

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) held remotely via phone or video conference and broadcast live for the public via YouTube January 27, 2021

# **Board Members Participating:**

Carlton Christensen, Chair Beth Holbrook Jeff Acerson

Also participating were members of UTA staff.

**Call to Order and Opening Remarks.** Chair Christensen welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He then yielded the floor to Jana Ostler, UTA Board Manager, who read the electronic board meeting determination statement into the record as required by statute. The complete electronic board meeting determination statement is included as Appendix A to these minutes.

**Safety First Minute.** Sheldon Shaw, UTA Director of Safety & Security, provided a brief safety message.

**Public Comment.** Chair Christensen noted members of the public were invited to attend and comment during the live portion of the meeting; however, no live public comment was given. It was also noted that online public comment received was distributed to the board for review in advance of the meeting and is included in Appendix B to these minutes.

Consent Agenda. The consent agenda was comprised of:

- a. Approval of January 8, 2021 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of January 13, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
- c. Financial Advisor Services Contract Correction (Zions Public Finance)

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Trustee Holbrook and seconded by Trustee Acerson. The motion carried unanimously.

**Legislative Update.** Shule Bishop, UTA Government Relations Director, suggested the trustees take a position of support for SB113 Transportation Funding and Governance Amendments sponsored by Senator Harper, which updates language to allow an outgoing UTA trustee to continuing serving until a replacement is confirmed.

A motion to support SB113 was made by Trustee Acerson and seconded by Trustee Holbrook. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bishop recommended the board oppose SB61 Outdoor Advertising Amendments, which contains provisions expanding the use of electronic billboards. Staff believes certain provisions would devalue potential housing at transit-oriented development sites.

A motion to oppose SB61 was made by Trustee Holbrook and seconded by Trustee Acerson. The motion carried unanimously.

# Agency Report.

Apportionment for Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA). Carolyn Gonot, UTA Executive Director, noted UTA will be receiving \$32,584,103 in CRRSAA funding. She also mentioned the agency has drawn down to date about \$96 million of its apportioned \$187 million from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding.

**UTA My BeUTAHful Community Student Art Competition.** Ms. Gonot was joined by Megan Waters, UTA Community Engagement Manager, and Sam Aramburu, UTA Community Relations Specialist. Ms. Aramburu spoke about a student art competition UTA is sponsoring with a number of external partners. The theme is "Meet Your Neighbor" and the competition is open to K-12 students throughout the state. Winners will have their artwork displayed on FrontRunner, TRAX, and buses.

Discussion ensued. Questions on the recognition of winners and initiative communications plan were posed by the board and answered by staff. Chair Christensen suggested considering awarding a summer youth pass to the winners.

**Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant.** Ms. Gonot was joined by Ryan Taylor, UTA Special Services General Manager. Mr. Taylor indicated the \$508,200 FTA grant will be used to fund phase 2 of UTA's eVoucher initiative. This initiative establishes an electronic, contactless payment system for volunteer driver reimbursement on qualifying trips. Phase 2 enhancements will make it possible for users to purchase a UTA mobile ticket or transportation network company (TNC) fare and create a web portal and mobile application for clients.

Discussion ensued. Questions on accessing the program and opportunities for broader participation (e.g., by other transit or public service agencies) were posed by the board and answered by Mr. Taylor.

**Investment Report – Fourth Quarter 2020.** Bill Greene, UTA Chief Financial Officer, was joined by Emily Diaz, UTA Financial Services Administrator. Ms. Diaz reviewed UTA's 2020 fourth quarter investments and benchmark comparisons.

Discussion ensued. Questions on rate forecasts and UTA's distribution of funds across multiple accounts were posed by the board and answered by staff.

# **Resolutions.**

**R2021-01-07 Resolution Establishing the Authority's Support of the Utah Compact on Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.** Ms. Gonot was joined by Kim Ulibarri, UTA Chief People Officer, and Nichol Bourdeaux, UTA Chief Planning & Engagement Officer. Ms. Gonot summarized the Utah Compact on Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. Ms. Ulibarri said the resolution defines and publicly demonstrates UTA's commitment to creating a more inclusive community and workplace. Ms. Bourdeaux touched on specific ways the agency is advancing this effort.

Discussion ensued. Questions on consideration of these principles in policy review were posed by the board and answered by staff.

A motion to approve R2021-01-07 was made by Trustee Holbrook and seconded by Trustee Acerson. The motion carried unanimously with aye votes from Trustee Holbrook, Trustee Acerson, and Chair Christensen.

# Contracts, Disbursements, and Grants.

**Contract: On-Call Infrastructure Maintenance (Stacy and Witbeck, Inc.).** Eddy Cumins, UTA Chief Operating Officer, was joined by David Hancock, UTA Director of Asset Management. Mr. Hancock requested the board authorize execution of a contract with Stacy and Witbeck, Inc. for on-call maintenance services. The term of the contract is three years with two one-year options and the total contract value, including options, is \$25,000,000. Discussion ensued. Questions on determining the scope of projects applied to this contract and the competitiveness of the procurement process were posed by the board and answered by staff.

A motion to approve the contract was made by Trustee Acerson and seconded by Trustee Holbrook. The motion carried unanimously.

**Change Order: 2021 Transit Bus Replacement – Eighth Order (Gillig, LLC).** Mr. Cumins was joined by Kyle Stockley, UTA Manager of Vehicle Overhaul & Bus Support. Mr. Cumins requested the board approve a change order to the contract with Gillig, LLC in the amount of \$11,660,265 for the purchase of 23 diesel buses. The total contract value, including the change order, is \$71,545,409.

Discussion ensued. Questions on the propulsion system options available through this contract and fleet replacement strategy were posed by the board and answered by staff.

A motion to approve the change order was made by Trustee Holbrook and seconded by Trustee Acerson. The motion carried unanimously.

**Change Order: S70 Light Rail Vehicle Wraps (Turbo Images).** Mr. Cumins was joined by Mr. Stockley. Mr. Cumins requested the board approve a \$370,000 change order to the contract with Turbo Images for wraps on the S70 light rail vehicles. The total contract value, including the change order, is \$1,589,892.

Discussion ensued. Questions on the removal estimates included in the original request for proposal and inclusion of change order costs in the budget were posed by the board and answered by staff.

A motion to approve the change order was made by Trustee Acerson and seconded by Trustee Holbrook. The motion carried unanimously.

**Revenue Contract: Pass-Through Funds Agreement for Environmental Analysis (Point of the Mountain State Land Authority and Utah Department of Transportation).** Mary DeLoretto, UTA Chief Service Planning Officer, indicated the contract allows the pass-through of \$750,000 from the Transit Transportation Investment Fund (TTIF) to the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority to the Utah Department of Transportation and then to UTA for an environmental study at the Point of the Mountain.

A motion to approve the revenue contract was made by Trustee Holbrook and seconded by Trustee Acerson. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Other Business.**

**Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the board will take place on February 10, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

**Closed Session.** Chair Christensen indicated there were matters to be discussed in closed session relative to pending or reasonably imminent litigation. A motion for a closed session was made by Trustee Acerson and seconded by Trustee Holbrook. The motion carried unanimously. Chair Christensen called for a short break at 10:07 a.m. and indicated the closed session would convene at 10:15 a.m.

**Open Session.** A motion to return to open session was made by Trustee Holbrook and seconded by Trustee Acerson. The motion carried unanimously and open session resumed at 10:40 a.m.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m. by motion.

Transcribed by Cathie Griffiths Executive Assistant to the Board Chair Utah Transit Authority cgriffiths@rideuta.com 801.237.1945

This document is not intended to serve as a full transcript as additional discussion may have taken place; please refer to the meeting materials, audio, or video located at <u>https://www.utah.gov/pmn/sitemap/notice/653189.html</u> for entire content.

*This document along with the digital recording constitute the official minutes of this meeting.* 

Approved Date: February 10, 2021

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Carlton J. Christensen Chair, Board of Trustees

# **Appendix A**

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#### UTAH TRANSIT AUTHORITY ELECTRONIC BOARD MEETING DETERMINATION

Consistent with provisions of the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act, (UTAH CODEs 52-4-207 [4]), as the Chair of the Board of Trustees ("Board") of the Utah Transit Authority ("UTA"), I hereby make the following written determinations in support of my decision to hold electronic meetings of the UTA Board without a physical anchor location:

- Due to the ongoing COVID -19 pandemic, conducting Board and Board Committee meetings with an anchor location presents a substantial risk to the health and safety of those who may be present at the anchor location.
- Federal, state, and local health authorities have adopted guidelines which encourage institutions and individuals to limit in-person interactions and recommend increased virtual interactions.

This written determination takes effect on January 27, 2021, and is effective until midnight on February 26, 2021 and may be re-issued by future written determinations as deemed appropriate.

Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January 2021.

DocuSigned by: Calton & Chostonen

Carlton Christensen, Chair of the Board of Trustees

# Appendix **B**

# Online Public Comment to the Board of Trustees of the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) Board Meeting January 27, 2021

# Received on January 26, 2021 from George Chapman:

I would like to emphasize that UTA's priority should be to expand bus service in Utah (restore bus service that was cut 30% - 20% if you say TRAX provided similar service).

The market for rail generally is higher income individuals that have access to new cars that are increasingly comfortable and enjoyable to drive. Workers that used to provide almost 20,000 passengers a day on FrontRunner now only provide 5000. Trying to capture that market will require billions (including billions electrifying FrontRunner which is needed to make use of the proposed double tracking).

On the other hand, UTA, if it focuses on bus service expansion, can attract significantly more riders with less dollar investment and per rider subsidy. In addition, those riders, without adequate bus service, will generally drive cheaper, older and much more polluting cars.

It is in the best interest of air quality and providing adequate public mass transit service, that UTA focus on bus service expansion before any projects. The hundreds of millions suggested for BRT and other projects could be more productively and environmentally used for bus service expansion.