

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

3:30 PM

WSTC Special Meeting

Commissioners in Attendance
Mr. Michael Goldman, Chair
Mr. Todd Turner, Vice Chair
Mr. Donald Drummer
Mr. Christopher Zappi
Deputy Secretary 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

I. Chair Goldman called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM and a quorum was met

II. Approval of Funds from the FY22 Administration Budget for Transit-Related Conferences

Chair Goldman made a motion to approve \$5,000.00 from the surplus of \$80,000.00 in the existing Washington Suburban Transit Commission FY2022 Administration Budget to cover conferences and conventions that could be attended by WSTC Commissioners or staff. Vice Chair Turner seconded the motion. Vice Chair Turner further recommended that a policy be put in place to govern this expense in the future and that staff research future conferences to come up with a suggested fund balance for the next fiscal year budget for this purpose. The motion was unanimously approved. The Commission directed that a policy for conference and convention expenses be drafted and approved for future WSTC conference expense reimbursements. In this instance, Mr. Goldman will be reimbursed from the WSTC general account for his attendance fee to the APTA Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. on March 13 – 15, 2022.

III. HB 438/SB 463 – Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority – Funding Formulas – Alteration (WMATA Dedicated Funding Amendment Act of 2022)

This bill would provide a three percent annual increase to the Dedicated Capital Funding grant from the State of Maryland to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) above the current grant amount. The State’s share of the \$500 million in Dedicated Capital Funding is currently \$167 million annually. These funds are guaranteed and bondable by WMATA. The bill requires that Virginia and Washington D.C. pass equivalent legislation. The annual increase would begin in FY2025.

Commissioners discussed the bill and if the Commission should take a formal public position on it. Chair Goldman made a motion that the WSTC submit a Letter of Support. Voting was unanimous in favor of a Letter of Support among the voting Commissioners. Per standard MDOT practice, Deputy Secretary Lewis abstained from voting. Mr. Pscherer was directed to draft the Letter in Support on behalf of the Commission.

IV. Adjournment