



DON WILLIS
DIRECTOR

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BERRY GRAY
CHAIRMAN

***Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2025***

The Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority met for a regular session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 24, 2025, at the City of Anteroom, 214 N. Center Street, Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Members in attendance: Berry Gray, Chairman; Brenda Davis, Secretary; Rob Dingess, Jamie Taylor, and Felicia Brown

Members absent: Hiawatha Jones, Vice Chairman; Barbara Aycock

Others in attendance: Borden Parker; Andrew Neal, Attorney; Don C. Willis, Director

Call to Order

Chairman Berry Gray called the meeting to order at 10:00AM and welcomed Board members. There was a roll call to assure a quorum was present of appointed Board members.

Board of Directors recognized Attorney Borden Parker for his many years of service and representation of the GWTA, and congratulated him on his retirement.

Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Gray asked the Board members to review and approve the proposed agenda. Felicia Brown made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Jamie Taylor and received unanimous approvals.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Gray requested the Board review and approve the minutes provided. A motion was made by Jamie Taylor to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 27, 2025. Felicia Brown seconded the motion. The Board provided unanimous approval of the minutes.

Director's Report

Director stated he continues research and preparation for the proposed FY2025-2026 Urban and Rural budget ordinances. There has not yet been feedback from Wayne County or Goldsboro on the FY26 budget request for matching assistance that was timely submitted. Director noted that insurance costs continue to increase, including an expected 13% increase through the NC Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) risk pool. Director has checked with a broker, and it was determined that the private sector would not be competitive at this time. Medical

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premiums are expected to increase 5% in the coming year. Director noted that at the meeting in May, the Board will need to set a public hearing for the Wednesday June 18, 2025 meeting. Director anticipates a need for a billing rate increase proposal for the rural services in the coming months as well.

Director stated that GWTA continues to coordinate and provided responses to Nunn, Brashear, and Uzzell to assist with completion of our public single audit. Auditor believes work could be completed and the audit presented to the Board prior to end of the fiscal year. Director stated action on extending the contract will be needed during the meeting.

Director reported GWTA would not be operating in observance of the upcoming Memorial Day holiday. Director also noted that the annual state conference was in April and that he and Karen Tinsley attended.

Marketing Plan and Public Relations Update

Director reported QCA staff was present on site at GWTA during the week of April 6th conducting annual ridership counts and assessment of amenities. Multiple language formats were available for these surveys, and four (4) riders completed surveys in French-Creole as well as one (1) completed in Spanish as a result. Director noted during this time that QCA also conduct annual customer surveys. Director presented a report on urban bus ridership results during the meeting. A summary analysis of route effectiveness, number and usage of stops and availability of amenities such as shelters was shared. In addition, Director provided a brief infographic report of the customer survey results noting a more detailed report in May.

Mount Olive Bus Services Update

Director reported he had attended and presented service information requested by the town of Mount Olive on April 7, 2025. Director provided the summary to Board members during the meeting. Director shared that there may be other opportunities to partner with Mount Olive organizations to support these services, and Director is exploring what is possible. Board member Brenda Davis mentioned other ways to market the service, including at local medical facilities and promoting more use by people with disabilities and for employment opportunities.

Training

Director noted that GWTA employees received Emergency Procedures and Fire Extinguisher refresher training at recent team meetings.

Other Business

Director noted that two separate GWTA employees had recently been recognized with the Director's Extra Effort Award. Reina Reyes and Elizabeth Brownstead have both recently been commended by riders and the public for potentially saving the rider's life through their quick actions. Board members discussed and appreciated the amazing actions of these employees and remarked on how the GWTA does so much good in the community.

Board members discussed the ongoing changes underway with the federal government and how the GWTA may be impacted in the future. Board members recommended that the Director spend time preparing information to support the value and effectiveness of the GWTA. Also to explore ways that GWTA can improve effectiveness of services and find efficiencies.

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Director stated that the contract with auditing firm Nunn Brashear and Uzzell needed to be extended to the end of this fiscal year. Jamie Taylor made a motion to approve the Chairman signing the extension to the contract. Brenda Davis seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Director noted that the GWTA would again support ADA parking access for the Wings Over Wayne Airshow, and was coordinating with staff at the City of Goldsboro as well.

Chairman Gray asked if there was any further business. Hearing no further business, Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 10:51am.

Submitted by: Don C. Willis