

**MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JACKSONVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2024 – 3:00 P.M.**

The regular Board meeting of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) was held on Thursday, March 28, 2024.

BOARD MEMBERS

Deborah Buckland, Chair
G. Ray Driver, Vice Chair
Patricia Sams, Treasurer
Arezou Jolly, Immediate Past Chair
Megan Hayward, Board Member

JTA EXECUTIVE STAFF

Nathaniel P. Ford Sr., CEO - Virtual
Cleveland Ferguson, EVP Administration
Greer Gillis, SVP System Development
Raj Srinath, SVP Finance and Technology
Jeffery Smith, Interim SVP Operations

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Greg Evans, FDOT
Aundra Wallace, Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT

Katie Smith, Board Administrator
Richard Milian, General Counsel

A. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Buckland called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. and thanked the Board for attending the meeting and the work session that took place before the Board meeting.

Chair Buckland stated that Mr. Ford is under the weather and has joined the meeting virtually. Mr. Ferguson has Mr. Ford's seat for the day. She also acknowledged that Doreen Joyner-Howard from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is in attendance and thanked her for attending the meeting, as well as the work session that was held prior to the meeting.

Chair Buckland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Smith completed a roll call confirming a quorum of the Board.

Chair Buckland then provided the safety message for the month of March. "Safety isn't expensive, its's Priceless."

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 31, 2024 BOARD MEETING

MOTION (Hayward/Driver) to approve minutes. Motion Approved (5-0).

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

D. AUTHORITY RECOGNITION AWARDS

January Employees of the Month:

Bus Operator: Stephanie Gelsey

Maintenance: Raymond Johnson

Administrative: Mary Griffin

February Employees of the Month:

Bus Operator: Dexter Brooks

Maintenance: James Meese

Administrative: Tsopie Trottie

E. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: There were three public comments.

Mrs. Smith stated that there are members of the JTA staff in the audience to speak with those that make public comments to further discuss their issues and/or concerns.

1. John Nooney – Mr. Nooney stated that he was in attendance as he is reaching out to Jacksonville public entities regarding making the landing at Pottsburg Creek private. His ask of the JTA is charging stations in his area and that there is funding available from the government that would improve the green space in that area. Adding charging stations to the park would allow for golf carts, bikes and cars to be charged. He would like to see JTA sponsor this initiative.

2. Cornell Oliver – Mr. Oliver stated he wanted to speak to the Board about economic development and small emerging businesses. He wants to see any future surplus of property in a demographic area go to a minority first and exclude white women. He has concerns about the City of Jacksonville's (City) program as 51 percent of contracts go to white women and that the City is looking at making changes. Mr. Oliver provided his thoughts on how he thinks everything could be fair across the community, everyone to get a piece of the pie. He concluded with adding he would like to see more diversity in how business is conducted in the City.

3. Stanley Scott – Mr. Scott shared his concerns about the underserved communities and that these areas and that their needs are not being recognized. He wants Jacksonville to fulfill the promises that have been made.

F. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Ford stated after his report, the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) would provide the Board with details and information related to their divisions.

He shared information on activities over the last couple of months.

On February 22, 2024, JTA held a deed transfer ceremony attended by Chair Buckland and Directors Hayward and Sams. Authorizing the donation of surplus land has been pivotal for the North Florida School of Special Education and their mission to serve the community by helping children with intellectual and developmental differences.

During February, a temporary suspension of ferry services was required to complete Phase V of infrastructure enhancements and maintain the ferry's engines. Mr. Ford provided an overview of the scope of the work that was completed.

On February 27, 2024, the Authority announced the MobilityWorks 2.0 initiative, a \$490 million program that promises to transform Northeast Florida's mobility landscape over the next 30

years. He provided an overview of what is included in MobilityWorks 2.0.

On February 28, 2024, the JTA had the pleasure of hosting students from the Darnell-Cookman School of the Medical Arts, Stanton College Prep, and the Lavilla School of Arts, to name a few, to celebrate the legacy of Garrett Morgan, an African American businessman and inventor, who designed and patented the traffic signal, among other inventions.

Mr. Ford then shared highlights from the annual Local Bus and Maintenance Roadeo, which was held at the JTA Myrtle Avenue Operations Campus. This event always highlights the exceptional skills and dedication of JTA's bus operators, paratransit operators, and maintenance technicians. The winners were:

- Ramon Farfan won the Fixed Route Operator competition. He demonstrated his exceptional skill in navigating a 40-foot bus through a challenging course that mirrors the real-world scenarios our operators face daily.
- In the Maintenance Technician competition, "The Xpendables Team" – comprised of George McGarry, Gilberto Dorta, and Rudolph Wells – demonstrated their expertise by troubleshooting I/O controls, engine diagnostics and air brake systems.

He shared that all of the winners will be representing the JTA at the Florida Triple Crown Roadeo which will be held here Jacksonville this April. Then winners of the State Roadeo will then compete in the International Roadeo to be held in Portland, Oregon. Mr. Ford thanked Chair Buckland and Directors Jolly and Hayward for attending the Roadeo.

To close February, Mr. Ford announced that 18 new fixed-route buses were added to fleet and went into service on the 29th.

Moving into March, he shared that on the 1st, JTA celebrated the launch of the Northwest corridor bus stop improvement which will use a phased approach to upgrading 111 bus stops. These upgrades will begin with constructing ADA compliant pads, and progress to the installation of improved shelters, enhanced lighting, bike racks, and real-time trip planning messaging systems that will further enhance the customer experience. Additionally, many of these stops will feature public art elements that reflect and celebrate the unique identity of each neighborhood.

Also, to keep everyone informed of the progress of the MobilityWorks 2.0 projects, the Authority launched a new website featuring a project dashboard, an interactive map, and updates on job and contracting opportunities.

On March 7, 2024, the JTA, in collaboration with the Jacksonville Housing Authority, introduced a dedicated pick-up and drop-off service exclusively for Twin Towers affordable senior community residents. By tailoring services to meet the specific needs of senior residents, and

reinforce JTA's pledge to ensure that every member of our community has access to reliable and dignified transportation options.

He announced that there has been an increase in ridership for the My Ride to School program. Through this service, students have convenient access to transportation that stops at or near their schools, making their daily commute safer and more reliable. The numbers speak volumes about the program's impact: ridership soared from 7,821 in August 2022 to 37,710 by January 2024. In this period, JTA has facilitated over 213,000 student trips across various routes, with the most frequented being Route 3, Route 1, Route 19, Route 13, and Route 14.

To conclude, Mr. Ford shared two major funding awards that demonstrate JTA's strategic resolve and vitality to aim high and deliver for this community.

He announced that the federal budget for Fiscal Year 2024 was signed, and it included two community-funded projects awards for the JTA of \$6 million dollars. These awards comprise \$3 million for the University Boulevard Complete Streets Project, which extends from Arlington Road to the Arlington Expressway. The second award of \$3 million will allow the JTA to upgrade six of its Park-n-Ride facilities, including improved lighting, modernizing amenities, installing new striping, and milling, and resurfacing aging pavements. The JTA is grateful for the support and advocacy of Congressman Rutherford and look forward to the positive impact both these projects will bring to the community.

Lastly, JTA, in partnership with the City and Groundwork Jax, received an award of \$147 million from the Neighborhood Access & Equity Program grant for the construction of five segments of the Emerald Trail, the largest one-time federal grant ever received by the City. Mr. Ford provided details on the efforts and time for meetings, advocacy, and travel required by the JTA, the City and Groundwork JAX to get this grant

At every opportunity the team has had to engage, they made sure that JTA's key initiatives and projects were presented and discussed. The results are, JTA is known, JTA is trusted because it executes. The formula for success has become JTA's brand, which has resulted in over \$350 million in discretionary federal and state funding for Northeast Florida.

Mr. Ford shared that the JTA and the City have submitted two joint applications for USDOT's RAISE grant. The first seeks \$25 million for the St. Johns River Ferry, which includes the purchase of a vessel. The second seeks \$25 million for improvements to the Arlington Expressway.

He was happy to announce that JTA was just notified that the Authority is one of the recipients for the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Program Grant in the amount \$1.5 million.

He recognized members of the JTA team that assisted with securing these awards. From Government Affairs, led by Jessica Shepler to Chief of Staff, Ivan Rodriguez (as well as the work done by Lisa Barkovic from Holland & Knight), and Greer Gillis and her team. There are many others, including JTA's partners at Groundwork Jax and the City, this is a full team effort .

In closing, Mr. Ford expressed his gratitude to each member of the Board of Directors for their unwavering support. Together, we are making significant strides in improving the lives of our communities, and he looks forward to the continued success of the JTA..

A video was shown providing highlights of activities in February and march.

Director Jolly acknowledged the excitement in the City around the \$147 grant. The team needs to be applauded for the hard work that went in to secure this funding.

G. DIVISION REPORTS

1. **ADMINISTRATION MONTHLY REPORTS** – Mr. Ferguson shared highlights of the Administration Division and their activities through February 2024. He also shared how the newly awarded TOD Program Grant will be used.

2. **FINANCE MONTHLY REPORTS** – Mr. Srinath shared details of the Monthly Finance Reports for February and activities in his division. He also announced that the Fiscal Year 2023 audit has been completed and there were no findings.

3. **OPERATIONS MONTHLY REPORT** – Mr. Smith provided the Board with a summary of the Operations report through February 2024 and activities in his division. He added that customer service met with Ms. McClure, who was one of the public comments at the January meeting. She had an extremely long bus trip, but the new route options provided to her have significantly shortened her travel time. She was also reminded that the MyJTA app will assist with always finding the fastest route to her destinations.

4. **SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT MONTHLY REPORT** – Ms. Gillis shared details of the System Development Report for February 2024 and activities in her division. She provided an update on Planning, Design & Environmental work on Segment three of the Emeral Trail. Ms. Gillis shared details of the Quarterly DBE report.

Mrs. Gillis also shared that during the work session Director Hayward posed a question related to the Local Option Gas Tax funds and if JTA would need to go back to the City Council to discuss any reallocation of the funding because of the grant award. She stated that no, there will be no need to go back to City Council.

H. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no items under Consent.

I. ADOPTION AGENDA

There were no items for Adoption.

J. SAFETY, AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (Sams, Committee Chair)

There were no items for the Safety, Audit and Compliance Committee.

The Board was provided with a copy of the Safety and Compliance Audit Report for their information and review.

K. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (Wallace, Committee Chair)

ACTION ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR UNIFORM SERVICES (P-24-003)

Mr. Smith stated that staff recommends the Board authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to negotiate and execute a contract with Patrick's Uniforms of Florida, Inc., the sole responsive and responsible proposal to supply uniforms for various job classifications. The Contract term is for a base term of five years with one five-year option to renew. Total compensation for the base term of five years is not-to-exceed \$1,720,305. The option to renew will be separately negotiated based on the available budget and brought to the Board for approval. Acceptance of this recommendation aligns with the Authority's goals of Transit Works, Mobility Works, Customer Works, and Innovation Works. This contract is funded by local operating funds included in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget. There is no DBE participation goal assigned to this contract as there are no registered DBE firms in the relevant market that provide this type of service.

MOTION (Driver/Sams) to Approve Contract Award for Uniform Services (P-24-003).
Motion Approved (5-0).

2. APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS FOR NUTANIX SERVER NODES PURCHASE (PB-24-007, PB-24-009, PB-24-010) -

Mr. Srinath stated that staff requests the Board approve the purchase of Nutanix Nodes and Nutanix Licenses. The purchases include PB-24-010: Purchase 10 Nutanix nodes to replace those that have reached the end of their useful life for a total contract value not to exceed \$1,200,000; PB-24-009: Purchase Nutanix Files Licenses for 85 Tera Bytes of data to replace licenses that have reached the end of their subscription service contract for a total contract value not to exceed \$200,000; and, PB-24-007: Purchase 6 Nutanix nodes to be deployed in the Demilitarized Zone to align with industry best practice network architecture for a total contract value not to exceed \$352,000.

The cumulative sum of all 3 solicitations above for Nutanix products has a total contract value not to exceed \$1,752,000.

MOTION (Jolly/Driver) to Approve Contracts for Nutanix Nodes Purchase. Motion Approved (5-0).

L. **SERVICE DELIVERY** (Hayward, Committee Chair)

ACTION ITEMS

1. **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR COMPUTER-AIDED DISPATCH AND AUTOMATIC VEHICLE LOCATION (S-24-006)** – Mr. Smith stated that staff recommends the Board authorize the CEO to execute a sole source contract with Clever Devices for the Computer-Aided Dispatch and Automatic Vehicle Location (CAD/AVL) hardware warranty and software maintenance for a not-to-exceed amount of \$849,997.50 for a period of performance of three years. Acceptance of this recommendation meets the JTA goals of Customer Satisfaction and Transformative Mobility Solutions. Approval of this item will allow the vendor-supported maintenance and warranty of the CAD/AVL hardware and software to continue through March 2027. Installation of CAD/AVL on 185 fixed route vehicles provides LED signage at bus stops, conversion from NextBus to Bus Time, disruption management software, and on-board announcements.

This sole source is funded by local operating funds included in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget. There is no DBE participation goal assessed on this contract as there are no registered DBE firms in the relevant market area that provide this type of service.

MOTION (Hayward/Jolly) to Approve Contract Award for CAD/AVL. Motion Approved (5-0).

M. **LONG RANGE PLANNING AND SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT** (Driver, Committee Chair)

ACTION ITEMS

1. **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR CONSTRUCTION, ENGINEERING, AND INSPECTION SERVICES – HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL PROJECTS (P-23-038)** - Ms. Gillis stated that staff recommends the Board approve the ranked shortlist and authorize the CEO to negotiate and execute a contract agreement with the number one ranked firm listed below in each category for Construction, Engineering, and Inspection (CEI) services. One contract will be executed for each category. The task orders executed with the successful firms are not-to-exceed \$5,000,000 for Horizontal Large Projects, \$5,000,000 for Horizontal Small Projects, \$2,500,000 for Vertical Large Projects, and \$2,500,000 for Vertical Small Projects. Combined total not-to-exceed amount of \$15,000,000. The JTA anticipates \$220 million in construction project delivery over the next five years. This continuing service

procurement allows for the JTA to prequalify vendors, allowing for expedient execution of task orders for CEI activities for the JTA construction projects.

A solicitation for proposals was advertised on September 14, 2023. The deadline for submissions was October 12, 2023. Nine firms provided submissions for evaluation. The funding for these projects is captured in the Fiscal Year 2024 Five Year Capital Improvement Plan. The participation goal set for this project is 30 percent and the vendors have agreed to meet this goal.

MOTION (Sams/Hayward) to Approve Contract Award for CEI Services for Horizontal and Vertical Projects. Motion Approved (5-0).

2. APPROVAL OF CONTACT AMENDMENT FOR AUTOMATIC TRAIN CONTROL INVENTORY PARTS - Mrs. Gillis stated that staff recommends the Board authorize the CEO to negotiate and execute a contract amendment with Ground Transportation Systems Canada, Inc., formerly known as Thales Transport in the amount of \$1,585,000 for various train control components for the Skyway vehicles and wayside equipment, bringing the total contract amount to \$3,885,000. This amendment is requested as funds are needed for the final year of the contract. This contract began on July 8, 2019 for three years for a total of \$2,300,000. A Novation Agreement was entered into on August 26, 2022, extending the contract through August 26, 2025. The Procurement Review Committee meeting was held on March 5, 2024 and recommended approval by the Board for the contract amendment.

MOTION (Jolly/Sams) to Approve Contract Amendment for Automatic Train Control Inventory Parts. Motion Approved (5-0).

Director Hayward inquired about the timeline for repurposing the Skyway - How many times will the contact need to be extended when the plan is to phase out the Skyway. Mrs. Gillis responded that staff will issue a new procurement out in 2025 and then will come back to the Board to ask for approval of another five-year contract. Mr. Ferguson added that the Skyway is a federal asset and therefore, JTA must keep the Skyway running through its useful life. There is still a couple decades of useful life so recommendations will continue to come until the conversion is completed.

3. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENT FOR JANITORIAL SERVICES - Ms. Gillis stated that staff recommends the Board authorize the CEO to negotiate and execute a contract amendment with D&A Building Services, Inc. in the amount of \$518,000 for janitorial services. This amendment will bring the Contract Purchasing Agreement total amount from \$2,491,537.69 to \$3,009,537.69 for the five-year term of the contract. This contract amendment is for an increase in funds to cover unplanned cleaning services, as well as minimum wage adjustments. She shared details of the amendments to this five-year contract since it began in 2019. A new

procurement for this contract will be released later in 2024. Funding for this \$518,000 procurement is 100 percent funded by Fiscal Year 2024 operational funds. The small business enterprise participation goal set for this project is 30 percent and D&A Building Services, Inc. has agreed to continue to meet this goal.

MOTION (Sams/Jolly) for Approval of Contract Amendment for Janitorial Services.

Motion Approved (5-0).

N. OLD BUSINESS

There was no New Business

O. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business

Chair Buckland recessed the meeting at 4:27 p.m. for the Board to enter into a Shade Meeting to discuss litigation.

Chair Buckland called the meeting back to order at 5:11 p.m.

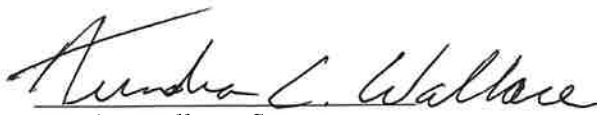
Mr. Milian stated that there was no report out from the Shade Meeting.


Director Hayward requested a Board Workshop to discuss the Ultimate Urban Circulator for the Board to receive an update and ensure a clear understanding.

Chair Buckland announced that the next Board meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

SF VI


Aundra Wallace, Secretary


Debbie Buckland, Chair