

TODD TURNER SECRETARY-TREASURER

# Tuesday, June 15, 2021 3:30 PM **WSTC Bi-Annual Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

Commissioners in Attendance
Mr. Thomas Graham, Chair
Mr. Tom Hucker, Vice-Chair
Mr. Mike Goldman
Mr. Todd Turner
Mr. Donald Drummer
Mr. Earl Lewis, Maryland Department of Transportation
Staff in Attendance
Mr. Pat Pscherer Jr., Director, Washington Area Transit Office
Ms. Tammy Cooper
Ms. Sara LeBarron
County Representatives
Mr. Terry Bellamy, Prince George's County
Mr. Anthony Foster, Prince George's County
Mr. Chris Conklin, Montgomery County
Mr. Gary Erenrich, Montgomery County
Open to Public

# I. Chair Graham called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM

# II. Approval of the Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was seconded and unanimously approved.

## III. Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2020 was seconded and unanimously approved.

# IV. Public Comment

No public comments were submitted

#### V. Introduction of New Commissioner: Mr. Donald Drummer

Col. Donald Drummer (US Army, Ret.) was appointed as a Commissioner of the WSTC by Governor Hogan on April 21, 2021. Mr. Drummer will also assume a position as a principal Director on the WMATA Board of Directors as of July 1, 2021.

# VI. Appointment Status of Commissioner Michael Goldman

Mr. Michael Goldman has served two full, consecutive terms as a Commissioner on the WSTC and, as such, is not eligible for reappointment to a third consecutive term according to both the State and county statutes that govern the Commission, as well as the Commission's Bylaws.

Those same regulations state that, if no successor has been appointed to fill an impending vacancy, the incumbent Commissioner shall continue to serve in that role for a period of up to 12 additional months until the appointing agency identifies, qualifies, and appoints a successor.

Mr. Michael Goldman's current appointment expires June 30, 2021, but he has agreed to continue serving as a Commissioner of the Washington Suburban Transit Commission for up to 12 more months.

# VII. WSTC Update

- a. Update on WSTC Finances
  - i. End-of-Year Financial Position

## Current financial position

- Fiscal year beginning balance: \$569,888
- Current expenses as of April 30, 2021: \$321,456
- Total revenues as of April 30, 2021: \$215,639
- Current end balance: \$464,071.

## Forecast End-of-Year Financial Position

- The beginning M&T Bank balance is \$569,888
- Estimated expenses: \$414,770
- Estimated revenues of \$396,300
- Projected FY2021 end balance of \$551,418
- ii. Approval of FY2022 WSTC Administrative Budget

The proposed FY2022 Administrative Budget totaled \$452,524. Based on the original approved FY2021 budget, this represents a decrease of 7%. This reduction includes the removal of the annual \$15,500 amortization payment - the full amount was paid in full in July 2020. The FY2022 Administrative budget was unanimously approved.

iii. Future Audit: WSTC's audit contract with SB&Co ends with the Fiscal Year 2021 audit. The Commission agreed to working with MDOT's procurement office to open a procurement bidding process and encouraging local minority- or women-owned businesses to apply.

## b. Legislative Wrap-up

Mr. Pat Pscherer presented a summary of pertinent legislation introduced in the 2021 Legislative Session of the Maryland General Assembly.

- i. HB0886 Public Safety Elevator Inspections Transit Compact Authority Del. Lewis (D Pr. George's Co.)
  - Status at Adjournment: 1st Reader Assigned to Environment and Transportation.
- ii. SB0935 Public Safety Elevator Inspections Transit Compact Authority Sen. Augustine (D Pr. George's Co.)
  - Status at Adjournment: 1st Reader Never Assigned
- iii. HB0666 WMATA Metro Transit Police Quotas and Metro Transit Police Complaints Board Del. Barron (D Pr. George's Co.)
  - Status at Adjournment: 1st Reader Assigned to Judiciary cross-filed with:
- iv. SB0280 WMATA Metro Transit Police Quotas and Metro Transit Police Complaints Board – Sen. Feldman (D – Mont. Co.)
  - Status at Adjournment: 1st Reader Assigned to Judicial Proceedings
- v. HB1340 WMATA Governance, Funding, and Reporting Chair, Appropriations Committee
  - Status at Adjournment: 1st Reader Never Assigned
- vi. HB86 Maryland Metro/Transit Funding Act Alterations Del. Korman (D Mont. Co.)

  ENROLLED Previously House Bill 86 was vetoed by the governor at the end of the 2020

  Regular Session, as it could have increased costs to the State at a time when he was

  unwilling to increase non-covid related expenses. The General Assembly overrode the veto
  by vote during the 2021 Regular Session. House Bill 86 is now Chapter 22.

#### c. Office Matters

- i. Chapter 185 Reporting: Requires the Commissioners to file two annual reports, Conflict of Interest and Lobbying. Must be submitted to the governing bodies of Montgomery and Prince George's County, as well as disclose the Conflict-of-Interest report on the website. The Commissioners are deemed public officials and are not allowed to be in the business of public transportation. Must file a financial disclose form with the State Ethics Board by April 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. The due date was met, and reports were uploaded to the website accordingly.
- ii. Website: WSTC established <a href="https://www.wstcmaryland.org">www.wstcmaryland.org</a> by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as required by Chapter 185. The website explains the role of the WSTC, provides contact information for the staff, houses information and materials from the semi-annual meetings and public forums, and archives required reporting documents. The website also includes direct links to WSTC's Facebook and Twitter accounts.
- iii. Fall WSTC Public Forums: The Commission agreed a Public Forum should take place after Labor Day. A suggestion was made for either the first Tuesday or second Wednesday of October. When the date is agreed upon, that will be the reoccurring annual date for the fall public forum. The focus for this fall's meeting will be on input/suggestions from riders regarding the incentives available for public transportation and the Bus Redesign.
- iv. December Meeting: The date for the next WSTC Bi-Annual meeting will be decided when the Commissioner's meet again.

#### VIII. County Conversation

- a. Bus Network Redesign Project Update: Redesigning and realigning the bus network including feedback from jurisdictional partners. WMATA will be moving forward with an RFP to bring in consultants. This RFP will have input from Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C.; a representative from NVTC and Pat Pscherer, Jr will be serving on the committee.
- b. Montgomery County: Updates on a range of services provided by Montgomery County including Ride On service: regular fixed-route service; Ride On Extra service, which has limited stops; Flex Service, which provides on-demand responsive service; and, most recently, Flash service which started last year.
- c. Prince George's County: Prince George's County received new buses from Patera in April and expects them online towards the end of summer or early fall. Prince George's County Link reactivated two routes dormant since COVID-19. Prince Georges County Connect, which can be downloaded to their smartphone, is a new tracking software which will provide riders with real-time information on buses. The Bus Saturday service has been increasing.

#### IX. Election of Officers for FY2022

- A. Mr. Goldman was unanimously approved as Chairman
- B. Mr. Turner was unanimously approved as Vice-Chair
- C. Mr. Drummer was unanimously approved as the Secretary / Treasurer

#### X. Good of the Order

#### XI. Closing Remarks

Outgoing Chair Thomas Graham adjourned the meeting at 5:10 PM