

## Minutes

### RTA Committee of the Whole Meeting

10:50 a.m., Tuesday, August 11, 2020

**Committee Members:** Clough (Chair), Lucas (Vice-Chair), Bibb, Byrne, Joyce, McCall, Moss, Pellot, Serrano, Weiss

**Not present:** None

**Also Present:** Anderson, Barker, Benford, Bitto, Bober, Burney, Caver, Cottrell, Dangelo, Davis, Dietrich, Fields, Freilich, Garofoli, Gautam, Gettings, Joyce, Kirkland, Laule, Lincoln, Manning, Moore, Muti, Pickett, Rascoe, Schipper, Scott, Shaffer, Spriggs, Sutula, Tarka, Temming, Wilson

Mayor Clough called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m. The secretary called the roll and reported that ten (10) committee members were present. This meeting was conducted by teleconference for members of the Board in accordance with House Bill 197 of the 133rd General Assembly, signed by the Governor of the State of Ohio on March 27, 2020, the March 9, 2020 order of the Governor of the State of Ohio declaring a public health emergency and the April 30, 2020 order of the Director of the Ohio Department of Public Health prohibiting any gathering of ten (10) or more people. The meeting was live-streamed on RTA's Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/rideRTA](http://www.facebook.com/rideRTA)) for staff and members of the public.

#### Code Book Update Project

Mayor Clough said this presentation is for the section of the Code that they would have to update based on the Fare Equity study that was just presented. The Code document identifies the fares of the system and the changes that would be needed if they go ahead with the recommendations. This will only be a recommendation to the entire Board after input to ensure they are comfortable with the changes.

Dawn Tarka, attorney in legal, gave the presentation. This update is pertaining to the proposed updates to Chapter 840 of the Code Book. The Board's policies and procedures were codified in 1989. They have been working on a comprehensive review to update the policies. A few years ago, a task force reviewed and proposed revisions to the Fare Code. The revisions were put on hold pending the outcome of the Fare Equity Study. Today's proposed revisions include the original work of the Task Force and the proposals to implement the recommendations of the fair study discussed today.

The recommendations made in the fare study will be implemented effective October 4, 2020. The recommendations made from the fare study include the price of the All Day passes being reduced in Section 840.03. The restriction on one-trip and two-trip fare cards being sold in bulk is being removed. The commissions that RTA pays its sales agent is listed in Section 840.01. The commissions for one-trip, two-trip and five-trip fare cards had not been included in the Code. They are added and increased to encourage sales agents to carry these types of fare media. The Park-n-Ride surcharge is preserved in Section 840.08.


Changes recommended to bring the Code up to date will be effective by resolution if adopted August 25, 2020. Prior to 2016, RTA sold student tickets only to schools. At that time, RTA started selling them to the general public. Proposed revisions to Section 840.02 brings the Code into line with this approach. The next update illustrates how RTA is currently collaborating with other transit agencies. Sections 840.095 and 840.097 contains provisions for fares to

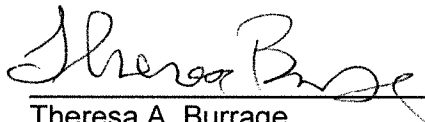
travel on RTA's system from Lake, Lorain and Medina counties. RTA now has arrangements for transfers from transit agencies in Lake, Summit, Stark, Portage and Medina counties. The old provisions would be replaced with one that provides for travel from all these counties to bring the Code into agreement with RTA's current practice.

Section 840.13 relates to the U-Pass program. RTA has negotiated agreements with a number of colleges and universities according to the needs of the schools and their student bodies. Some schools do not provide \$25 a month per student. Therefore, staff recommends removing this provision. Section 840.17, which provides for the General Manager to suspend the collection of fares in times of emergencies or for construction related detours is being moved from the Fare Code to another section of the Code Book.

Staff requests that the Committee of the Whole recommend these provisions to the Board of Trustees for approval. Mayor Clough said this is needed in light of the changes recommended today. There were no questions. Mayor Clough asked for a motion to move this to the full Board. It was moved by Chief McCall, seconded by Mr. Serrano.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

  
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Floun'say R. Caver, Ph.D.  
Interim Secretary/Treasurer

  
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Theresa A. Burrage  
Executive Secretary