bay Bridge operations.

Upon motion by Member Mario Gangemi and seconded by Member W. Lee Gaines, the Members unanimously approved Resolution 19-05 – Bay Bridge Reconstruction Advisory Group (BBRAG) Reconfiguration.

APPROVAL – FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020 FINAL OPERATING BUDGET

Ms. Christina Thompson requested a recommendation of approval from the MDTA Board for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Final Operating Budget. The Trust Agreement requires the approval of a final budget on or before July 1.

The FY 2020 Final Operating Budget totals \$324.4 million. This represents an increase of \$7.9 million, or 2.4 percent, above the FY 2020 Preliminary Operating Budget. The MDTA's position complement declines by 10 positions in FY 2020.

Changes from the FY 2020 Preliminary Budget include (1) a \$5.6 million increase in personnel expenses mostly due to mandatory personnel costs, including employee cost-of-living adjustments, bonuses, and pension costs; (2) a \$0.8 million increase in funding for additional equipment which is a carryover from FY 2019; (3) a \$0.7 million increase in security services for the maintenance of cameras on the MDTA's bridges and other security systems; (4) a \$0.6 million increase in building/road maintenance for the BaySpan interactive voice response system which is a carryover from FY 2019; and (5) a \$0.8 million increase in motor vehicle operations and maintenance expenses, supplies, janitorial services, and other miscellaneous expenses. These increases are partially offset by a \$0.6 million reduction in funding for systems analysis and design services and rent.

Upon motion by Member Peter J. Basso and seconded by Member John von Paris, the Members unanimously approved the FY 2020 Final Operating Budget.

APPROVAL – DRAFT FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020-2025 CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PLAN (CTP)

Ms. Jeanne Marriott requested approval from the MDTA Board for the Draft FY 2020-2025 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP).

The Draft CTP totals \$3.2 billion, which reflects a net increase in the six-year FY 2020-2025 budget of \$32.1 million. The net increase is the result of (1) a \$71.1 million increase in the six-year CTP budget for the I-95 Express Toll Lanes (ETL) Northern Extension; (2) a \$97.4 million increase in the six-year CTP budget for all projects (excluding the Nice/Middleton Bridge, I-95 ETL Northern Extension, and reserves); and (3) a reduction in the allocated and unallocated reserves of \$136.4.

Upon motion by Member Mario Gangemi and seconded by Member William Cox, the Members unanimously approved the Draft FY 2020-2025 Consolidated Transportation Plan (CTP).

UPDATE – UNOFFICIAL FINANCIAL FORECAST

Ms. Christina Thompson updated the MDTA Board on the financial affordability of the MDTA's operating and capital budgets. Ms. Thompson indicated that the unofficial forecast has been updated to include the Final FY 2020 Operating Budget and the Draft 2020-2025 CTP. The unofficial forecast does not include expected savings associated with the refunding of the MDTA's Series 2009A bonds or the true up of actual FY 2019 operating budget spending. Throughout the six-year forecast period, the MDTA remains above its financial goals and minimum legal standards and meets all requirements of the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2015.

UPDATE – BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL THURGOOD MARSHALL AIRPORT PASSENGER FACILITY CHARGE BONDS AND SERIES 2009A REVENUE BONDS REFUNDING SALE RESULTS

As required by Sections 3(e) of Resolutions 19-02 and 19-04, Ms. Deborah Sharpless updated the MDTA Board on the post-sale results of the Series 2009A revenue bonds refunding and the Passenger Facility Charge financing for the Maryland Aviation Administration. Ms. Sharpless indicated that both sales occurred within the targeted timeframes and complied with the limiting provisions contained in the resolutions.

UPDATE – AUDIT COMMITTEE

Member John von Paris presented an update on the Audit Committee meeting. The Office of Audits is on track to complete the 15 audits in the FY 2019 Audit Plan; 4 internal audit reports were presented and the Committee was satisfied with the results of the audits; and, the Executive Director provided an update on the competitive recruitment for replacement of the Audit Program Manager.

UPDATE – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. John O'Neill gave a brief update on the following topics: Cashless Tolling Open Houses, MDTA Police Successes, MDTA Day, Getting Your Foot in the Door outreach event, and MDTA new hires (Paul Trentalance – Audit Program Manager; Chantelle Green – Director of Finance; and Kelly Melham – Director of Communications). Mr. O'Neill presented employee Tina Williams as his employee of the month for outstanding service.

VOTE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

At 9:30 a.m., upon motion by Member William Ensor and seconded by Member John von Paris, the Members voted unanimously to move into Closed Session under § 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss a personnel matter related to the appointment of an Executive Director.

At 9:52 a.m., a motion was made by Member William Cox and seconded by Member W. Lee Gaines, which was unanimously approved, to adjourn the Closed Session and return to Open Session.

RATIFICATION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion by Member Mario Gangemi and seconded by Member William Cox, the Members ratified their action taken in Closed Session to appoint Mr. James F. Ports, Jr. as Executive Director.

There being no further business, the meeting of the MDTA Board was adjourned by consensus at 9:55 a.m.

The next MDTA Board Meeting will be held on July 25, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Maryland Transportation Authority, 2310 Broening Highway, Baltimore MD 21224.

APPROVED AND CONCURRED IN:


