

**GoTriangle Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2016**

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

**Board Members Present:**

Will Allen III  
Mary-Ann Baldwin  
Jim Crawford Jr.  
Ed Harrison

Bernadette Pelissier  
Ellen Reckhow  
Jennifer Robinson

**Board Members Absent:**

William V. "Bill" Bell (excused)  
Fred Day IV (excused)  
Fred Foster Jr. (excused)

Vivian Jones (excused)  
Jeff Sheehan (excused)

Chair Jennifer Robinson officially called the meeting to order at 12:14 p.m.

**I. Adoption of Agenda**

**Action:** On motion by an Allen second by Pelissier the agenda was adopted. The motion was carried unanimously.

**II. Recognition**

**A. Introduction of New Hires**

General Manager Mann announced the hiring of Stefan Walz, Videographer; Maurice McGee, IT Project Manager; and Maureen Devlin, Regional Services Intern.

**C. Announcement of Promotions**

General Manager Mann announced the following promotions: Anthony Askew and Tomar Locker, Bus Operator I to Bus Operator II; Dennis Gorham and Derek Jackson, Bus Operator II to Bus Operator III; and Dale Smentek, Bus Operator to Service Attendant.

**III. Public Comment**

No comments.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

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

The following consent agenda items were approved:

- October 26, 2016 – Regular Session Minutes.

**V. General Business Agenda**

**A. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

None.

**VI. New Business**

**A. Professional Services Contract GEC Phase 2**

Danny Rogers' presentation is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. He requested approval for the next phase of the General Engineering Consultant contract to move the project into engineering.

Rogers said that staff has worked to add a station to the D-O LRT at NCCU, requiring a supplemental environmental assessment and public comment. He stated that the DCHC will be asked to amend the MTP and LPA for the project to include this change. He said the biggest challenge that remains to getting FTA approval to enter engineering is the financial plan; in addition to the State share being reduced from 25% to 10%, FTA has changed its assumptions, reducing the anticipated annual payout from \$125 million per year to only \$100 million. Rogers explained this will extend by several years the reimbursement from FTA, requiring GoTriangle to front that money.

Rogers said Moody's has been contracted to prepare sales tax growth numbers based on the vast difference in Walden's 2014 and 2016 rates and to give greater confidence.

Baldwin asked what prompted the change in the FTA funding model. Rogers responded that the New Starts pipeline is getting very large and the funding amount is stagnant over the next three to four years.

Rogers said the financial plan must show that 30% of the local share is committed with a plan for obtaining the remainder. He said the local sponsors (Durham and Orange counties, Chapel Hill and the City of Durham) are being asked to support our statement that the additional local revenues will be found, through a variety of sources. Private contributions of right-of-way and donations of private capital could amount to \$38-54 million. He said today's request is an interim contract to get the project to a point to request to enter engineering. The Board would be asked to approve the remainder of the contract after a response is received from FTA.

Robinson asked about re-scoping the project for BRT. Rogers responded that the project would fall out of the New Starts pipeline and have to start over with environmental analysis. He added that this project was selected as the right answer

for this area and the benefits it provides and we should continue to pursue it. Mann added that it would be a 4-6 years setback and we would not have pre-award authority, meaning any money spent to evaluate a new project would not be reimbursable and we likely would be required to liquidate the real property acquired under the first project.

Rogers reiterated that today's request will allow us to get into engineering, keeping the project eligible for Federal reimbursement. He said it also will set the budget, which is the maximum FTA will pay for the project. He said strategically you want the biggest budget you can afford approved to minimize the future potential of changes that would be paid 100% with local money.

Reckhow offered a motion to approve the contract, with the condition that new, substantial information be shared with the Board. She suggested that the Board be given 24 hours to react to this new information before the General Manager signs the contract.

Baldwin suggested that the Board postpone this item and come back to it before adjourning.

Reckhow withdrew her motion.

**B. Wake County Draft FY17 Budget**

Sandra Freeman stated that the TPAC has reviewed this budget and it will be before the CAMPO Board as well. She said this is an overview of the request that will come before the Board in December.

GoTriangle is requesting expenditures from the Wake Transit Plan to fund personnel and activities. In addition to the 4.3 full-time equivalents (FTEs) that currently are supporting Wake Transit operations and being funded from rental tax dollars, GoTriangle is requesting 4.5 new positions in FY17. The request also includes consultants for system wide planning and transit operations staff. The total for the remainder of FY17 is \$1,184,493.

Freeman added that she would like to advertise for the new positions, although CAMPO will not approve the budget until January. She said there would be no hiring until the budget was approved by GoTriangle and CAMPO, but waiting until January to advertise would delay the process. Baldwin and Robinson stated their concern for getting ahead of the approval process. Allen offered to bring this up at the CAMPO meeting.

## **VII. Other Business**

### **A. General Manager's Report**

General Manager Jeff Mann's written report is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. He highlighted the following items:

- Wake County's sales tax referendum for transit was approved.
- The Raleigh Union Station bus facility (RUSBus) at the former Dillon property in downtown Raleigh is being evaluated for the feasibility of establishing a bus transfer facility directly adjacent to RUS and the rail facility currently under construction. She shared potential layouts that would accommodate joint development above the bus facility which would be used by GoTriangle and GoRaleigh.
- Work continues on the strategic plan, setting priorities for major initiatives along with baseline measures and performance targets.
- The storm relief bus went extremely well, filling three full-size buses in partnership with RDU, WRAL and United Way of the Greater Triangle. He thanked GoTriangle employees for their participation and support of the event and recognized the bus operations department and the employees who drove the buses to deliver the donations.
- Bus performance shows a softening in demand, likely tied to lower retail gasoline prices.
- Improvements are being made at the Plaza Building including the patio, renovation of the lobby and replacing the steps at the back of the building
- The Golden Modes Awards Ceremony was recently held at the planetarium in Chapel Hill. Over 125 nominations were received for awards. Daily vehicle miles traveled (VMT) have been reduced by 149,000 miles; 20,600 individuals have transitioned from driving alone; and more than 3 million solo trips were avoided in FY16 due to smart commute choices.

#### **1. Communications Update**

Mike Charbonneau gave an update, which is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. He also shared a video from the storm relief bus.

### **B. General Counsel's Report**

General Counsel Shelley Blake noted the following items:

- Following the positive vote on the Wake County referendum, there will be a lot of things happening quickly: authorization to levy the sales tax, expansion of the tax district for the additional \$3 vehicle registration fee, and the meeting of the Special Tax Board.
- Contract terms are being finalized for the sale of the Towerview property to the Town of Cary. FTA has approved the appraisal. This item should come to the Board in December for approval.
- We are researching the process to create a nonprofit 501(c)3 corporation.

**C. Chair's Report**

Chair Robinson distributed committee assignments for 2017, which are attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. Baldwin stated that she has a conflict with the schedule for the Operations & Finance Committee meeting.

**D. Board Member Reports**

**1. CAMPO Executive Board Representative**

Will Allen stated that CAMPO meets this week and there are no action items.

**2. DCHC MPO Board Representative**

Bernadette Pelissier stated that DCHC held a public hearing on the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for adding the NCCU station. The only speaker was a representative from NCCU in great favor of the addition.

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

No report.

**VI. New Business**

**A. Professional Services Contract GEC Phase 2 (continued)**

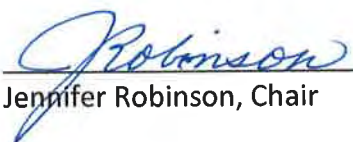
General Counsel Blake suggested a special meeting of the Board to receive the new financial information.

Baldwin suggested that the Board approve a contract for \$500,000 and have staff come back in December for a final review and approval.

**Action:** On motion by Reckhow and second by Pelissier the Board authorized the General Manager to execute Phase 2 of the Professional Services Contract with HDR Engineering Inc. (HDR) for General Engineering Consultant (GEC) Services for the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) Project through December 31, 2016, in an amount not to exceed \$ 500,000. The motion was carried unanimously.

**VII. Adjournment**

**Action:** Chair Robinson the meeting was adjourned the meeting at 2:14 p.m.

  
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Jennifer Robinson, Chair

Attest:

  
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Michelle C. Dawson, CMC

Michelle C. Dawson, CMC  
Clerk to the Board