

**THE COAST RTA-WACCAMAW RTA  
BOARD MEETING  
October 30, 2013  
12:00 p.m.**

**Board Present:** Bernard Silverman, Chair  
Joseph Lazzara, Vice-Chair  
Ivory Wilson  
Lillie Jean Johnson  
Gary Loftus  
Katharine D'Angelo  
James Elekes  
Nicholas Twigg

**Staff Present:** Myers Rollins, General Manager  
John Glover, Transportation & Service Planning Manager  
Julie Norton-Dew, DGM of Finance & Administration – CFO  
Felicia Beaty, DGM of Operations – COO  
Barbara Blain-Olds – Staff Attorney  
Lynette Nobles, Executive Assistant & Board Liaison  
Joe Ponticello, Director of Internal Controls  
Kevin Parks, Grants and Procurement Manager  
Erica Hill, Business Development Specialist  
Doug Herriott, Transportation Manager  
Rick Carroll, Street Supervisor  
Tom Arends, Material Control & IT Analyst  
Pamela Bellamy, Receptionist

**Also Present:** Doris Gleason, AARP  
Jason Rodriguez, The Sun News  
Bobby Lamb, Coast RTA Rider

*In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), notices of the meeting were provided to the press, stating the time, date, and place of the meeting on Monday, October 28, 2013.*

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Silverman called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairman Silverman gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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**ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM/ROLL CALL:** Roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VISITORS:**

Doris Gleason, AARP  
Jason Rodriguez, The Sun News  
Bobby Lamb, Coast RTA rider

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Chairman Silverman then asked if there were any other public comments. Bobby Lamb asked why on one of the buses that has a back door, the back door doesn't work.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:** None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** It was properly moved and seconded that the minutes from the meeting of September 30, 2013 be approved. There being no questions, a voice vote was taken. No nays being heard, the motion carried.

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** Ms. Pam Creech stated that the next meeting will be November 6, 2013 at 10:00 AM at the Conway Library, and invited the board members to attend. The CAC will be working with staff regarding the surveys and the survey will be on the Coast RTA website.

**MASS TRANSIT PRESENTATION:** Mr. Rollins introduced Joe Ponticello to speak about the progress of the facility renovation project. The presentation included before and after pictures of the interior and exterior areas of the Coast RTA facility. The projected cost of the project is \$443,000, of which \$352,000 (over 90%) is federal funds; \$48,000 local funds; and \$43,000 from insurance proceeds for flood damages a year ago. The project began July 1<sup>st</sup> and we are estimating that it will be completed by the end of this calendar year.

**CHAIRMANS' GET ON BOARD WITH COAST RTA:** Mr. Rollins talked about this Open House for the members of Horry County Council, Coast RTA Board of Directors, and the press with Mr. Lazarus and Mr. Silverman being the hosts. Attendees will enjoy a hot buffet breakfast, the group will board the 8:00 AM bus, along with the regular passengers, to the Transfer Center. The group will then break into three groups, each experiencing a different fixed route. They will then return to the Coast RTA facility in Conway. Each group will then have a guided tour of different areas within the Coast RTA facility (Customer Service, Maintenance, and Administrative). Members of the group will be able to talk with employees and ask questions about what they do.

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS: NONE**

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## MONTHLY REPORTS:

**Finance and Administration Committee:** Mr. Lazzara, committee chair, stated the committee met earlier in the day and financials were approved. Also, that he discussed the financials with Julie Norton-Dew and approved the bank reconciliation. Ms. Norton-Dew stated that the final 2014 Budget will be presented at the January 2014 meeting.

**Operations Committee:** Ms. Johnson, committee chair, stated that the committee met earlier in the day. Items discussed included the decision made by the board to abolish the Demand Response and CATS Plus programs. Originally, the termination date was to be November 1<sup>st</sup>; however, after the public meetings, the decision was made to postpone that date until December 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Silverman, who attended the public meeting that was held in Myrtle Beach, commented on what a difficult meeting it was for staff, as well as those affected by these programs. Ms. Beaty announced that the new Conway Local is set to begin on Monday, November 4, 2013.

**Planning Committee:** Mr. Twigg, committee chair, stated that the committee met earlier in the day. Agenda Items included the Shelter and Signage project, Intermodal Transit Center Feasibility Study, Transportation Task Force, and the trolley acquisition from Pee Dee RTA. He commended Mr. Rollins for reaching out to the municipalities for assistance from their public works departments with the installation of shelters and signs. He then asked Mr. Rollins to speak to some of the issues with this project. Coast RTA received funds from Federal Highway Administration to purchase and install bus stop shelters throughout our service area, as well as entering into a turn-key agreement with a vendor to design, construct and install the signage at the 600 stops. We been experienced multiple obstacles in our efforts to survey and obtain permits for this project. Mr. Rollins stated that he has reached out to City of Myrtle Beach, City of Conway, and Georgetown County and asked if they would perform this work, on an in-kind basis, as they routinely perform surveys and obtain permits. We feel it is a better use of public funds to have the municipalities use their resources, both human and business relationships, in order to expedite the process. Mr. Rollins shared that the South Carolina Department of Transportation has asked that Coast RTA meet with them prior to spending more money; and Coast RTA needs to lay out a plan which SCDOT deems acceptable. Mr. Rollins further stated that he has every confidence that Coast RTA will accomplish what needs to be done in the meeting with SCDOT on Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. The City of Myrtle Beach, City of Conway, and Georgetown County Council have all expressed their willingness to undertake the responsibility for installation, in the form of a letter. Regarding the Intermodal Transit Center Feasibility Study, Federal Highway can issue funds only through a local service provider, public agency. Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments has agreed to serve in that capacity. The FHWA will issue a notice to proceed to the WRCOG, who will then manage those dollars. Mr. Loftus pointed out that Coast RTA has two (2) potential liabilities. Mr. Rollins responded, if SCDOT does not agree with our plan; however, he doesn't anticipate that will happen.

Mr. Rollins then shared that Coast RTA will be acquiring three (3) trolleys from Pee Dee RTA at no cost to Coast RTA.

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**Bylaws Committee:** Ms. D'Angelo read Article V, Section 10 of the By-Laws aloud. *“Section 10 Committees. The Board Chair, then in office, may create one or more committees of the Board and appoint members of the Board to serve on them. Each such committee shall have membership, purpose and authority as may be determined by the Board. Each committee shall have a staff liaison. Meetings of the committees may be held at any time on call of the Chair of the Committee, Chair of the Board, or any two members of the committee. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for all meetings. Committees shall keep minutes of their proceedings.”*

Mr. Silverman announced that Mr. James, chairman of the Fund Development (ad-hoc) committee, who is not in attendance today, will have a report for the board in January.

**General Manager:** Mr. Rollins began his report by saying that our biggest challenge is not having enough local funding; as the .6 mil does not allow Coast RTA to grow as a mass transit organization. Mr. Rollins said that he plans to take a number of steps, hopefully working with Mr. James and the Fund Development Committee, to find a new revenue source. One option is to go back to Horry County Council and let them know that .6 mil is just not enough, and can we increase it to 1.5 mil; however, I just don't think it will be received very well. The alternative is to find new revenue. If we don't, we are going to continue to struggle.

Mr. Rollins then gave a Power Point presentation showing the transit survey results received from other RTA's in South Carolina, as to the make-up of their board; who appoints their board members; how many board members for each appointing body; whether representation on their board was based on population or funding level, etc. as was requested by Mr. Loftus, who, as is reflected in the minutes of the July board meeting, asked what progress had been made regarding the survey.

**OLD BUSINESS:** (none)

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Elekes expressed that Coast RTA should issue press releases on a regular basis to focus on the positive accomplishments of the authority and/or staff. A great example is that when we receive the trolleys from Pee Dee RTA, we invite the press and publicize the event. Mr. Elekes also announced that he has arranged with WRNN Talk Radio to have Mr. Rollins on with Dave Priest and Liz Calloway at 8:00 AM on the Thursday morning following the board meeting on the last Wednesday of each month, beginning October. Mr. Rollins offered that he and Ms. Nobles will handle issuing press releases on a regular basis.

A Transportation Association of South Carolina (TASC) video was shown to the board.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The Board went into Executive Session at 1:45 PM to discuss a contract issue.

There was a motion and second to come out of Executive Session. A voice vote was taken. No

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nays being heard the Board meeting resumed at 2:15 PM. There was a motion and a second to accept the recommendation made in Executive Session. A voice vote was taken. No nays being heard, the motion passed.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (none)

**ADJOURNMENT:** It was properly moved and seconded that the Board adjourn. A voice vote was taken. No nays being heard, the Board adjourned at 2:25 PM.

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