



DON WILLIS
DIRECTOR

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FREEMAN HARDISON, JR.
CHAIRMAN

*Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2018
Amended on November 29, 2018*

The Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority met in regular session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 27, 2018, at the City of Goldsboro Anteroom, 214 N. Center Street, Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Members in attendance: Freeman Hardison, Jr., Chairman, Shycole Simpson-Carter, Vice Chairman, Bob Waller, Secretary/Treasurer, Joe Daughtery, Bill Pate and Antonio Williams (arrived during closed session).

Absence: Brent Heath.

Others in attendance: Don Willis and LaShonda Oliver.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion of Bill Pate and seconded by Shycole Simpson-Carter, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting of August 30, 2018.

Director's Report

Financials

The rural program is showing a profit of \$28,320.80 in August and \$80,501.21 fiscal year to date. The urban program is showing a loss of \$218.96 in August and a loss of \$.04 fiscal year to date. As mentioned previously, the urban funds will remain about balanced throughout most of the year due to the grant reimbursement process.

GWTA continue to meet with the auditor. Representatives from Nunn, Brashear, and Uzzell will present the audit at the October Board meeting.

The FY19-20 CTP grant application is being prepared. This grant will fund GWTA's rural administrative expenses. Applications are due to NCDOT by November 2, 2018. A public hearing is scheduled for the October Board meeting.

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The FY18-19 ROAP application has been prepared and sent to Wayne County, who is the grantee. This is a state grant for operating funds which are used to buy trips for the elderly, disabled, and rural public. The total allocation of ROAP funds to Wayne County is \$215,993. The ROAP application will be presented at the Board of Commissioners meeting on October 2, 2018. The application is due by October 9, 2018. The funds will be given to GWTA.

The FY18-19 FTA grant application to FTA for urban operating, preventive maintenance, and ADA service has also been submitted. The grant has been approved at the initial stage and is still proceeding through the review process. GWTA will continue to use FTA appropriations that have carried over from previous years for this fiscal year.

Hurricane Florence

Due to Hurricane Florence, GWTA suspended regular service beginning on September 13, 2018. GWTA staff participated at the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to coordinate and facilitate evacuation trips to shelters and also critical dialysis trips before and after the hurricane. Don Willis stated that GWTA did approximately 229 dialysis trips. In addition, there were 222 trips for EOC to get citizens to and from shelters. Through the storm, GWTA did a total of 451 critical trips. The partnership with GWTA team, EOC staff and agencies was successful. Many GWTA staff was experiencing property losses and continued to come to work. Freeman Hardison, Jr. has done a letter of appreciation to staff; however, Hardison and Willis would like to give the operations staff a \$50.00 bonus for their work during Hurricane Florence.

Upon motion of Freeman Hardison, Jr. and seconded by Joe Daughtery, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved the \$50.00 bonus to the operations staff that worked during Hurricane Florence.

Mount Olive Connector and Circulator

During the month of August, GWTA provided 159 trips for 23 days of service, traveling over 4,000 miles. Willis stated that he met with staff at the Mount Olive Pickle plant on September 5, 2018. GWTA will set up an information booth for their employees to learn how to use GWTA as a means to commute to work.

Marketing

GWTA is in process of distributing our new brochures, Ride Guides, and System Maps. Our marketing consultant, QCA, will attend our October Board meeting to present the marketing plan. A bus stop was added to the Yellow route to Wayne Opportunity Center as well as the Green route to the Maxwell Center. Willis informed the Board of the Veteran Ride Free program that was done last year. There were several promotion activities that were performed such as presenting at the meetings of the City Councilman and County Commissioners and an interview on WayneTV. Willis asked the Board if the service and promotion can continue this year.

Upon motion of Joe Daughtery and seconded by Bob Waller, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved the Veteran's Ride Free program for this fiscal year.

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Outreach

Several outreach activities, including a Community Expo, Senior Resource Fair, and the fall state transportation conference were either canceled or rescheduled due to the hurricane.

The Board discussed and made recommendation for the GWTA to participate at the Wayne County Fair to promote the services.

To assure compliance with FTA requirements, Director presented the MPO with a Transit Asset Management Plan (TAM) which is intended to assure federally funded vehicles are in a state of good repair. The TAM plan was adopted by the MPO at their September 11, 2018 meeting.

Willis and Hardison met with the Goldsboro City Counsel to discuss our shelter plans and respond to questions. There was a City Councilman that stated an anonymous businessman that would like to donate a bus shelter with the understanding that there are not enough locations to justify the grant funding for additional shelters. Willis informed the Board that the donor does not want to use the bus shelters a promotional tool for the business or dictate where the bus shelters will be placed. Shycole Simpson-Carter recommended that there be a written agreement.

Upon motion of Freeman Hardison, Jr. and seconded by Joe Daughtery, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved for Don Willis to pursue the additional shelters with the anonymous businessman with written agreement.

Hardison stated that during the City Councilman meeting, it was made clear that GWTA is not allowed to put bus shelters out. While the funding used are State or Federal funds, it is tax payers' money. There are guidelines that GWTA follows for the bus shelters.

Training

Operators will receive refresher training on defensive driving and pedestrian safety on September 27, 2018.

Other Business

Joe Daughtery stated that he is concern about the Mount Olive Connector and Circulator ridership. Daughtery asked if QCA made any suggestions on how to increase ridership. Willis stated that they have brainstormed ideas on the marketing plan. There has been discussion on a "Pickle Pass." This will be promoted for a short period of time to allow Mt. Olive Pickle Co. employees to ride free to learn how to use the services. This could help to influence the employees to continue as a paid rider after the promotion ends. Additionally, Mt. Olive Pickle Plant could possibly sponsor their employees rides.

Daughtery asked about providing trips to Butterball in Mt. Olive. Willis stated that there could be issues with crossing county lines and getting funding to serve Wayne County residents and going into another service area. In addition, the cost and staffing will be an issue for the low ridership that was shown in the past. The Board suggested that Willis meet with representative with Butterball to see if they will sponsor employees rides.

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Closed Session

Upon motion of Bill Pate and seconded by Joe Daughtery, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved to go into closed session.

[The following change was made by the Board of Directors at the meeting on November 29, 2018.]

At 10:30 a.m., ~~the Board went into closed session to discuss how GWTA supported the required closure of the temporary emergency shelters.~~ the GWTA of Board of Directors went into closed session under GS143-30318.11 section 8-6 in order to discuss performance of public officers and employees.

At 11:08 a.m., the Board went into open session.

After the closed session ended, discussion continued with Antonio Williams stating that he and Simpson-Carter does not get along; however, when it comes to the importance of the citizens, he can separate issues; however, Simpson-Carter is unable to do that. Hardison stated to not have personal ties at the Board meeting. Simpson-Carter asked if she can state on the record that she will not go any further because her personal Attorney has advised her that any other correspondence other than what her duties are with the City of Goldsboro is the only thing to be discussed at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Submitted by: LaShonda Oliver