

July 17, 2024. Chicago Transit Board Regular Meeting Minutes.

Noticed for 10:00 a.m. Commenced at 10:12 a.m.

AGENDA: The posted agenda for the meeting is available at www.transitchicago.com, "Chicago Transit Board", "Meeting Notices, Agendas, and Minutes", (07/17/2024) (Regular Board Meeting), "Agenda".

There was a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL: Directors: Lester L. Barclay (Chairman), Neema Jha, Director Ortiz, and Michael Eaddy. Director Michele Lee was absent.

The Chair recognized Director Rosa Ortiz who was standing.

Director Ortiz moved that Director Roberto Requejo and Director Bernard Jakes be allowed to participate in the meeting remotely due to both being ill and unable to attend in person. Director Jha seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.

Secretary Greenlee declared that the Board had a quorum and Chairman Barclay welcomed Director Jakes and Director Requejo to the meeting.

The Chair recognized Director Neema Jha who was standing.

Director Jha moved that the meeting agenda be amended and that the Board move Board Matters which was item number seven (7) on the agenda to item number four (4) on the agenda and address Board Matters immediately following Public Comments. Director Rosa Ortiz seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote and the vote passed unanimously.

Chairman Barclay called for the report from the CTA ADA Advisory Committee. Secretary Greenlee stated that she had received correspondence earlier in the morning that the Chair of the ADA Advisory Committee was ill and would not be in attendance. She also informed the Board that the Vice-Chair of the ADA Board was unable to be present and give the report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Chairman Barclay advanced the agenda to Public Comments. There were two public comments made by Joe Brogdon from Teamsters Local 700, Michael Podgers, the Policy Lead for Better Streets Chicago and Antoine Members.

BOARD MATTERS: Chairman Barclay asked whether there were any Board Matters? Secretary Greenlee responded that there were two items for Board Matters.

The Chair recognized Director Neema Jha moved that the Board approve an ordinance reelecting Lester Barclay as Chair of the Board of the Chicago Transit Authority and setting the Chairman's salary. Director Michael Eaddy second the motion. There were five yay votes with Chairman Lester Barclay abstaining from voting.

The second Board Matter was to approve an ordinance appointing members and chairs to certain standing committees of the Chicago Transit Board. Director Rosa Ortiz moved that the ordinance be approved, and it was seconded by Director Eaddy. There was a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

The Chair recognized Director Michael Eaddy.

Director Eaddy moved that the meeting be recessed and reconvened at a time certain at the conclusion of the Finance, Audit and Budget Committee Meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Rosa Ortiz. There was a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting regular meeting of the Board of the Chicago Transit Authority stood in recess. The time was 10:29 a.m.

The Regular Board Meeting of the CTA Transit Board was called back to order at 11:53 a.m. The meeting was called back to order by Chairman Lester Barclay who declared that the time of recess had expired.

Chairman Barclay thanked the Board for their confidence and support in electing him to the position of Chairman for another three (3) years.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Carter was delighted to recognize the young people who joined the CTA as a part of the city's One Summer Chicago Program. Every year young people join us to gain valuable work experience and to see what it takes to run one of the nation's largest public transit agencies. The OSC interns have varied experiences:

- Working on site at a CTA work location;
- High school interns have hybrid experiences working at CTA locations and engaging in other experiences like taking college courses or learning about workplace etiquette.

When the program started the CTA had 50 interns. Today the CTA has 275 interns. Each year President Carter sets a target for the number of interns he wants the CTA to have and each year Geisha Esther, the CTA VP of Training and Workforce Development meets the

challenge.

Geisha Esther proceeded to make her report. The Chicago Transit Authority 2024 One Summer Chicago High School Internship Program was presented and can be found at: <https://www.transitchicago.com/board/presentations>

Following her presentation two of the student interns made remarks: Jahoni Woods is a student at Southside Occupational Academy and Charles Perkins, Jr. who was an intern for the 95th Redline Cohort and Special Projects.

At the conclusion of the report and the student statements there were questions from the Board. There was discussion. Director Jakes gave remarks and encouraged the students. He also suggested that in the future the interns shadow the board in settings so that they can see how things really work.

Chairman Barclay also commended Geisha Esther for the program and complimented Dorval Carter for the foresight in developing a program like this. The students are the future.

Director Jha suggested that the free rides for the students be looked at from a data collection perspective. Where did they travel to? Also, she suggested creating a feedback loop with the students. Geisha Esther said that their department would be happy to share exit interview data with the board. President Carter stated that the Board could receive ridership data for the students.

Director Jakes asked whether the CTA Communications Department communicated with print and media outlets for the photograph that the Board took with the students prior to the meeting. He asked whether there was a press release sent out by the CTA Communications Department?

Catherine Hosinski who is the Acting VP for the Communications Department for the CTA addressed the inquiry and stated that there had not yet been a press release sent, but that the department would be happy to send out a press release. She stated that they leaned more heavily on social media for this age group because they get their information from social media.

Director Jakes stated that what is being shown now is everything that is negative about Black and Brown children. But those children are not the norm. These children are the norm. It is important to show that the CTA has been and continues to be invested in these young people.

Illinois State Senate Transportation Committee: President Carter spoke at the ISTC meeting on Tuesday, July 9th, 2024. State Senator Ram Villivalam convened the subject matter hearing which included testimony from transit leaders at the RTA, Metra and Pace.

Illinois State Representative Eva-Dina Delgado and Senator Villivalam have introduced legislation that proposes consolidation of all of the regions public transit systems. At the hearing President Carter pushed for adequate funding for the CTA in front of state legislators, whose voices impact our annual state funding appropriation and our ability to provide funding for our customers. It also allowed him to make clear his opposition to the proposed agency consolidation, which is a measure that fails to focus on the most pressing issue in the Chicago region and that is the need to fix CTA's funding formula. The problem has existed for more than four (4) decades but can and must be fixed in order for Chicago's public transit system to thrive.

He is not alone in the belief that the most important thing that can be done in proper allocation of resources. The other leaders of the other agencies agreed and echoed his sentiments that appropriate an appropriate funding formula is needed in our region in order for public transit to ultimately survive.

The fiscal cliff that awaits public transit in 2026 continues to approach. No amount of political diversion will change that. His goal is to help lawmakers know that the state is involved and the impact that ignoring this fiscal reality will have on their constituencies: especially those who need CTA to live their lives, raise their families and earn their living. He needs the Board's support to continue to make the case to the city and the state for the funding that we need in order to allow CTA to move forward.

President Carter gave a special "shout out" to Chief of Transit Officer Donald Bonds and Chief of Infrastructure Bill Mooney, as well as all of the employees and management teams who work in the operations and infrastructure departments, for all of the work they have been doing

in support of the many special events, summer festivals and ball games that have been occurring around the city. Our ridership has grown exponentially over the summer. That is due in large part to the summer events that people engage in and the need to support the summer events with appropriate transit services does not happen in a vacuum. There is a massive amount of coordination required by the CTA of which the average Chicagoan is not aware.

From our operators who drive our buses and trains, to the control center staff who keep everything moving, to the customer service staff who meet and greet customers as they travel through our system, our operations staff from management to the front-line work around the clock. They are supplemented and complimented by our infrastructure staff who are responsible for both maintaining the facilities and our tracks and switches to ensure that the system is clean, safe and operable.

The work that our employees do to keep our system moving during large events and even during severe weather events. Their work is nothing beyond spectacular, even when conditions are less than ideal. He thanked those who worked to keep our system moving even in the midst of storms.

NEW APPOINTMENT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR IMPACT: President Carter announced that he has been appointed to the Board of Directors for IMPACT which is a national non-profit organization that focuses on the intersectionality of transit, mobility, land use, development and building great places for everyone to live. He decided to become involved in this organization was in part based on its network of leaders, practitioners and advocates who are dedicated to engaging communities which is at the heart of our focus at the CTA.

That ended the report of President Carter.

Chairman Barclay inquired about safety on the CTA and requested that there be a conversation next month at the Board meeting with a representative from the Chicago Police Department.

President Carter responded that he would welcome that kind of conversation and that the CTA needs the support of the Chicago Police Department to keep public transit safe. He further stated that he would convey to the superintendent of the Chicago Police Department the invitation and advise him that the Board wants information about what the CPD is doing to keep out system safe.

Director Jakes inquired why the CTA disbanded its own police force? President Carter responded that it was disbanded 35 years ago and the responsibility of the policing of the CTA was turned over to the Chicago Police Department (also referred to as CPD"). The CPD created a unit dedicated to the CTA. The issue of the CTA creating an in-house police department is a fiscal conversation, because it would be extremely costly to the CTA as well as a timing conversation because it cannot be established overnight. The more efficient route is to get the CPD to provide additional resources for their policing of the CTA. President Carter stated that he is happy to give the board more detailed information regarding what it would take to create a police department within the CTA. Chairman Barclay inquired about how long it would take to create a feasibility report. President Carter stated that he would respond with a timeline at a later date.

Director Jakes expressed concern about the CPD's capacity to ensure that the CTA is safe during the upcoming Democratic National Convention given the challenge with resources. President Carter stated that he would convey that question to the CPD so that they could provide information to the board.

MINUTES: Chairman Barclay asked for a motion to approve the regular Board meeting minutes from June 25, 2024. After being moved by Director Ortiz and seconded by Director Jha, the minutes were approved with six (6) votes in the affirmative.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: CTA's General Counsel Kent Ray explained that there would be an Executive Session pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, Article 2C, Sections 1, 2, 11 and 21. Director Eaddy moved that the Board go into Executive Session and Director Jha seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. The Board went into Executive Session at 12:14 p.m.

At approximately 12:50 p.m. the Board came out of the Executive Session. The Chairman of the Board had a prior commitment which caused him to leave the meeting and did not return to the open session.

Chairman Barclay requested a motion to return to open session, which was moved by Director Jha and seconded by Director Lee. The motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES APPROVAL: It was moved by Director Ortiz and seconded by Director Jha that the Board approve the close session minutes from June 25, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

SECTION 28 MATTER OF MICHAEL HUFF: General Counsel Kent Ray stated that the Board has decided to defer the Section 28 matter concerning Michael Huff to the August 2024 Board meeting.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, AUDIT AND BUDGET: The Finance, Audit, and Budget Committee report was presented by Director Bernard Jakes. The committee reviewed the monthly finance report and approved the July 17, 2024, FAB committee meeting minutes. Director Jakes stated that all Committee agenda items, listed on the Board agenda, were presented, reviewed, discussed, and recommended by the Committee, for Board approval. Director Jakes stated that all the approved committee items, 2 ordinances and 15 contracts, were placed on the omnibus for approval by the Board. Director Jakes concluded the Finance, Audit and Budget Committee report.

Director Ortiz moved that the omnibus be approved, and the motion was seconded by Director Jha. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

All approved July 17, 2024, Board ordinances are available online, at www.transitchicago.com, "Chicago Transit Board", "Board Ordinances", Ordinance numbers 024-081– 024-093.

CONSTRUCTION REPORT: The Construction Report was given by Bill Mooney, IV, Chief Infrastructure Officer. He was joined by JuanPablo Prieto, Director of Diversity Programs.

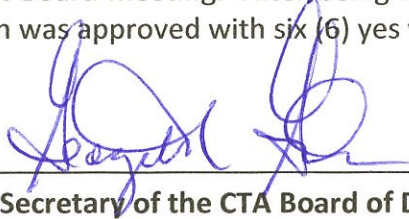
CONSTRUCTION REPORT: The Construction Report was presented and can be found at: <https://www.transitchicago.com/board/presentations/>

There was one comment from Director Requejo who requested a presentation regarding development opportunities around the new CTA's stations and new improvements. He knows that the CTA has been active on the issue of Equitable Transit Orientated Development. President Carter responded that they would prepare a presentation for the board.

NEW BUSINESS: None

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Chairperson Barclay asked for a motion to adjourn the July 17, 2024, Chicago Transit Board meeting. After being moved by Director Ortiz and seconded by Director Jha, the motion was approved with six (6) yes votes and the meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

APPROVED:



Secretary of the CTA Board of Directors

Date:

08 / 14 / 2024