



DON WILLIS  
DIRECTOR

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

SHYCOLE SIMPSON-CARTER  
CHAIRMAN

***Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority  
Governing Board Meeting Minutes  
June 17, 2021***

The Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority met in regular session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 17, 2021, at the City of Goldsboro Anteroom, 214 N. Center Street, Goldsboro, North Carolina.

**Members in attendance:** Shycole Simpson-Carter, Chairman, Brent Heath, Vice Chairman, Berry Gray, Secretary/Treasurer, Steve Wiggins, and Hiawatha Jones

**Members absent:** Freeman Hardison, Jr. and Gene Aycock

**Others in attendance:** Borden Parker, Rodrigues Butler, Edward Jones, Don Willis and LaShonda Oliver

**Approval of Minutes**

Upon motion of Steve Wiggins and seconded by Brent Heath, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting of May 27, 2021.

**Operators of the Year**

Don Willis recognized the operators of the year. The operators of the year have been chosen by their peers. The urban operator of the year is Rodrigues Butler. Butler has been employed for nine years. Butler stated that his priority is to when he comes to work is to meet the GWTA goals of safety, service and satisfaction. The rural operator of the year is Edward Jones. Jones has been employed for seven years. Jones is retiring. Jones stated that he appreciated the support from management and staff. Jones loves driving the bus and it is something that he has always wanted to do.

**FY 2021-22 FTA Grant Public Hearing**

At 10:12 a.m., a public hearing was held on the FY2021-2022 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 Operating and Capital Assistance application.

Don Willis gave an overview of the FTA grant application. The FTA application includes the operating assistance which is 50% federal and 50% local match. In addition, the ADA and preventative maintenance is included in the application and will be 80% federal and 20% local.

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The grant budget for the fiscal year is \$1,357,317. The federal total is \$823,777 and local match total is \$533,540. The local match is from the City of Goldsboro and SMAP from NCDOT. Willis invited public for comments.

No public comments were received.

The public hearing was closed at 10:14.

Upon motion of Steve Wiggins and seconded by Berry Gray, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved to submit the FY 2021-2022 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 grant application.

**FY 2021-22 GWTA Budget Public Hearing**

At 10:14 a.m., a public hearing was held to consider the FY 2021-2022 Rural and Urban Budget Ordinances.

Willis gave an overview of the rural and urban budget proposals. The cost to provide GWTA service will increase the next fiscal year. The County health insurance cost will increase about 5.4%. The property and liability insurance through NCACC has up by approximately \$15,000. However, there will be savings in the workers' compensation insurance by \$9,000. A cost of living salary increase of 3% for employees is included in the budget. At this time, the ROAP for the rural program and SMAP for the urban program are still in the State's budget. Therefore, they are included in the GWTA budget.

It is anticipated that the ridership for the rural program will be down 25% for this fiscal year. This is due to the slow demand of ridership from the pandemic. Demands for the Dial-A-Ride service continues to grow. This service is very costly on the urban system. The Mt. Olive bus service will be funded at the same level as last fiscal year. The Medicaid transportation is the biggest funding source and has continued to be short of the expected revenues. This service has been more expensive to provide than what GWTA has recovered during the last several years. The rate for Medicaid service has increased 25% and is included in the budget as well as revenues that may be earned from the private brokers are included the budget.

Willis stated that one replacement vehicle and other capital such as safety and security and technology has been approved. The matching funds will come from the County.

No public comments were received.

The public hearing was closed at 10:19.

Upon motion of Brent Heath and seconded by Steve Wiggins, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved to accept the FY 2021-2022 Rural Administrative, Operating and Capital Budget Ordinance and FY2021-22 Urban Operating and Capital Budget Ordinance.

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**Amend FY 2020-21 Budget**

Willis stated that FY2020-21 budget needs to be amended by decreasing the salaries expense line by \$34,000 and vehicle fuel expense line by \$30,000. These funds will be moved to the purchase vehicle expense line. There were ten approved vehicles from NCDOT. The County approved the local match of \$64,000 for the vehicles.

Upon motion of Berry Gray and seconded by Brent Health, the Board of Directors of Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority unanimously approved to amend the FY 2020-2021 Rural Administrative, Operating and Capital Budget Ordinance.

**Director's Report**

***Financial***

The rural program is showing a loss of \$3,220.37 in May and a loss of \$90,351.57 fiscal year to date. Budgeted revenues have not been realized due to the ongoing pandemic impacting ridership. There are CARES act funds allocated to the GWTA which will be sufficient to cover the operating deficit created as a result of the pandemic. The urban program is showing a gain of \$1,933.51 in May and a loss of \$397.98 fiscal year to date. The urban funds will remain about balanced throughout most of the year due to the grant reimbursement process.

We are awaiting the results of the state budget to see if the urban SMAP for the urban system and the ROAP for the rural system will be restored. GWTA has planned to receive \$239,000 in ROAP Funds and \$195,001 in SMAP funds, which would be consistent with the last level of funding provided by the NCDOT.

NCDOT released the urban funding "split letter" on June 7th. GWTA is allocating \$823,777 which is \$2,203 more than last FY. There is also an allocation from the American Rescue Plan (ARPA) for \$370,679.

***Outreach and Activities***

GWTA staff received training from the Health Department on the use of NARCAN on June 2th. Willis participated in biweekly NCDOT/IMD call on Wednesday June 2nd. GWTA promoted Health Department Vaccination event on Saturday, June 5th. Willis met on June 8th with Todd Williams (Crowne Insurance) following up on the review of our Workers Compensation Insurance. Willis participated in virtual statewide Medicaid Transformation meeting with NCHHS, the five hired private health plans, and the two hired Medicaid Transportation brokers on June 9th. Director participated on June 9th in a pre-bid conference regarding the planned extension to our facility roof canopy in August.

**Training**

Operators will receive refresher training on the ADA on June 30th.

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**Customer Survey Results**

Full results of the customer surveys are very positive overall. An infographic report was provided by handout at the May meeting. QCA will return in July to conduct stop by stop ride counts. There were 136 fixed route passengers that were surveyed and 32 rural van passengers that were surveyed.

The survey results are as follows:

	<b>Urban</b>	<b>Rural</b>
Do you feel safe while on Board vehicles during the pandemic	100%	100%
Satisfied with GWTA's response to the COVID-19 pandemic	94%	84%
Satisfied with the cleanliness of the vehicles	95%	90%
Feel safe at the stops and shelters during the pandemic	82%	N/A
Satisfied with the cleanliness of the stops and shelters	74%	N/A
Satisfied with the cleanliness of the transfer center	98%	N/A
Satisfied with the cleanliness of the restrooms	95%	N/A
Satisfied with the courteousness of operators	98%	90%
Satisfied with on-time performance	59%	84%
The overall satisfaction with GWTA	94%	93%

**Update on Medicaid Broker Contracts**

The contract with the private broker, OneCall, was executed by GWTA and awaiting final documentation from this broker. OneCall has provided a second training for our staff to prepare for services beginning on July 1, 2021. Modivcare has sought to renegotiate the agreed terms to our contract and negotiations continue to secure a contract with them. Final rates have not yet been agreed with this broker. There are concerns with the short time remaining, the need for training and other coordination efforts that will be necessary to assure a smooth transition for our customers.

**Other Business**

Willis proposed to continue the monthly Board of Director's meeting the last Thursday of the month as approved; however, the meeting around the Holidays need to be scheduled. The Board agreed to schedule the November and December meeting be combined on December 9, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Submitted by: LaShonda Oliver