



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 27, 2025
1:30 p.m.
269 Melrose Street, Providence
Transportation Board Room

Members Present: Director Peter Alviti, Board Chair; Robert Kells, Board Vice Chair; James Leach, Board Treasurer; Patrick Crowley, Board Secretary; Normand Benoit; Vincent Masino and James Lombardi.

Absent Members: Heather Schey and Marcy Reyes.

Also Present: Christopher Durand, CEO; Christopher Fragomeni, Esq., Board Counsel; Jacqueline Weidinger, Administrative Assistant-Executive Office; members of RIPTA's staff; and members of the public.

Call to Order: Director Alviti calls the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., indicating that quorum was present.

Agenda Item 1: **To consider for approval the Draft Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of January 23, 2025.**

Mr. Kells makes a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2025, meeting. Mr. Crowley seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Leach, Mr. Lombardi, Mr. Masino and Director Alviti.

Agenda Item 2: **To consider for approval the Draft Executive Session Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of January 23, 2025.**

Mr. Kells makes a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes of the January 23, 2025, meeting. Mr. Crowley seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Leach, Mr. Lombardi, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Masino and Director Alviti.

Agenda Item 3: **To consider for approval the Draft Executive Session Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of December 19, 2024.**

Mr. Crowley makes a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes of the December 19, 2024, meeting. Mr. Masino seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Kells, Mr. Leach, Mr. Lombardi, Mr. Benoit and Director Alviti.

Agenda Item 4: **Public Comment**

1. Daria Phoebe Brasher
 - States she is concerned about the lack of funding for RIPTA in the Governor's Budget.
 - States she will support us in any necessary funding.
 - States that the bathrooms at the Pawtucket-Central Falls Transit Center need to be repaired and cleaned.
2. Randall Rose – Kennedy Plaza Coalition
 - States the real-time digital displays in Kennedy Plaza either do not work or show the wrong times.
 - States that there should be more transparency with the change to Kennedy Plaza.
 - States that riders do not want Kennedy Plaza moved due to inconvenience and riders want a public session to discuss.
 - States that bus shelters should be better maintained.
3. Grant Dulgarian
 - States that Kennedy Plaza should not be moved.
 - States that before moving Kennedy Plaza we should do a Ridership Impact Statement.
 - States that Kennedy Plaza needs to be maintained better.
 - States that bus shelters need new glass and portable heaters.
 - States that the real-time digital boards do not work.
 - States he would like to meet with the Employee Spotlight.

Agenda Item 5: **CEO Report**

Christopher Durand, RIPTA's CEO, provides updates regarding replacing digital signs in Kennedy Plaza and on hiring new drivers. He discusses the Employee Spotlight for Nicky Mudryy and his bus shelter video, and provides an update regarding the budget, ridership, on time performance, and bus stop improvements.

No vote is taken.

Agenda Item 5: **Request for Approval – Procurement of Fluids and Oils**

John Chadwick, Deputy Chief of Procurement Inventory and Vehicle Operations, makes the request.

Mr. Crowley makes a motion to approve the request. Mr. Masino seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Director Alviti, Mr. Leach, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Kells and Mr. Lombardi.

Agenda Item 6: Board Questions and Answers

The Board of Directors inquires about the Line of Credit and whether any monies have been or will be spent.

The Board of Directors inquires about the Analysis of the Transit Hub.

No votes were taken.

Agenda Item 7: **Executive Session to consider, discuss and act upon such matters as may be closed to the public pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5: (a)(1) Any discussions of the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person or persons provided that the person or persons affected shall have been notified in advance in writing and advised that they may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting); (a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation; (a)(5) Any discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public; and (a)(7) A matter related to the question of the investment of public funds where the premature disclosure would adversely affect the public interest. Public funds shall include any investment plan or matter related thereto, including, but not limited to, state lottery plans for new promotions.**

Attorney Fragomeni reports that pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(1), the person(s) who are to be discussed were informed prior to the meeting, and did not request the matter(s) be discussed in open session.

Mr. Leach motions to enter Executive Session. Mr. Masino seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Lombardi, Mr. Crowley, Director Alviti, Mr. Kells and Mr. Benoit.

The Board enters into Executive Session to consider, discuss and act upon such matters as may be closed to the public pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(1) Any discussions of the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person or persons provided that the person or persons affected shall have been notified in advance in writing and advised that they may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting), R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, and R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(5), Any discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public.

The Board and Counsel enter into Executive Session at 2:12pm.

The Board and Counsel enter public session at 2:50pm.

Attorney Fragomeni reports that only one vote was taken during Executive Session. A vote to adjourn Executive Session.

Mr. Benoit makes a motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session. Mr. Kells, seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Leach, Mr. Crowley, Director Alviti, Mr. Masino and Mr. Lombardi.

Agenda Item 10: **Adjournment – 2:54pm**

Mr. Crowley makes a motion to adjourn. Mr. Kells seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Director Alviti, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Leach Mr. Masino and Mr. Lombardi.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Crowley, Secretary