

**MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JACKSONVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2021 – 2:00 P.M.**

The regular Board meeting of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) was held on Thursday, May 27, 2021.

BOARD MEMBERS

Arezou Jolly, Chair
G. Ray Driver, Secretary
Kevin J. Holzendorf, Past Chairman (Virtual)
Abel Harding
Deborah Buckland, Vice Chair

JTA EXECUTIVE STAFF

Nathaniel P. Ford Sr., Chief Executive Officer
Cleveland Ferguson III, SVP Administration
Bonnie Todd, SVP Transit Operations
Greg Hayes, VP Finance & Technology
Greer Gillis, VP System Development
Bernard Schmidt, VP Automation

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Greg Evans, FDOT
Nicole Padgett, Treasurer

OTHERS PRESENT

Richard Milian, General Counsel
Katie Smith, Board Liaison

A. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Jolly called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

Chair Jolly led a moment of silence for the horrific incident that happened at VTA in Santa Clara, CA.

Director Buckland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Jolly acknowledged the time that JTA staff and Board gave to the work session that was held just prior to this meeting. She stated that these work sessions are so very important because they help the Board engage with staff in a more in-depth discussion and understanding of the issues, the meeting agenda items and being able to work through them allows us to have a much more efficient Board meeting. She also thanked Mr. Ford and the staff for always ensuring that the Board Members are updated and provided with all of the necessary details of activities, projects and initiatives that are happening at the JTA.

Chair Jolly asked for Roll Call. Mrs. Smith acknowledged the Board Members present and confirmed there was a quorum of the Board attending in person.

Chair Jolly provided the safety message for the month of May, “It is easier to plan for disaster than explain why you didn’t”

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 29, 2021 BOARD WORK SESSION AND BOARD MEETING

MOTION (Harding/Driver) Motion Approved (4-0).

C. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISON – Councilwoman Pittman was not in attendance.

D. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – There were no public comments.

E. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT** – Mr. Ford provided began his report by announcing that the US Green Building Council has certified the Jacksonville Regional Transportation Center (JRTC) at LaVilla as a LEED Gold facility, a first LEED government facility for the JTA.

Mr. Ford then turned to the Jobs for Jax legislation and thanked the Board for their support and guidance on this important legislation. He also thanked the JTA staff and everyone that helped during the past few months as we conducted a very public and transparent discussion about infrastructure investments in our community.

He stated that on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, City Council made history as they took that bold step in voting overwhelmingly to support the Jobs for Jax legislation. Once again to the JTA staff, many of you who are in the room today. Thank you for your dedication - the late nights, the early mornings and the weekends that you took my calls and text messages and requests for information. We executed a dynamic and transparent communications campaign to help the community understand the benefits of the Local Option Gas Tax (LOGT).

Mr. Ford then provided an overview of the projects and investment that will transform the community. He explained the amendments that were made to the legislation and that one of the significant changes was to shift funding from the neighborhood extensions to the Emerald Trail. He added that we are certainly excited about yesterday's vote, it is clear it's time for us to get to work. We have some promises to keep, some roadwork to complete, bus stops to upgrade and trails to build. He stated to the Board that the nearly eight hundred JTA employees who serve this City every day are committed to keeping these promises.

One of the focuses of these projects is the opportunity to sunset the term Skyway Express as this is now in the past and we are focused on the future, the Ultimate Urban Circulator (U²C). Staff is ready to begin partnering with federal, state and local stakeholders.

Mr. Ford turned the floor over to Mr. Milian to provide details of the legislation and the recommendation staff is presenting to the Board for approval.

Chair Jolly stated before Mr. Milian begins, she wanted to congratulate Mr. Ford. for leading by example, for being the quarterback of this and handling it with grace and decorum as well as with credibility that the City has come to expect and entrusts in Mr. Ford and the JTA management team. She then acknowledged several key players on getting this legislation passed, Government Affairs, Communications, Automation, and Finance.

Chair Jolly turned the floor over to Mr. Milian.

Mr. Milian stated that City Council has the LOGT Ordinance and the understanding is that the mayor is going to sign that sometime soon. This will also incorporate a local agreement with JTA that the Board needs to approve.

Staff would like to take the agenda out of order and take up old business now so we can move this LOGT Ordinance forward. Staff recommends the Board adopt Resolution 2021-09 for execution of the Interlocal Agreement related to the LOGT.

MOTION (Driver/Buckland) to adopt Resolution 2021-09; wherein, the Board authorizes the Chair and Chief Executive Officer to execute the Interlocal Agreement between the City and the JTA LOGT in a substantially similar form as to the Interlocal Agreement approved by the Jacksonville City Council on Wednesday, May 26, 2021. Motion Approved (4-0).

F. DIVISION REPORTS

1. **ADMINISTRATION MONTHLY REPORT** – Mr. Ferguson shared highlights of the Real Estate and Economic Development Report and the Procurement report for the Administration Division through April 2021.

2. **AUTOMATION MONTHLY REPORT** – Mr. Schmidt provided the Board with the Automation Monthly Report for activities through May 15, 2021.

3. **ENGAGEMENT MONTHLY REPORT** – Mrs. O’Leary provided the quarterly Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Report for the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2021.

4. **FINANCIAL MONTHLY REPORTS** – Mr. Hayes provided the Board with the Financial Reports for April 2021, as well as the month and year-to-date update, Processed Invoices Report, Grant Status Update, and Agency Sponsorship.

5. **SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT** – Ms. Gillis shared details of the System Development Report and activities through May 15, 2021.

6. **TRANSIT OPERATIONS** – Ms. Todd provided the Board with the Transit Operations report for April 2021.

G. CONSENT AGENDA – No Items

H. SAFETY, AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE - No Items

I. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (Driver, Committee Chair)

ACTION ITEMS

1. **RESOLUTION 2021-05: AUTHORIZATION FILE FISCAL YEAR 2022 TRIP AND EQUIPMENT GRANT - TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM – DUVAL COUNTY**

2. RESOLUTION 2021-06: AUTHORIZATION FILE FISCAL YEAR 2022 TRIP AND EQUIPMENT GRANT - TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM – CLAY COUNTY

Items I.1 and I.2 were presented together as they are for the same purpose, just in two different counties.

Mr. Hayes stated that the trip and equipment grant is provided through the state of Florida Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Commission. This is the funding source for the TD program. Statewide, each county in the state receives an annual allocation.

I.1. Resolution. 2021-05 will allow the JTA to receive grant proceeds of \$1,592,082 for Duval County for Fiscal Year 2022, matched by \$159,208 from the City for a total funding amount of \$1,751,290 to provide transportation services to the TD rider.

I.2 Resolution 2021-06 similarly will receive grant proceeds of \$531,442 for Clay County for Fiscal Year 2022, matched by \$53,144 that will be provided by the Clay County Board of County Commissioners for a total amount of \$584,587 for the TD services in Clay County.

MOTION (Harding/Driver) Adopt Resolution 2021-05 (Duval) and Resolution 2021-06 (Clay): Authorization to File Fiscal Year 2022 Trip and Equipment Grant for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with LISC. Motion Approved (4-0).

3. RESOLUTION 2021-07: APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2022 OPERATING BUDGET - Mr. Hayes stated Florida statute and the City Ordinance Code require the JTA to submit an annual budget by June 1 of each year. He added that the Board has been briefed on the budget several times (at work sessions and in one-on-ones) over the last few months and again in the work session prior to this Board meeting. Staff hereby presents the final Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget that totals \$130.6 million for the Board's consideration and approval.

MOTION (Harding/Buckland) Adopt Resolution 2021-07: Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget. Motion Approved (4-0).

4. RESOLUTION 2021-08: APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2022 CAPITAL BUDGET- Mr. Hayes stated this item follows the same steps as the operating budget. Florida statute and the City Ordinance Code require the JTA to submit an annual budget by June 1 of each year. He added that the Board has been briefed on the budget several times (at work sessions and in one-on-ones) over the last few months and again in the work session prior to this Board meeting.

Staff hereby presents the final Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Budget that totals \$58.7 million for the Board's consideration and approval.

MOTION (Driver/Buckland) Adopt Resolution 2021-07: Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Budget. Motion Approved (4-0).

J. **SERVICE DELIVERY** - No Items

K. **LONG RANGE PLANNING AND SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT** (Buckland, Committee Chair)

Director Buckland, as Chair of the Committee acknowledged that staff and general counsel discussed the eminent domain litigation with the Board at the work session that was held prior to the meeting, which allowed the Board to ask questions and understand the background on this recommendation.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **APPROVAL TO SETTLE EMINENT DOMAIN LITIGATION – ALTA DRIVE** – Mr. Ferguson presented staff's recommendations that the Board approve the settlement of eminent domain litigation for the acquisition for right-of-way needed for the Alta Drive road widening Project under JTA MobilityWorks Program. The subject property is described as Parcel's as 101, 102, 701,702, and is a portion of property identified by Duvall County property appraisers as Real Estate No.108678-0000, No. 1086780-0100. JTA mediated this eminent domain action on May 11, 2021 and reached a settlement, subject to Board approval in the amount of \$850,000 plus statutory attorney fees, and reasonable expert costs of \$44,702.50. This amount takes into account that the JTA will receive a credit of its previous deposit, of \$359,050. JTA staff and eminent domain counsel therefore believe that this mediated settlement is in the best interest of the JTA and recommends approval by the Board.

MOTION (Buckland/Harding) to approve settlement of the eminent domain litigation on Alta Drive. Motion Approved (4-0).

L. **OLD BUSINESS** - none

M. **NEW BUSINESS** - none

Chair Jolly announce the next Board meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.


G. Ray Driver, Secretary


Ari Jolly, Chair