

# **RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **MINUTES OF July 18, 2005 MEETING**

**Board Members Present: Thomas Deller, Chairperson, William Kennedy, Sharon Wells, Robert Batting and Chuck Alves.**

**Also Present: Alfred J. Moscola (General Manager), Lori Caron Silveira (General Counsel), Andrew Prescott, (Labor Counsel), Henry Kinch, Deborah Dawson, Maureen Neira, Mark Therrien, Ellen Farrell, other members of RIPTA's senior staff and the public whose names are listed on the meeting sign-in sheet.**

#### **Agenda Item 1: Approval of Minutes of June 13, 2005 Meeting**

**Mr. Deller requested comments regarding the minutes of the June 13, 2005 meeting. Hearing none, a motion was made for the approval of the minutes of the June 13, 2005 meeting by Mr. Kennedy, which was seconded by Mr. Batting. The Board unanimously approved the minutes as presented.**

#### **Agenda Item 2: General Managers Report**

**Mr. Deller asked Mr. Moscola for his General Manager's report. Mr. Moscola explained that the current General Manager's report includes revenue and ridership data, and that the report is still being transitioned into a new format. Mr. Moscola asked the board to contact him if they have any suggestions regarding the new format. Mr. Batting inquired about the status of the Brown University contract and if they were still paying half fare for passes.**

**Mr. Deller requested to have the charts in the report indicate when fares were increased. Mr. Deller commented that with the imminent arrival of the new buses and the soaring costs of gasoline, RIPTA should increase marketing its services. Mr. Deller also suggested that RIPTA consider re-structuring the services to attract more customers. Mark Therrien provided the Board with information about all of the University Pass contracts, and Mr. Moscola announced he had negotiated a new three-year contract with Johnson and Wales, which will generate \$120,000 more in revenue for the first year of the contract than the previous contract.**

**Mr. Moscola continued with his report and invited the board members to attend the "Keep Eddy Moving" press conference scheduled for July 26th. The General Manager will be using the new bus to pick up the Governor, the Mayor of Providence, and other State officials who will be transported to the press conference being held at Rhode Island Hospital. He then announced he would be making some organizational changes pointing out that such changes will be made**

**within budget and will increase efficiencies and will save the agency money. Finally he reported on his ongoing program to repair Department of Transportation vehicles, which has resulted in a total savings of \$35,460 to the DOT. These savings came from a reduction in cost for parts and no charge for labor. Mr. Moscola views the savings as part of the big picture effort to reduce expenses for the state.**

**Mr. Deller requested that the Board convene an Executive session as the next item on the agenda.**

### **Agenda Item 3: Executive Session to R.I.G.L. §§ 42-46-5(a)(2)**

**Chairman Deller moved that the RIPTA Board convene an executive session, as noted in the agenda, pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §§ 42-46-5(a)(2) for purposes of discussing Labor and Personnel Matters. A roll call vote was taken and by unanimous vote, the executive session commenced.**

**Upon returning to public session Mr. Batting moved to seal the minutes of the executive session, pursuant to RI General Laws 42-46-4, which Mr. Kennedy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item 4: RIPTA Budget**

**Mr. Deller stated that pursuant to discussions in Executive Session, the approval of RIPTA's FY 2006 Budget would be tabled at this time.**

**Maureen Neira addressed the Board and gave the FY 2005 budget update. She stated that fuel costs continue to be coming in over the budgeted price of \$1.41 for FY 2005. Mr. Batting commented that expenses are still budgeted at \$74.6 million, not including audit adjustments. Mr. Batting asks that when the audit is complete it includes a comparison to the prior year's expenses.**

#### **Agenda Item 5: FY 2007 – 2011 Capital Budget Approval**

**Mr. Deller moved on to the FY 2007 – 2011 Capital Budget Approval and Ann Marie McMahon addressed the Board. Ms. McMahon stated that the capital budget must be submitted by July 19, 2005 in order to receive matching funds for the new bus purchases, and RIPTA must have state commitment to apply for these funds. In addition, RIPTA has applied for funding to replace paratransit vehicles, which are now at the five-year replacement stage. RIPTA also applied for funds to finance the McKendall property improvements, and to fund the farebox program in the spring of 2006. Mr. Deller asked if the farebox project is in the budget and Ms. McMahon replied that it is included in the revolving capital fund.**

**A motion was made to approve the capital budget as presented. Such motion was made by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Batting and**

**passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item 6: Automotive Electrical Connectors**

**Mr. Mencarini addressed the Board regarding the first procurement item, Automotive Electrical Connectors. Mr. Mencarini gave the details of the procurement process and gave staff's recommendation to award a one-year contract with up to four annual renewal options to East Coast Terminals. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to award the contract as recommended by Staff. Mr. Batting seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item 7: Chemical Inventory**

**Mr. Mencarini addressed the Chemical Inventory contract, outlined the bidding process and recommended the award to the lowest responsible, responsive bidder, Barnes Distribution. Mr. Batting made a motion to award this one-year contract with up to four annual renewal options to Barnes Distribution as recommended by Staff. Ms. Wells seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

### **Agenda Item 8: Motor Oils and Lubricants**

**Mr. Mencarini discussed the Motor Oils and Lubricants contract. Mr. Mencarini gave the details of the procurement process and noted that of the three responsive bidders, Schultz Lubricants was the only**

**bidder who provided product price for all products specified for the base bid year and the option years. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to award the contract to Schultz Lubricants as recommended by Staff. Mr. Batting seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

#### **Agenda Item 9: Public Comment Period**

**Mr. Deller requested public comments and recognized Stephen Farrell, President of the Amalgamated Transit Union. Mr. Farrell inquired as to whether a vote had been taken on the Budget, and Mr. Deller clarified that the FY 2005 budget had been discussed, but tabled discussions and any action relative to the FY 2006 budget. Mr. Farrell then requested that it be noted in the minutes of the meeting that RIPTA had saved the DOT \$35,460 by performing repairs on DOT vehicles.**

#### **Agenda Item 10: Adjournment**

**Mr. Kennedy moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Batting seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**Ellen M. Farrell**

**Secretary to the Board**