

**GoTriangle Board of Trustees**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 27, 2019**

Board Room, The Plaza, 4600 Emperor Blvd., Suite 100  
Durham, NC

**Board Members Present:**

Will Allen III	Mark Marcoplos
Sig Hutchinson	Michael Parker
Wendy Jacobs (arr. 12:25 p.m.)	Ellen Reckhow, Chair
Vivian Jones	Steve Schewel
Valerie Jordan (arr. 12:10 p.m.)	Russ Stephenson

**Board Members Absent:**

Andy Perkins	Nina Szlosberg-Landis (excused)
Jennifer Robinson (excused)	

Chair Ellen Reckhow officially called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

**I. Adoption of Agenda**

**Action:** On motion by Parker and second by Allen the agenda was adopted, with the changes noted below. The motion was carried unanimously.

- Removed a Closed Session (ROMF Litigation).
- Added a Closed Session (D-O LRT Project – Duke Agreement) pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11.(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged; and NCGS §143-318.11.(5) to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease.

**II. Recognition**

**A. Introduction of New Hires**

President and CEO Mann announced the hiring of the following Bus Operators: Mia James, Justin Ruffin and Susie Thomas.

**B. Announcement of Promotions**

Mann then announced the promotion of Meredith DeAngelo from Office Assistant to Travel Services Associate, Ronald Nolan and Dennis Peterson from Paratransit Operator II to III, and Paul Straw from Employer Service Specialist to Employer Services Supervisor.

**III. Public Comment**

No comments.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

**Action:** On motion by Schewel and second by Allen the consent agenda was approved. The motion was carried unanimously.

The following consent agenda items were approved:

- January 17, 2019 – Work Session Minutes;
- January 23, 2019 – Regular Session Minutes;
- Set a public hearing for the proposed fare change for March 27, 2019;
- Approved *Budget Ordinance Amendment 2019 0002 GoTriangle FY19 Triangle Tax District - Wake Capital Fund Budget Ordinance Amendment* and *Budget Ordinance Amendment 2019 0003 GoTriangle FY19 Triangle Tax District -- Wake Operating Fund Budget Ordinance Amendment*;
- Approved the Commuter Rail System Level Guidelines and Evaluation Report; and
- Adopted the Wake Transit Concurrence Process.

Budget Ordinances 2019 0002 and 2019 0003, the *Commuter Rail System Level Guidelines and Evaluation Report* and the *Wake Transit Concurrence Process* are attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

**V. General Business Agenda**

**A. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

None.

**B. Operations & Finance Committee Report**

Committee Chair Sig Hutchinson reported that three items from Committee were approved on the consent agenda: setting a public hearing on the proposed fare changes, Wake Transit budget amendments and the Wake Transit concurrence process. He stated that the Committee also discussed a reimbursement with the City of Durham related to the D-O LRT project, fall service changes and an amendment to the GEC professional services contract. These items will come to the Board at a future meeting.

**C. Planning & Legislative Committee Report**

Committee Chair Michael Parker stated that the Committee forwarded one item to the consent agenda: the Commuter Rail System Level Guidelines and evaluation report.

Jordan arrived.

**VI. Other Business**

**A. General Manager's Report**

A list of contracts approved by the President and CEO is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

Mann reported that the RUS Bus project is progressing well and an application is being submitted for brownfields designation. The RFQ for development of the RUS bus facility site has been released. Over 70 interested parties attended the pre-proposal meeting. The kick-off meeting was held with the FTA for the \$20 million BUILD grant to help support development of RUS Bus. The RFP to support development of the Wake Durham Commuter Rail Project has been released. This work will prepare to take the project into the Federal pipeline by December 2019.

**1. Transit Operations Report**

Patrick Stephens noted that the Board had received information in response to Hutchinson's question about cost per mile comparisons for diesel, natural gas and electric buses. This information is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

Stephens added that the Proterra buses should begin production in July or August, with delivery in September. Once the buses are received, mechanics and operators will be trained and the buses should be on the road around November.

Stephens stated that the Board would begin receiving a monthly performance report in March.

**2. Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Program Update**

John Tallmadge reported that a letter was received from Transportation Secretary Trogdon indicating the \$190 million for the D-O LRT project was included in the draft STIP and no further legislative action is required to commit that money. FTA has been notified that this money is pledged as part of the financial plan. In preparation for construction, work is being done on bid document language and sequencing of utility relocation work, which is scheduled to begin at the end of this calendar year. Work also continues with Durham's office of economic workforce development and the public engagement team continues to talk to the community about the status of the project and recent changes to and benefits of the project.

Tallmadge reported that with the design changes along Pettigrew Street the train speed has improved by several minutes, which will result in higher ridership, with 26,000 daily boardings forecasted.

**3. Wake Transit Update**

Patrick McDonough reported that GoRaleigh is hosting a meeting tonight at Wake Med to share information on the New Bern Avenue corridor, including potential station locations. Travel forecasting work on the commuter rail side revealed some coding errors in the model, which are being corrected and quality checked. This work will not impact the schedule.

Reckhow asked about the trip that was previously discussed to see the Virginia Railway Express. Mann stated that the summer would be an appropriate time to visit.

Parker asked about a management plan for the commuter rail project. Mann responded that he met with NCRR Tuesday to finalize the plan for a project team approach to manage the study. He stated that for the pre-planning work only two additional positions are needed.

**B. Chair's Report**

Chair Reckhow noted that a Board work session is scheduled for Wednesday, March 6.

**C. Board Member Reports**

**1. CAMPO Executive Board Representative**

Will Allen III reported that CAMPO also approved the Wake Transit concurrence process, the Q3 budget amendments, and the 10 year operating and capital plan for Wake Bus. The group also received a briefing on the FY20 Wake Transit work plan.

**2. DCHC MPO Board Representative**

Michael Parker stated that Chapel Hill will be meeting with FTA to ask for an extension of the BRT project timeframe because 50% of non-Federal funds have yet to be identified as required. A timeframe was discussed for the Orange and Durham transit plans to be released to the public for a 21 day review period.

**3. Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA) Representative**

Will Allen III said a trip could be planned to south Florida.

**4. Chatham/Orange Joint Planning Task Force Representative**

Mark Marcoplos reported that three major topics were discussed: a pilot project Orange County has with Open Broadband to extend broadband to the county, an update on the Jordan Lake water intake and Chatham Transit Network service from Siler City to Pittsboro to Chapel Hill along with on demand service.

Allen stated that NCDOT has organized a trip for the Smithfield Selma Chamber of Commerce to Raleigh Union Station and learn about commuter rail and their options for connecting.

Stephenson reported that NCDOT Division V reported there is reduced funding in the 2020-2029 STIP. Raleigh signal system upgrades have been removed, which staff says is critical for developing signal progression for BRT corridors. A number of road projects also are being delayed.

Jacobs arrived.

## VII. Closed Sessions

### A. Railroad Negotiations

Pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11.(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged; and NCGS §143-318.11.(5) to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease.

**Action:** On motion by Schewel and second by Parker the Board entered into closed session at 12:37 p.m. pursuant to the General Statutes and purpose listed above. The motion was carried unanimously.

**Action:** The Board took a break from 1:45-1:52 p.m.

**Action:** On motion by Jones and second by Allen the Board adjourned Closed Session A at 2:43 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

### B. D-O LRT Project – Duke Agreement

Pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11.(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged; and NCGS §143-318.11.(5) to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease.

**Action:** On motion by Jones and second by Jacobs the Board entered into closed session at 2:43 p.m. pursuant to the General Statutes and purpose listed above. The motion was carried unanimously.

**Action:** On motion by Jones and second by Parker the Board adjourned Closed Session B at 4:00 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

**VIII. Adjournment**

**Action:** Chair Reckhow adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.



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Ellen Reckhow, Chair

Attest:



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Michelle C. Dawson, CMC  
Clerk to the Board