

## Topeka Metro Board of Director's Minutes Monday, April 18, 2022

MEMBER'S NAME	ORGANIZATION	PRESENT / ABSENT / EXCUSED
Dr. Alan Bearman, Chair	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Scott Tummons, Vice-Chair	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Jim Daniel	Topeka Metro	Present via ZOOM
Beverly Hall	Topeka Metro	Not present
Joseph Ledbetter	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Rodd Miller	Topeka Metro	Present QSS

Staff/Visitors	ORGANIZATION	PRESENT / ABSENT / EXCUSED
Bob Nugent, General Manager	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Richard Appelhanz, CFO Officer	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Keri Renner, Director of Marketing and Communications	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
John Cassidy, General Counsel	Topeka Metro	Present via ZOOM
Andy Fry, Director of Planning	Topeka Metro	Present via ZOOM
Denise Ensley, Chief Operations	Topeka Metro	Present via ZOOM
Jared Culbertson, Director of Information Technology	Topeka Metro	Present via ZOOM
Terri Miller, Director of Human Resources	Topeka Metro	Present via ZOOM
Alan Parrish, Director of Maintenance & Facilities	Topeka Metro	Present via ZOOM
	Topeka Metro	Present via ZOOM

TOPIC	KEY DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDED ACTION / STATUS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Call to Order	Chair, Dr. Alan Bearman called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.	5 of 6 members present	Dr. Alan Bearman
Minutes Approval	Minutes from the March 21, 2022, board meeting submitted for approval.	MOTION: Scott Tummons moved, and Rodd Miller seconded the motion to approve the March 21, 2022, minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously approved 5-0.	
Public Comment	No public in attendance.		
Finance Report	Financial report as submitted.	MOTION: Rodd Miller moved, and Scott Tummons seconded the motion to accept the financial report of April 18 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved 5–0.	
Department Reports			
Planning Report	Planning report as submitted. Continuing with full fares exceeding 2020—something to note. All student populations are exceeding that time frame as well. (USD 501 and Washburn).		Andy Fry
Operations Report	Nothing further to add.		Denise Ensley
Maintenance Report	Nothing to add.		Alan Parrish

Finance Report  Committee Reports	Nothing to add.	MOTION: Rodd Miller moved, and Scott Tummons seconded the motion to accept the financial report of April 18, 2022, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved 5–0.	Richard Appelhanz
Finance	Richard Appelhanz reported during Finance meeting.		Richard Appelhanz
Action Items	Dr. Bearman removed the smoking policy from the agenda discussion. Request For Bids for the Lift System	MOTION: Rodd Miller moved with the exception of the word "rotary," and Joe Ledbetter seconded the motion to approve PO 2211 Request for Bids for the 4-Leg Parallelogram Lift System. The motion was unanimously approved 5-0.	Dr. Alan Bearman
	AECOM report—short notice to review but found one or two issues in it that we need to correct (graphics). Bob suggested that it can be deferred or receive it and still make comments or corrections. The reason for bringing it to you in its entirety is that that we've already gone over the route analysis and recommendations—this report puts it all together in the same document.  Jim Daniel had a question regarding the entire engagement between staff and the consultant determining issues that one or the other may not have completely agreed oninterested in	MOTION: Rodd Miller moved, and Joe Ledbetter seconded to accept the AECOM Metro analysis (with future amendments) and revisit it next month.	Bob Nugent

interchange between staff and consultant on either side. Andy Fry said that there was some discussion about cutting some of the routes short-- cutting them off on the west end. There were discussions on that topic and the benefits and what the fallout might be. The compromise would be to make a Wanamaker shuttle to unify it. Andy said that some routes may still get cut short. For example, it didn't make sense for Route #3 to do a 30-minute headway and we explained that timing-wise it didn't make sense that there are gaps between bus stops where there's not a lot of ridership. Theoretically, it wouldn't work.

Bob said that the North/South on Wanamaker is driven by Topeka Metro. Topeka Metro initially stated we want new concepts and Ideas to provide more efficient and effective service. Consultant's suggestion was micro-transit, and we told them let's replace what we have, not necessarily grow the service.

Joe Ledbetter asked about timeline options to implement the suggested changes. Alan Bearman stated that the timetable would be in the next two years. This will be discussed at study session in June because May study session will be solely based on putting together next year's budget.

Rodd mentioned the timetable of submitting FY 2023 budget to the City, so it's necessary to have it ready and approve at June board meeting. We need to consider past expenses such as the Flex Route declining ridership, fungible funds, COVID money, operational grants, overhead for electric buses, operations, maintenance and USD 501.

Alan Bearman said next two work sessions will be focused on the budget and highly probable that we will have to work it out in next two months of work sessions before voting on it in June.

	Jim Daniel said that we need to devise a strategy regarding city property taxes going up, the mill levy and dealing with inflation that affects Topeka Metro such as labor, fuel and other number of ways.	
Continuing Business	Restructuring Routes #1 Oakland and #5 Indiana: Just an update—we talked about expanding The Flex and creating an app with August 2022 being our target date to put in place.  The questions are: Are we going to start The Flex or wait until we get the app and the microtransit fully functional?	Bob Nugent
New Business	N/A	
<b>Executive Session</b>	N/A	
Adjourn	Dr. Bearman adjourned the meeting at 4: 23 p.m.	Dr. Alan Bearman

Respectfully Submitted –

Keri Renner, Topeka Metro Board Secretary