

AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Austin Energy Headquarters
4815 Mueller Blvd, Austin, TX 78723

~ Minutes ~

Board Secretary Casey Burack
512-369-6040

Wednesday, April 20, 2022
2:00 PM

2:12 PM Meeting Called to Order
7:32 PM Meeting Adjourned

I. Public Comment

Ms. Zenobia Joseph and Mr. Ben Alford joined this meeting.

II. Technical Advisory Committee Reports

ATP Board Chair, Veronica Castro de Barrera, provided the April Engineering, Architecture & Construction Committee (EAC) report. The agenda items were:

- Vehicle procurement process; and
- Blue Line Bridge at Lady Bird Lake.

Ex-Officio Board Member, Gina Fiandaca, updated the Board on the April meeting of the Planning, Sustainability, Equity and DBE Committee (PSEC), which included a discussion of the Blue Line Bridge at Lady Bird Lake.

III. Executive Director Report

Executive Director, Randy Clarke, highlighted the Transit Industry Day scheduled after this Board Meeting on April 26. He indicated the event would be an opportunity for vendors, consultants, and contractors to discuss the program with staff. Mr. Clarke reported that there were 300 individuals registered for the event. After the 30% design is issued, Mr. Clarke expects another industry day.

Mr. Clarke also discussed the grant program; specifically, the small starts grants for Expo and Pleasant Valley. He stated that we are now expecting a greater than 50/50 cost share with the federal government, saving the program around \$500,000.

IV. Monthly Program Update

1. *Monthly Community Engagement Update*

Ms. Nirenberg, Director of Community Engagement and Involvement, provided a three-month Community Engagement Look-Ahead. She reviewed the community meetings that took place over the last month and the participation numbers for each.

Chair Castro de Barrera brought up the Crestview Townhall with Council Members Pool and Vela and the positive feedback about this event. She emphasized that she would like to see this be a model moving forward and that our engagement team seek out the groups that were missing. Mayor Adler reiterated the Chair's comments about the Crestview town hall. Board Member Stratton asked about the possibility of doing a similar townhall style meeting with Council Member Kelly related to commuter rail.

2. Monthly Technical Program Update

ATP's Chief Program Officer, Dave Couch, provided this update.

Mr. Couch provided an update on the NEPA process for the Orange and Blue Lines and discussed the ongoing process of developing the Environmental Impact Statement. He also stated that ATP has received nearly 10,000 comments on the 30% design, and that the team is working through them. With respect to the MetroRapid projects, he stated that work has commenced to build the Expo stations and that CapMetro is in the process of securing a contract to build the shelters.

Board Member Elkins asked if the number of questions and comments to the 30% design is in line with other projects and how the questions between ATP, CapMetro, and the City of Austin are organized. Mr. Couch explained the computer program used and how it sorts the comments. Board Member Elkins asked a follow-up question about the status of other aspects of the program, such as the rolling stock, maintenance facilities, and station design. Mr. Couch stated that while certain of these elements were behind schedule, the overall program is on track and that such areas will catch up.

V. Action Items

1. Approval of minutes from the March 23 Austin Transit Partnership Board Meetings.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Adler

SECONDER: Elkins

AYES: Castro de Barrera, Stratton, Elkins, Pierce Burnette, Adler

ABSENT:

2. Adoption of a resolution determining the executive director leadership of ATP in accordance with Section 4.2.2 of the Joint Powers Agreement, and the possible appointment of an Interim Executive Director

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Stratton

SECONDER: Burnette

AYES: Castro de Barrera, Stratton, Elkins, Pierce Burnette, Adler

ABSENT:

VI. Discussion Items

1. Sustainability Policy Briefing

Rob Borowski, CapMetro Sustainability Officer, and Lisa Storer, Program Manager, Sustainability, provided this update.

Mr. Borowski explained that the CapMetro Board recently passed this Sustainability Vision Policy, which guides the planning and provides principles, goals, and action areas for Austin transit.

Board Member Elkins brought up that we must include the private sector as a partner. He also recommended ATP is not be overly prescriptive with respect to sustainability in the technical specs, but instead utilizes performance specs.

In these discussions, Vice-Chair Burnette emphasized the importance of bringing the policy before the Planning, Sustainability, Equity, and DBE Committee. Ms. Storer responded that she had an opportunity to meet with that committee, and she looks forward to a continued partnership with them on sustainability initiatives.

Board Member Stratton and Mayor Adler asked questions about how the policy relates to the organizational structure of Project Connect. Ms. Storer explained that while the programs between the City of Austin, CapMetro, and ATP are all interdependent, they will have independent sustainability initiatives.

2. Quarterly Financial Update

Diane Siler, ATP's Budget Director, provided this update. Ms. Siler updated the Board on the FY21 year-end statements and the Q1 FY22 financial statement. She thanked the Board for their feedback and included these elements in this quarterly financial report, such as more information related to staffing and design contracts.

Board Member Elkins asked about the auditing firm hired to perform the audit. Ms. Siler explained that the new Director of Accounting would be investigating if we want to continue with the same auditor or select a different one. She reported that the audit was clean.

VII. Adjournment

ADA Compliance

Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications are provided upon request. Please call (512) 369-6040 or email chloe.maxwell@austinttransitpartnership.org if you need more information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Veronica Castro de Barrera, Chair; Colette Pierce Burnette, Vice Chair; Steve Adler, Tony Elkins, Eric Stratton and Gina Fiandaca (ex officio).

The Board of Directors may go into closed session under the Texas Open Meetings Act. In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, consultation with attorney for any legal issues, under Section 551.072 for real property issues; under Section 551.074 for personnel matters, or under Section 551.076, for deliberation regarding the deployment or implementation of security personnel or devices; arising regarding any item listed on this agenda.