Authorizing the Authority to Host APTA's 2021 International Rail Rodeo and Rail Conference

External and Stakeholder Relations & Advocacy Committee Meeting

June 4, 2019

Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority

What is the International Rail Rodeo and Rail Conference?

- *Two events in one – Rail Rodeo and Rail Conference*

- *The Rodeo: a 5-day skills-based competition for front-line rail operating staff and rail maintainers.*

- *Held prior to the Rail Conference (Wed – Sunday)*

- *Teams representing 20+ North American passenger rail transit system will compete.*

What is the International Rail Rodeo and Conference?

- *One of the largest APTA Conferences held annually.*

- *Attracts upwards to a thousand attendees from transit properties from across North America.*

- *Program includes: General Sessions, Educational Sessions, Technical Tours, and Networking Opportunities*

Host Property's Rodeo-Related Responsibilities:

- *APTA's Rodeo Committee and Maintenance Sponsors organize a large portion of the operating course and maintenance competitions.*

- *The Host has responsibilities associated with the site, equipment and staffing for the event.*

- *These include food, space/equipment, personnel, emcee and entertainment for the banquet*

Host Property's Rodeo-Related Responsibilities:

- *Food: Host responsible for breakfast and lunch on Thursday and Friday for committee members, operating teams and support staff; breakfast on Saturday and lunch on Sunday.*

- *Equipment: Tents, tables, chairs, WiFi for both operating course and maintenance competition, water, electricity, compressors, lights and tents for maintenance competition.*

Host Property's Rodeo-Related Responsibilities:

- *Personnel: Staff to host registration table, support rodeo competition, site security, food functions, maintenance and custodial crew to support event.*

- *Other: Solicit sponsorships from non-APTA members for food events, signage and other support activities. Provide "goodie" bags for contestants and host gift to committee members*

Host Property's Conference-Related Responsibilities:

- Provide assistance in the overall planning, development and staging of the conference.

- Assist with advance publicity and promotion of the event.

- Assist in the securing of local, state and national VIP's and industry leaders for speakers

- Develop and conduct technical tours

Host Property's Conference-Related Responsibilities:

- Provide complimentary fare for attendees
- Provide transportation for technical tours
- Provide housekeeping-type activities:
  - Staff information booth
  - Provide welcome packets to attendees
  - Assist with registration and media center
  - Assist with photography

Hosting APTA's 2021 International Rail Rodeo and Rail Conference

Staff recommends that the External & Stakeholder Relations & Advocacy Committee recommend to the Board of Trustees, authorizing the Interim General Manager to enter into a host agreement with APTA to host APTA's 2021 International Rail Rodeo and Rail Conference.

Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority