



DON WILLIS  
DIRECTOR

P.O. BOX 227, GOLDSBORO, NC 27533-0227

SHYCOLE SIMPSON-CARTER  
CHAIRMAN

*Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority  
Governing Board Meeting Minutes  
July 30, 2020*

The Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority met in regular session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 30, 2020, at the City of Goldsboro Anteroom, 214 N. Center Street, Goldsboro, North Carolina.

**Members in attendance:** Shycole Simpson-Carter, Chairman, Brent Heath, Vice Chairman (via phone, Berry Gray, Secretary/Treasurer (via phone), Bob Waller (via Phone), and Steve Wiggins.

**Members absent:** Gene Aycock and Ed Cromartie.

**Others in attendance:** Don Willis and LaShonda Oliver.

**Approval of Minutes**

Upon motion of Brent Heath and seconded by Bob Waller, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting of June 18, 2020.

**Election of Officers**

Upon motion of Brent Heath and seconded by Bob Waller, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved to appoint Steve Wiggins as the 7<sup>th</sup> member to the Board.

Upon motion of Bob Waller and seconded by Brent Heath, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved to appoint Shycole Simpson-Carter, as Chairman of the Board.

Upon motion of Bob Waller and seconded by Shycole Simpson-Carter, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved to appoint Brent Heath as Vice-Chairman of the Board.

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Upon motion of Bob Waller and seconded by Brent Heath, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved to appoint Berry Gray as Secretary/Treasurer of the Board.

**Annual Single Audit Services**

Don Willis informed the Board that the annual audit contract has ended with Nunn, Brashear & Uzzell, P.A. The contract was for three years. Willis stated that he has received a new contract with the firm to continue the auditing services. In addition, Willis performed cost estimates with other accounting firms. The current proposal from Nunn, Brashear & Uzzell, P.A is less than the previous contract. Willis made the recommendation to continue using Nunn, Brashear & Uzzell, P.A., as the auditor based upon the proposed savings and the independent cost estimates received.

Upon motion of Brent Heath and seconded by Bob Waller, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved to the contract with Nunn, Brashear & Uzzell, P.A., to continue auditing services.

**Director's Report**

***Financial***

The rural program is showing a gain of \$3,912.42 in June and a gain of \$12,591.87 fiscal year to date. Due to the pandemic, trip volume has been down significantly and budgeted revenues have not been realized. The urban program is showing a gain of \$390.07 in June and a gain of \$246.10 fiscal year to date. The urban funds will remain about balanced throughout most of the year due to the grant reimbursement process.

In light of changes in provision of health care and Medicaid transportation by the NC Department of Health and Human Services set to begin on July 1, 2021, a further review of the GWTA billing rates may be in order for fiscal year 2021. Revenues for these services decreased 23% by end of the fiscal year and could reduce further when changes take effect next year. An appropriate Medicaid Transportation rate based upon the terms of a contract with the new private transportation brokers will be needed.

NCDOT has experienced a significant budget cut for this fiscal year, with the public transportation programs taking the biggest hit. An additional allocation of CARES funds of \$548,977.85 for this fiscal year. While CARES Act funds from NCDOT may help, these funds will not be able to supplant state funds, such as ROAP and SMAP, and this may affect how we are able to provide services.

Wayne County approved matching funds to replace ten (10) vans that have reached useful life. These replacement vehicles will help GWTA reduce unplanned maintenance expenses once received.

The Dial a Ride (DAR) services provided by the Rural program for the Urban program has continued to increase year over year. GWTA should consider changes in how the DAR services are made available to better manage the increasing cost for these services.

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***Outreach and Activities***

Willis participated in an NCDOT COVID teleconference on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Willis participated in the Wayne CALM teleconference on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Willis participated in on line OPSTAT report training with NCDOT on July 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Willis participated in the quarterly TAB meeting (and by teleconference) on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

***Training***

Operators will receive refresher training on emergency evacuation procedures in July.

**Medicaid Transportation Changes**

Senate Bill 808 passed both chambers of the NC General Assembly. The law now requires NC DHHS to begin contracts with PHPs no later than July 1, 2021. There are now two private brokers that have been hired by the five different health plans to manage transportation services for Medicaid beneficiaries across the state. GWTA is beginning negotiations with Logisticare and OneCall (the private brokers) to secure acceptable rates and terms for contracts to continue providing Medicaid transportation services in the coming year.

**Year End Service Statistics**

Ridership on the rural program for FY2019-20 was about 58,000 trips, down 16%. The service was on track to grow prior to the pandemic. We expect a decrease in services for FY20-21, which will potentially reduce rural revenue. However, GWTA expects CARES Act funds to help bridge any lost revenue for the coming year. The urban bus ridership was 187,000. This represents over an 8% decrease as a result of the pandemic.

**Other Business**

Willis informed the Board that a vendor demonstrated a new bus for the urban system. The entire eight (8) bus fleet for the urban system will be replaced within the next three years as they become eligible. The CARES Act funds should be used to replace the buses at a 100%. Willis stated that the payroll system will be upgraded where the employees will be able to clock in and out through their phones and also process leave requests and other personnel functions now done with paper.

Willis shared with the Board the new public relations campaign: "We are your Safe Way, We are your Gateway." Passengers will be given reminder cards with tips on being safe during the pandemic as well as hand sanitizers and a scarf.

Willis stated that Wayne Net has several mini vans with ramps that could be helpful with passengers in wheel chairs. Willis is interested in acquiring the mini vans as a donation from the County.

Meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Submitted by: LaShonda Oliver