



DON WILLIS
DIRECTOR

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BERRY GRAY
CHAIRMAN

***Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2024***

The Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority met for a regular session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 25, 2024, at the City of Anteroom, 214 N. Center Street, Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Members in attendance: Hiawatha Jones, Vice Chairman; Octavius Murphy, Secretary/Treasurer; Robert Dingess; and Jamie Taylor

Members absent: Berry Gray; Barbara Aycock; Steve Wiggins

Others in attendance: Don C. Willis, Mayor Charles Gaylor

Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Hiawatha Jones called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM and welcomed Board members. Ms. Jones also welcomed City Council member Jamie Taylor to her first meeting as an appointed GWTA Board Member and acknowledged Mayor Gaylor who was in attendance for the first part of the meeting. There was a roll call to assure a quorum was present of appointed Board members.

Approval of Agenda

Vice-Chair Jones asked the Board members to review and approve the proposed agenda. Octavius Murphy made a motion to approve the agenda as is. The motion was seconded by Rob Dingess and received unanimous approvals

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Jones requested the Board review and approve the minutes provided. It was noted that Barbara Aycock had also attended the meeting. A motion was made by Rob Dingess to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 14, 2023 with the correction to note the attendance of Ms. Aycock. Jamie Taylor seconded the motion. The Board provided unanimous approval of the minutes.

Director's Report

Director reported Wayne County has received from NCDOT and released to GWTA the annual FY23-24 ROAP allocation of \$263,529.00 which is used assist with eligible rural trips. Director noted that GWTA's bank, TRUIST has requested GWTA specify a "custodian" for our accounts. The Board offices of Chairman and Secretary currently are approved to sign checks, along with a co-sign by the GWTA Human Resources Manager. Director stated that he had expressed to TRUIST our need to maintain multiple signers, and flexibility for a third signer from the Board. This is needed for oversight and to assure vendors can be paid timely. TRUIST agreed and asked that we still designate a single "ultimate" Custodian and that the process we have in place may

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continue. After internal discussion with the Chairman, it was determined that the Chairman of the Board will be the Custodian of record. Director noted that the Chairman and Secretary are both coordinating with TRUIST to update bank documents accordingly.

Director shared that GWTA Staff has held one on-site meeting with representatives from our auditing firm, Nunn Brashear and Uzzell on Wednesday January 10, 2024. Work continues with the audit team to complete the audit and it is possible that the report may be presented at the February 29, 2024 Board of Director's meeting.

Director stated he has begun preparation for the FY2024-2025 Urban and Rural budget approval. The expected timeline was handed out to the Board and discussed. Board members discussed innovative strategies for revenue recovery in the future. Rob Dingess noted that there are often private partnerships, for example and employer may subsidize a bus route by "buying seat availability" and then offering free trips to their employees. Some of these strategies could even be explored in Mount Olive. There was also discussion about offering debit cards and other similar methods in the future to simplify and better manage the payment of fares for services.

Director noted that the request for rural matching funds is due to Wayne County by March 22, 2024. The County Manager intends to produce his proposed budget at the May 21, 2024 Commissioners meeting. The City of Goldsboro typically follows a similar timeline. Once local funds available is known, then Director will move forward with final recommendations and options for the GWTA budget.

Marketing Annual Plan Proposed

Director discussed the successful "floating" outreach held at the Steele Library in Mount Olive from 10:30am to 2:30pm on Saturday, January 20, 2024. Citizens came throughout the whole time period to discuss the Mount Olive services, as well as other services offered by the GWTA. Director presented the Board with a summary report as well as copies of all the individual forms completed. The suggestions shared by the public for improving the service were shared and discussed with the Board. Director noted that the Seymour the bus animated video was also shown and positive feedback received from attendees.

Director shared that QCA is working to complete plans for additional community outreach focused on celebration of the GWTA's 25th anniversary.

Director shared that the process is underway to develop a new RFP for these services. Director sought preliminary feedback from the Board at the meeting regarding makeup of the review committee. Vice-Chair Jones indicated she would like to take this item back up at the next Board meeting.

Training

Director noted that GWTA employees received emergency procedure refresher training at the December meeting.

Other Items

Director reported on various outreach activities and efforts over the last month.

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Director shared that GWTA has exceeded its safety goal of 100 days (and counting) without a preventable accident. A celebration is planned for Sunday afternoon at 3pm (unless there is significant change in weather) at the transfer center. Board members are welcome to attend.

Director shared that he participated in an NCDOT small working group with a consulting firm to update the Locally Coordinated Planning (LCP) process for North Carolina transportation providers on January 11th. Director participated and GWTA provided support for Wayne County Leadership day on January 12th. Director facilitated a “floating” outreach day at the Steele Library to raise awareness and take feedback on the Mount Olive Circulator and Connector services.

Vice-Chairman Jones asked if there was any further business. Hearing no further business, Vice-Chairman Hiawatha Jones adjourned the meeting at 11:25am.

Submitted by: Don C. Willis