

**MINUTES OF THE
JACKSONVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2022**

The Jacksonville Transportation Authority Board of Directors held a Work Session on Tuesday, February 24, 2022 in the Board Room of the Jacksonville Regional Transportation Center located at 100 LaVilla Center Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32204.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Arezou Jolly, Debbie Buckland, Kevin Holzendorf, Abel Harding and Andre Wallace.

JTA STAFF PRESENT: Nathaniel P. Ford, Sr., Cleveland Ferguson, Greg Hayes, Rosa Beckett, Bernard Schmidt, Greer Gillis, Lisa Darnall, Charles Frazier and Katie Smith.

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Milian, General Counsel, and PFM Team; Richard Pengelly, Scott Sweeten and David Reeser.

WELCOME: The Retreat was called to order by Chair Jolly at 12:21 p.m.

Chair Jolly welcomed new Board Member Andre Wallace.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Chair called for Public Comment. There were no requests by the public to comment.

SERVICE DELIVERY: Mr. Frazier provided an overview of four contracted services for Connexion, Connexion Plus, ReadIRide and Clay County Transportation. He shared details of the contracts with each provider, MV Transportation, Uzurv and Owl, Inc. including expiration dates and the budget/costs for the services.

Mr. Frazier stated that the team is performing a cost benefit analysis of all the contracted services and that there may be an opportunity to bring some services in house. He also stated a Request for Information has been issued to the vendor community to get their feedback on capabilities of different contracting models.

Mr. Frazier advised the Board that there will be a formal recommendation and next steps presented to the Board in March. This will allow time to conduct a survey with riders, cost

benefit analysis and poll industry for best practice models. The timeline is 90 days and would bring the findings and recommendations back to the Board for their input in Fiscal Year 2023.

Chair Jolly stated she favors the due diligence and feels it makes good sense to get the data points together then make a decision as a Board. She asked fellow Board members if there were any questions or comments.

Director Holzendorf thanked Mr. Frazier. He stated it's a good plan and gives a look at what the industry is doing. Director Holzendorf likes that the customers are being surveyed to get an idea of what their expectations are. He likes to consider vendors as partners.

Director Wallace asked when the cost benefit analysis would be and if it would be prior to the expiration. Mr. Frazier stated the cost benefit analysis has already begun, but staff will need to take time to look at the efficiencies in order to be prudent with taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Frazier stated if the Board supports the contract extension they will start working on it and acknowledged that there is cost associated with extending the contract. The cost would not be \$4 million because the extension is only 6 months. Mr. Frazier stated the net cost would be about \$150,000 with a small rate adjustment.

Mr. Ford clarified that the JTA would be paying the six months to someone to provide these services. The due diligence, all that work has already starting, but we want to slow down this process to give more time before the contract expires at the end of the end of the year. Travel patterns are different, the way people are traveling are different. He stated that people want more of the Connexion Plus service versus the old model, which requires requesting a trip 48 hours in advance. There is also pressure for more ReadIRide, which out with only a couple zones and is now up to 13. This is an opportunity to look at a total revamp of how we deliver all of these contracted services and the economic scale on the number of contractors. The overall goal is to improve the quality of service for the customer and be good stewards of the taxpayer's money.

Director Buckland inquired about how the liquidated damages as outlined in the contracts would be impacted. Mr. Frazier stated staff will follow-up with the Board and circulate the information.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE: Chair Jolly, in Director Driver's absence turned the floor over to Mr. Hayes for the items that are under the Finance and Administration Committee.

Quarterly Investment Update and FY23 Budget Strategy:

Mr. Hayes stated the Investment Policy approved by the Board requires a Quarterly Investment Update be provided on investments and Market update.

Members of the PFM team provided an overview of the Investment Performance Review and Quarterly Update as of December 31, 2021. He also spoke about the Fiscal Year 2023 budget and discussed inflation.

Chair Jolly asked if any mitigating measures could be taken to protect the investment portfolio. Mr. Sweeten stated PFM's focus is on managing the portfolios for safety liquidity yield. They will continue to find value throughout the market.

Mr. Hayes provided Director Wallace a few key points of the Investment Policy and that reserving the Authority's capital and ensuring that the funds remain whole is the number one priority.

Mr. Ford asked Mr. Hayes to explain his thoughts around fuel. Mr. Hayes stated under the Board's direction several years ago, a fuel hedging strategy was put in place for fuel purchases. The hedge contract are through March 2024.

Chair Jolly stated she knew that hedging would put the agency in a good position.

Mr. Ford stated from a strategy standpoint, we were not exactly looking to save money. We needed to ensure we knew what pricing was going to be year to year.

LONG RANGE PLANNING AND SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Director Buckland stated the group will take the Board through the two items under this committee.

LOGT Program Update:

Ms. Gillis gave an update on the Local Option Gas Tax (LOGT) Program and next steps. Chair Jolly asked if the update was inclusive of the Emerald Trail Project. Ms. Gillis answered that is correct.

Ms. Gillis shared accomplishments to date related to the legislation passing LOGT. The accomplishments are Recruitment, Workforce Development & Training Academy Plan, Diversity Supplier Training, LOGT Program Dashboard, Emerald Trail Partnering Meetings and Program Management Services.

Director Wallace ask what are some of the challenges to finding the right candidate. Ms. Gillis stated some have experience and not much trail experience, but more sidewalk experience. She stated this is bigger than the sidewalk. Ms. Gillis stated we may need to revise the position description for a Senior Project Manager with multi-use landscape architecture experience.

Ms. Gillis stated a framework for the Workforce Development and Training Academy Plan has been established with LSBE firms and UNF. Chair Jolly asked if the necessary jobs to support the Program have been identified. Ms. Gillis responded that the jobs have been identified.

Chair Jolly asked how the training would be conducted. Ms. Gillis stated the training would be administered through the JTA University. There is also a Strategic Advisory Committee where JTA is partnering with UNF, FSCJ, Operation New Hope, Kids Hope Alliance and other Jacksonville business, civic, social and non-profits.

Chair Jolly stated it is important that this is not only JTA workforce but for the community to support various projects. She also asked about how the communication strategy was handled to reach out to the myriad neighborhoods, especially the more underserved neighborhoods letting them know these training and job opportunities are available.

Director Wallace asked if there are other colleges that we will be working with. Ms. Gillis stated UNF and FSCJ were the initial two they reached out to and asked to participate.

Ms. Gillis stated staff recommendations is to present to the plan this summer to the Board.

Ms. Gillis stated the LOGT Program Dashboard was created along with the City. The program dashboard that will provide a progress update on projects, spending and the number of jobs created. She stated the dashboard is ready to go live. Ms. Gillis stated JTA and the City will go live together in March 2022.

Director Buckland asked where the trail would fall. Ms. Gillis stated the trail will be under transit projects.

Ms. Gillis stated that she will be presenting a recommendation to the Board at the meeting following the work session to award the program management contract to Jacobs Engineering Group.

Chair Jolly asked if JTA has worked with this group before. Ms. Gillis affirmed but it has been on some smaller level projects over the years but nothing significant as this program management effort.

Johnson Street TOD Update:

Mr. Ferguson stated today at the Board Meeting there will be an item under new business. General Counsel will present staff's recommendation to the Board. This recommendation is for Chair Jolly to work with the CEO and staff to respond to an Invitation to Negotiate in order to respond on March 10, 2022 to be prepared for that submission. This will enable staff to move forward in preparation for the response. Mr. Ferguson stated if successful, staff will bring back a negotiated contract for Board review and approval.

Richard stated this is an invitation to negotiate and the Board is authorizing staff to submit a proposal to initiate negotiations. He stated it is not a contract committing to anything other than committing to submission of a proposal to negotiate.

Director Holzendorf stated he supports this recommendation. He stated with the Chair's capability and the trust that we have in her, she will keep the Board well informed and ensure transparency.

Roundtable:

Chair Jolly then stated that there was one more matter to take up before the retreat ends, which is to recognize Mr. Ford's recent seating as the Chair of the Transit Research Board. She presented him with a gavel in recognition of not only this recent chairmanship but also for him serving as Chair of the American Public Transportation Association. It is highly unusual for an individual to chair two different national agencies, particularly in such a short time.

Mr. Ford thanked the Board for the recognition and stated that he can only serve in these capacities because of the strong leadership team that he has at the JTA.

Chair Jolly thanked the Board and staff for all of the information and discussion throughout the day.

There being no further business, the work session adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

SEAL



G. Ray Driver, Jr. Secretary



Arezou Jolly, Chair