



Charles D. Baker, Governor  
Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor  
Stephanie Pollack, MassDOT Secretary & CEO  
Steve Poftak, General Manager



## **Fiscal and Management Control Board**

**Transportation Board Room**

**10 Park Plaza**

**June 10, 2019 #169**

**12:00 Noon**

### ***MEETING MINUTES***

**Present:** Chair Joseph Aiello, Director Monica Tibbits-Nutt  
Director Chrystal Kornegay, Director Brian Lang and  
Director Brian Shortsleeve

**Quorum Present:** Yes

**Others Present:** General Manager Steve Poftak, Deputy General  
Manager Jeffrey Gonneville, Nathan Peyton, Owen  
Kane, Marie Breen, Michelle Kalowski, Samantha  
Silverberg, Laurel Paget-Seekins, Ben Schutzman,  
Andrew Brennan, Beth Larkin

At the call of Chair Aiello a meeting of the Fiscal and Management Control Board (Board) was called to order at 12:10 p.m. at the State Transportation Building, Transportation Board Room, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, Massachusetts.

Chair Aiello opened up the public comment period for items appearing on the agenda.

The first speaker was Boston City Councilor Michelle Wu who commented on the implementation of a study for equitable fares for low-income riders and doing away with fares on the system.

**Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority**

**Ten Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116**

**[www.mbta.com](http://www.mbta.com)**

Paul Regan, Executive Director of the MBTA Advisory Board discussed a MIT study commissioned by the Advisory Board that found that discounting fares for low-income people encouraged increased use of public transit.

Stacey Thompson from Livable Streets, Jarred Johnson from Transit Matters, Staci Rubin from CLF and Louise Baxter from TRU all commented in support of the MIT study to implement low-income fares.

Mela Miles from the Fairmount Indigo Transit Coalition was joined by members of the Green Justice Coalition, Collique Williams from Community Labor United and Mark Liu from the Chinese Progressive Association, all voicing support for the implementation of low income fares and fare evasion fines.

Marilyn MacNab commented on the RIDE and the fare increase.

The last speaker was Sara Levy from Green Roots who commented on the CIP outreach process and the need for low-income fares.

Public comment period concluded at 12:29 p.m.

Next was the approval of the minutes of the June 3, 2019 meeting.

**On motion duly made and seconded, it was:**

**VOTED: to approve the minutes of June 3, 2019.  
(Directors Lang and Shortsleeve abstained from voting)**

Chair Aiello first called upon Deputy General Manager Jeffrey Gonneville to present Agenda Item E, the Report of the Deputy General Manager. Mr. Gonneville provided an update on the Saturday, June 8, 2019 Green Line derailment. Mr. Gonneville indicated that the derailment appeared not to be a mechanical or signal issue, but rather caused by the operator. Mr. Gonneville will update the Board as additional facts become available.

Mr. Gonneville continued with his report and provided a two-month update of the Station Cleaning Program, as set forth in the attached document labeled, "DGM Remarks, June 10, 2019." Discussion ensued.

Chair Aiello called upon General Manager Steve Poftak to present the Report of the General Manager, Agenda Item D. Mr. Poftak commented on the Green Line derailment and said safety was first.

Mr. Poftak continued with his report noting he attended Judge King's June 5 hearing with the plaintiffs from the Boston Center for Independent Living at which time it was discussed that the MBTA had made significant improvement in accessibility.

Mr. Poftak continued with an update on recent critical hires to the General Manager's staff, the hiring process redesign, Positive Train Control (PTC), and the "LoNo" Emission Vehicle Deployment Program, five battery electric buses that will enter service this summer. Mr. Poftak concluded with the announcement of a permanent all-day eastbound Brighton Avenue bus lane added in collaboration with

the City of Boston, as set forth in the attached document labeled, "General Manager's Remarks, June 10, 2019." Discussion ensued.

Next, General Manager Poftak continued with a discussion of two collective bargaining agreements with Locals 717 and 104 (Agenda Items M and N), as set forth in the attached documents labeled, "Memorandum of Understanding with Local Union 717 and Memorandum of Understanding with Local Union 104."

On motion duly made and seconded, it was:

**VOTED:**

**That the General Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to execute any and all necessary documents, subject to the approval of the General Counsel, to effectuate a certain Memorandum of Understanding and Amendment to a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 717, incorporating the terms and conditions provided during the June 10, 2019 Fiscal and Management Control Board meeting.**

On motion duly made and seconded, it was:

**VOTED:**

**That the General Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to execute any and all necessary documents, subject to the approval of the General Counsel, to effectuate a certain Memorandum of Understanding and Amendment to a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 104, incorporating the terms and conditions provided during the June 10, 2019 Fiscal and Management Control Board meeting.**

Director Tibbits-Nutt agreed with the MIT Study to implement low-income fares and requested staff to look into it. She and Director Kornegay appreciated the Human Resources update and requested a detailed presentation on diversity hiring.

Next, MassDOT's Deputy Chief of Staff Nathan Peyton presented Agenda Item F, the FMCB Calendar. Mr. Peyton reviewed upcoming agenda items with the Board, as set forth in the attached document labeled, "FMCB Public Schedule, June 10, 2019." Discussion ensued.

Next, Chair Aiello called upon Samantha Silverberg, Senior Director of Capital Programs to present Agenda Item G, the Draft Capital Investment Plan (CIP) Review. Ms. Silverberg provided the Board with a recap of the FY20-24 CIP process, discussed the CIP public meeting schedule and noted that as of June 5, 195 public comments had been received. Director Tibbits-Nutt and Chair Aiello had concerns on the disappointing public outreach process, and discussion ensued

Ms. Silverberg continued with changes of the final CIP since the last draft presentation and discussed projects funded for planning and design, key performance indicators and concluded with alignment between the FY20-24 CIP and re-baselined spending targets, as set forth in the attached document labeled, "FY20-24 Capital Investment Plan, Overview of Final FY20-24 CIP, June 10, 2019." General Manager Poftak participated in the dialogue, and discussion ensued.

Chair Aiello next called upon Laurel Paget-Seekins, Assistant General Manager for Policy to present Agenda Item H, an update on the Automated Fare

Collection (AFC) 2.0 fare inspections. Ms. Paget-Seekins provided background on AFC 2.0 and discussed the benefits of all door boarding that would enhance service on buses and trolleys. She discussed proof of payment, a standard transit agency practice and how it would work; noting customers without proof would be issued a warning or citation. Ms. Paget-Seekins said that current state law dictates who was able to issue citations for fare evasion and associated citation levels, and discussed peer comparisons with other agencies. She concluded her report discussing the timeline for the MBTA to conduct outreach to inform the development of the proof of payment program, as set forth in the attached document labeled, "AFC 2.0 Update to the FMCB, June 10, 2019." Discussed ensued, and Chair Aiello requested a presentation on profiling data concerning citations.

Next, Ms. Paget-Seekins continued with Agenda item I, an update on the Commuter Rail Zone Study. Ms. Paget-Seekins said the study was in response to legislation filed to conduct a study on current commuter rail zone fares and methods utilized to set fare rates, noting the report was due to the Legislature in March 2020. She said she was using this as framework to look into the zone fares for the commuter rail in context with the MBTA's fare policy, to balance revenue, ridership and equity. Ms. Paget-Seekins discussed the problems with the existing fare structure, policy framework questions and opportunities to change, as set forth in the attached document labeled, "Commuter Rail Study, Update and Policy Questions, June 10, 2019." General Manager Poftak and Deputy General Manager Gonneville contributed to the dialogue, and discussion ensued concerning the

possibility of looking into a pilot to reduce fares in off-peak times on the commuter rail.

Next, Chair Aiello called upon Ben Schutzman, Chief of Paratransit Services to present Agenda Item J, an update on the RIDE Software Transition. Mr. Schutzman provided an overview of the software transition to Routematch, which will drive improved customer experience, enhanced service reliability, and increased productivity and efficiency. Mr. Schutzman continued discussing updates on recent projects, customer and stakeholder communications plan, potential improvements and areas of concern. Mr. Schutzman reviewed specific concerns facing customers and discussed relevant facts about the changes. Mr. Schutzman concluded with a discussion of a go-live checklist and transition key performance indicators to help measure the project's success once live, as set forth in the attached document labeled, "The RIDE Software Update, June 10, 2019." Deputy General Manager Gonneville participated in the dialogue, and discussion ensued.

Chair Aiello skipped to Agenda Item L and called on Beth Larkin, Assistant General Manager for Capital Delivery to present a contract for Electric Duct Bank Repairs. Ms. Larkin provided an overview of the project that would provide for the replacement of collapsed duct bank sections, associated manhole structures including added manholes, and related power cable. There will be five locations in Boston and three locations in Brookline that had been identified as high-priority locations. Ms. Larkin continued with project benefits, construction scope, and

procurement and concluded with the request to award the contract to The Middlesex Corporation for \$17,866,187.29, as set forth in the attached document labeled, “MBTA Contract No. P02CN09: Systemwide Duct Bank Replacement – Phase 1, June 10, 2019.” Discussion ensued.

On motion, duly made and seconded, it was:

**VOTED:**

**That the General Manager, or his designee, is hereby authorized to award and execute in the name of and on behalf of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (the “MBTA”), and in a form approved by the General Counsel, MBTA Contract No. P02CN09: Systemwide Duct Bank Replacement – Phase 1 to The Middlesex Corporation for an amount not to exceed \$17,866,187.29.**

Lastly, Chair Aiello called upon Andrew Brennan, Senior Director for Energy and Environment to present Agenda Item K, a discussion on climate change mitigation and energy usage.

Mr. Brennan commenced with his first presentation, a discussion on the resiliency policy directive. Mr. Brennan said the policy was driven by the FMCB’s strategic plan that prioritized environmental stewardship and climate resilience and Governor Baker’s Executive Order 569 that called on all state agencies to build on resiliency efforts already in progress, as set forth in the attached document labeled, “Resiliency Program Review, June 10, 2019.”

Mr. Brennan discussed an authority wide vulnerability assessment completed in 2017, a high-level assessment that looked at the system and established an approach for developing future vulnerability assessments with a focus on exposure,

sensitivity and adaptive capacity. The overall findings highlighted the type of climate stressors and overall vulnerability of the Blue Line, particularly flooding at Aquarium Station and the Orient Heights Maintenance Facility. Mr. Brennan discussed further system wide assessments that would be completed by 2020, and Chair Aiello requested a schedule of completed assessments and a schedule of when Keolis would complete their assessments of the right of way. Chair Aiello noted the MBTA needed to be more aggressive in developing a plan for necessary funding to address flooding in the area around Aquarium Station. Director Lang agreed the MBTA needed to take a leadership role to force the city, stakeholders and the Legislature to coordinate an approach to address climate change. Discussion ensued

Mr. Brennan continued to discuss the energy management portfolio, noting the MBTA was the largest single consumer of electricity in the Commonwealth, spending \$42.2 million in FY18. He discussed the Energy Conservation Program and new opportunities for energy conservation, as set forth in the attached document labeled, "Energy Management Program Review, June 10, 2019."

On motion duly made and seconded, it was by roll call:

Chair Aiello	Yes
Director Tibbits-Nutt	Yes
Director Kornegay	Yes
Director Lang	Yes
Director Shortsleeve	Yes

**VOTED:** to enter into Executive Session for a discussion of strategy related to real estate and litigation and real estate at 3:39 p.m.

**Documents relied upon for this meeting:**

- Minutes of the June 3, 2019 meeting
- DGM Remarks, June 10, 2019
- General Manager's Remarks, June 10, 2019
- Memorandum of Understanding with Local Union 717
- Memorandum of Understanding with Local Union 104
- FMCB Public Schedule, June 10, 2019
- FY20-24 Capital Investment Plan, Overview of Final FY20-24 CIP, June 10, 2019
- AFC 2.0 Update to the FMCB, June 10, 2019
- Commuter Rail Study, Update and Policy Questions, June 10, 2019
- The RIDE Software Update, June 10, 2019
- MBTA Contract No. P02CN09: Systemwide Duct Bank Replacement – Phase 1, June 10, 2019
- Reliance Program Review, June 10, 2019
- Energy Management Program Review, June 10, 2019.