Minutes
RTA Committee of the Whole Meeting
9:07 a.m., Tuesday, June 14, 2022

Committee Members: Lucas (Chair), Moss (Vice-Chair), Biasiotta, Duarte, Joyce, Koomar, McCall, Pellot, Weiss, Welch

Not present: None

Staff: Bazzoli, Benford, Birdsong, Caver, Dangelo, Davidson, Fields, Fleig, Freilich, Garofoli, Gautam, Jenkins, Johnson, Kirkland, Martin, McGervey, Miller, Schipper, Talley, Tarka, Walker-Minor,

Public: Gibbons, Loh

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. There were ten (10) committee members present. In accordance with the Ohio Open Meetings Act and House Bill 51, signed into law on February 17, 2022 and effective immediately through June 30, 2022, this meeting will be live streamed on RTA’s Board Page www.RideRTA.com/board via the meeting date for staff and members of the public. House Bill 51 allows Board members to participate by telephone or video and be considered present as if in person. It also allows Board members to vote and be counted for the purpose of determining a quorum while attending by telephone or video.

Code Book Updates

Dawn Tarka, Associate Counsel, gave the presentation. Today’s presentation will propose revisions to the Finance and Human Resources parts of the Codified Rules and Regulations. A redline of the changes is included in the package. The Code Book was first codified in 1989 (Resolution 1989-176). They are reviewing and updating it to bring policies in line with current operations. The policies are subject to review and revision every 3 years.

The first provision is in the Procurement Policies. Historically we extend contracts that are expiring using General Manager change order authority. On occasion that may extend beyond the term authorized by the resolution approved by the Board. They are recommending amending 410.01 to authorize General Manager to extend terms of contracts within the General Manager’s dollar authority. The next provision relates to Employee Responsibility for GCRTA Property. Section 640.04 which is identical to (Personnel Policy 100.04) prohibits taking, using, or disposing of GCRTA property. Because taking RTA property can also violate criminal statutes, they recommend adding notification that violation of this policy may also violate criminal statutes. They will amend both the PP policy and the Code Book policy.

With respect to the Service Recognition Program, there are two provisions in the Code Book that provide for recognizing employees for milestone years of service. Section 628.06 is obsolete (1978) – GCRTA does not provide bronze-, silver- or gold-plated plaques. Section 644.15 is an exact duplicate of Personnel Policy 400.15 which reflects the current practice of providing lapel pins. They recommend repealing 628.06 and removing 644.15 leaving PP 400.15 that reflects the current practice. Section 640.01 titled Disclaimer is an introductory provision for the Personnel Policies that does not belong in the code book. They recommend removing 640.01. Employee Communication with the Media which is in Section 640.05 (Personnel Policy 100.05) provides that media requests should be directed to the “Office of Media Relations.” They recommend updating “Office of Media Relations” to the current term “Public Information Officer.”
Committee of the Whole
June 14, 2022
Page 2 of 2

Staff requests that the Committee of the Whole recommend these provisions to the Board of Trustees for approval. There were no questions. Mayor Weiss thanked Ms. Tarka for her work. It was moved by Mayor Weiss, seconded by Ms. Pellot and approved to move this to the full Board Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 a.m.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer

Theresa A. Burrage
Executive Assistant