

MINUTES
of
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

FEBRUARY 12, 2003

PRESENT:	Commissioners:	Vincent J. Biondi Andrew Ifill Andrea Kovacs Robert K. Lesser Neil A. Lieberthal Richard Ware
ALSO PRESENT:	GBTA Staff:	Thomas G. Gorman Douglas C. Holcomb, AICP Jeffery J. O'Keefe Steven L. Thoms Roberta Yegidis
	ATU – Local 1336:	Robert L. Dawkins Joel Mellitz
ABSENT:	Commissioners:	Mark T. Anastasi Laurie Goodsell Kevin Harkins Herbert H. Steinhardt

Chairman Lesser called the Public Meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. Answering to the roll call were Commissioners Biondi, Ifill, Kovacs, Lesser, Lieberthal and Ware.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – No members of the public wishing to provide comment on the Authority's affairs were present.

MINUTES

January 8, 2003 – The Chairman noted that, while he was referenced in the body of the Minutes, he was not listed as being present (or absent) from the session. He requested the attendance list be corrected to reflect his presence.

MOTION to adopt the Minutes of the January 8, 2003 Regular Public Meeting with the correction as noted by the Chairman. Moved by Commr. Ifill. Seconded by Commr. Biondi. Passed unanimously. (See Appendix A)

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REPORTS

Chairman – The Chairman made no formal report. He did note, however, his discouragement with the prospects for increased funding to the Transit Authority, given the

overall current state of the economy. He expressed his feeling that the Transit Authority not resign to the economic climate and that it continue its pursuit of increased funding, particularly at the municipal level. He also noted there would be a meeting of the TSB at the State Police Barracks in Westport on February 8th and encouraged the members to attend.

Chief Executive Officer – Mr. O’Keefe deferred his report to the written one which had been transmitted to the members previously. He did, however, note the following:

- James Byrnes is in the process of being confirmed as the new Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Transportation.
- The Bridgeport Regional Business Council (BRBC) will be hosting a breakfast on March 19th. Featured speakers will be Mr. Byrnes and TSB Chairman R. Nelson Griebel.
- The Southwestern Regional Planning Agency (SWRPA) has issued its Congestion Mitigation Report (copies of which were given to the members).

Fiscal Officer – Mr. Gorman presented the budgetary figures for the period ending December 31, 2002. Specifically, he noted the following:

Fixed Route

	Month Ending 12/31/02	Year to Date
Revenues	\$ 339,270	\$ 2,101,917
Less Expenses	<u>\$ 837,074</u>	<u>\$ 5,585,545</u>
Operating Deficit	<u>(\$ 497,804)</u>	<u>(\$ 3,483,628)</u>
Add Subsidies	\$ 574,762	\$ 3,473,266
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 76,958	(\$ 10,362)
Operating Ratio	42.04%	38.73%

Paratransit

	Month Ending 12/31/02	Year to Date
Funding	\$ 138,376	\$ 851,299
Less Expenses	<u>\$ 144,643</u>	<u>\$ 889,499</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>(\$ 6,267)</u>	<u>(\$ 38,200)</u>

Committees

- **Planning & Operations** – Commr. Lieberthal reported that the Committee had met the week before to discuss the Authority’s current planning efforts.

He said that the Review Committee for the Planning Study will be conducting interviews with the RFP's respondents in the next few weeks in order to make a recommendation for contract award to the full Board.

- **Marketing** – Commr. Biondi reported that the Committee had met and prepared a brief outline of its goals for the Authority. He also said the Committee would like to engage the Board in more of the Authority's marketing efforts.

OLD BUSINESS – No old business was transacted.

NEW BUSINESS

Authorization to Issue IFB for Purchase of Diesel Fuel for Year Ending June 30, 2004 and Approval to Make Award of Contract for Same – Administrative Officer Roberta Yegidis reported that the Authority's current contract for diesel fuel will expire on June 30th. Currently, she said, the Authority pays \$.74_/gal., but the spotmarket is currently approaching \$1.10/gal. She also noted that the Authority will be required to convert to low sulphur diesel consumption by 2006, adding that there are CMAQ funds to help ease the transition, as low sulphur diesel is more expensive. She also noted that the Authority issuing an IFB does not commit it to awarding a contract. Thus, she said, if the bids submitted are not deemed to be favorable, the Authority can decline to make an award and instead purchase fuel on a week-to-week basis on the spot market. She requested Board approval to issue the IFB and also requested approval to award a contract, if deemed favorable, at bid opening due to the volatility of the market. She noted such a decision/award would be made in consultation with the Chairman.

MOTION to issue the IFB for the purchase of diesel fuel for the year ending June 30, 2004 and to authorize the Administrative Officer to make award of a contract for same in consultation with the Chairman. Moved by Commr. Biondi. Seconded by Commr. Lieberthal. Passed unanimously. (See Appendix B)

Approval to Solicit Medical Benefits – Ms. Yegidis reported that the Authority's contract with MEHIP will expire on May 31st. As the value of such a benefit is in excess of \$1M, she requested Board approval to solicit a new contract through the Authority's insurance broker.

MOTION to approve solicitation of medical benefits. Moved by Commr. Lieberthal. Seconded by Commr. Kovacs. Passed unanimously. (See Appendix C)

FMLA Policy Federal Compliance – Ms. Yegidis reported that, due to the Authority's structure, it is exempt from State FMLA laws which require an employer to provide up to 16 weeks of FMLA. However, she said, the Authority does have to comply with the

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federal requirement to 12 weeks. She requested Board approval to modify the Authority's FMLA policy to be compliant with the federal regulation.

MOTION to modify the Authority's FMLA Policy to be compliant with the federal regulation that it provide up to 12 weeks of FMLA leave. Moved by Commr. Kovacs. Seconded by Commr. Lieberthal. Passed unanimously. (See Appendix D)

Current Transportation Legislation – Mr. O'Keefe deferred the item to a report on the matter which had been transmitted to the members previously, but invited the members to call him should they have any questions.

Capital Projects Timeline – Mr. O'Keefe deferred the item to a spreadsheet on the matter which had been transmitted to the members previously, but invited the members to call him should they have any questions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – No Executive session was conducted.

MOTION to adjourn – Moved by Commr. Biondi. Seconded by Commr. Ifill. Passed unanimously. Time, 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Weldon, Clerk of the Board
February 19, 2003

On a motion made by Commr. Ifill and seconded by Commr. Biondi, it is hereby resolved to adopt the Minutes of the January 8, 2003 Regular Public Meeting with the change as noted by the Chairman.

The members cast the following voting units on the foregoing resolution:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
BRIDGEPORT:		
Mark Anastasi	<u>0</u> x 2.04= <u>2.04</u>	<u>0</u> x 2.04= <u>0.00</u>
Andrew Ifill	<u>1</u> x 2.04= <u>2.04</u>	<u>0</u> x 2.04= <u>0.00</u>
Andrea Kovacs	<u>1</u> x 2.04= <u>2.04</u>	<u>0</u> x 2.04= <u>0.00</u>
Herbert H. Steinhardt	<u>0</u> x 2.04= <u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u> x 2.04= <u>0.00</u>
FAIRFIELD:		
Vincent Biondi	<u>1</u> x 1.68= <u>1.68</u>	<u>0</u> x 1.68= <u>0.00</u>
Robert Lesser	<u>1</u> x 1.68= <u>1.68</u>	<u>0</u> x 1.68= <u>0.00</u>
STRATFORD:		
Laurie Goodsell	<u>0</u> x 1.46= <u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u> x 1.46= <u>0.00</u>
Kevin Harkins	<u>0</u> x 1.46= <u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u> x 1.46= <u>0.00</u>
TRUMBULL:		
Neil Lieberthal	<u>1</u> x 1.00= <u>1.00</u>	<u>0</u> x 1.00= <u>0.00</u>
Richard Ware	<u>1</u> x 1.00= <u>1.00</u>	<u>Abstain</u> x 1.00= <u>0.00</u>
TOTAL.....	<u>9.44</u>	<u>0.00</u>

The resolution was passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATION

I, John R. Weldon, Clerk of Board of Commissioners of the Greater Bridgeport Transit Authority, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the ballots depicted above at a meeting of that body, duly called and held, on Wednesday, February 12, 2003.

John R. Weldon, Clerk of the Board

February 14, 2003

Date

On a motion made by Commr. Biondi and seconded by Commr. Lieberthal, it is hereby resolved to issue the IFB for the purchase of diesel fuel for the year ending June 30, 2004 and to authorize the Administrative Officer to make award of a contract for same in consultation with the Chairman.

The members cast the following voting units on the foregoing resolution:

	<u>Aye</u>		<u>Nay</u>
BRIDGEPORT:			
Mark Anastasi	<u>0</u>	x 2.04=	<u>2.04</u>
Andrew Ifill	<u>1</u>	x 2.04=	<u>2.04</u>
Andrea Kovacs	<u>1</u>	x 2.04=	<u>2.04</u>
Herbert H. Steinhardt	<u>0</u>	x 2.04=	<u>0.00</u>
FAIRFIELD:			
Vincent Biondi	<u>1</u>	x 1.68=	<u>1.68</u>
Robert Lesser	<u>1</u>	x 1.68=	<u>1.68</u>
STRATFORD:			
Laurie Goodsell	<u>0</u>	x 1.46=	<u>0.00</u>
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On a motion made by Commr. Lieberthal and seconded by Commr. Kovacs, it is hereby resolved to approve the solicitation of medical benefits.

The members cast the following voting units on the foregoing resolution:

	<u>Aye</u>		<u>Nay</u>
BRIDGEPORT:			
Mark Anastasi	<u>0</u>	x 2.04=	<u>2.04</u>
Andrew Ifill	<u>1</u>	x 2.04=	<u>2.04</u>
Andrea Kovacs	<u>1</u>	x 2.04=	<u>2.04</u>
Herbert H. Steinhardt	<u>0</u>	x 2.04=	<u>0.00</u>
FAIRFIELD:			
Vincent Biondi	<u>1</u>	x 1.68=	<u>1.68</u>
Robert Lesser	<u>1</u>	x 1.68=	<u>1.68</u>
STRATFORD:			
Laurie Goodsell	<u>0</u>	x 1.46=	<u>0.00</u>
Kevin Harkins	<u>0</u>	x 1.46=	<u>0.00</u>
TRUMBULL:			
Neil Lieberthal	<u>1</u>	x 1.00=	<u>1.00</u>
Richard Ware	<u>1</u>	x 1.00=	<u>1.00</u>
TOTAL.....			<u>9.44</u>
			<u>0.00</u>

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On a motion made by Commr. Kovacs and seconded by Commr. Lieberthal, it is hereby resolved to modify the Authority's FMLA Policy to be compliant with the federal regulation that it provide up to 12 weeks of FMLA leave.

The members cast the following voting units on the foregoing resolution:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
BRIDGEPORT:		
Mark Anastasi	<u>0</u> x 2.04= <u>2.04</u>	<u>0</u> x 2.04= <u>0.00</u>
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STRATFORD:		
Laurie Goodsell	<u>0</u> x 1.46= <u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u> x 1.46= <u>0.00</u>
Kevin Harkins	<u>0</u> x 1.46= <u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u> x 1.46= <u>0.00</u>
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