# PORT AUTHORITY OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2013

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Port Authority of Allegheny County was held on Friday, September 27, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. at the Authority's Administration Offices, 345 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15222-2527, pursuant to due public notice given as required by law.

#### Board Members:

Jeff Letwin, Acting Chairman Tom Donatelli Constance Parker John Tague Jr. Senator Jim Brewster Representative Dom Costa Robert Hurley D. Raja Amanda Green Hawkins Joel Lennen, General Counsel

# Media:

Alex Zimmerman, City Paper Bob Kerlik, Trib Jon Schmitz, Post-Gazette

### Port Authority Staff:

Ellen McLean, interim chief executive officer, Mike Cetra, assistant general manager Legal and Corporate Services, Keith Wargo, assistant general manager Engineering and Technical Support, Bill Miller, Chief Operations Officer, Jim Ritchie, Communications officers, Wendy Stern, assistant general manager Planning and Development, Heather Pharo, Public Relations & Communications Coordinator, John DeAngelis, manager Contract Administration, John Beeler, manager Customer Services, Rich Wojnar, director Road Operations, Brenda Fink, director Internal Audit, Bill Wagner, Port Authority Police Department, Diane Williamson, executive assistant

### **Other**

Jim Robinson, ACTC President, Glenn Walsh, Lee Palumbo, Auditor General's Office, Steve Palonis, ATU Local 85, Jeff DiPerna, ATU Local 85, Annette Kroll, Mark Wiezorek, Auditor General's Office, Austin Davis, Allegheny County Executive's Office, Aaron Pittman, County Council, Rodney Akers, Governor's Office, L. R. Stidle, MEC, Chris Sanders, PCRG, Breen Masciotra, PCRG, Joan Natter, ACTC, E. G. Rumiser, Joe DiFiore, Parsons Brinkerhoff, Melanie Harenski, County Controller's Office, Tom Klevan, SPC, Dave Totten, SPC, Joe Catanese, County Council, David Donahoe, ARAD, Jeff Barner, Cosmos Technologies, Inc., Jim Love, ACTC, Ruth Seidel, Carolyn Lenigan, Joan Natter, ACTC, Jon Smith, ACTC, Holly Hudson, Sci-TEK

Mr. Letwin, Acting Chairman, opened the meeting by saying that it is a pleasure to be sitting now with our new Board constituted with changes in the legislature. Some of us have been here for a while, but he welcomed the new members to the Board and said that he looks forward to working with everyone.

Recommendation was made for approval of the minutes of the August 23, 2013 Special Meeting. The motion was moved, seconded and passed.

Under the public input section of the agenda, the Mr. Letwin called on Mr. Glenn Walsh for his remarks. Mr. Walsh stated that he is a regular light rail and bus rider who has chosen not to drive a

highway motor vehicle since 1985 to help save energy, protect the environment, and reduce city traffic congestion. He has been an active transit advocate for more than 35 years, including three terms on the Allegheny County Transit Council as a charter member. He noted that the views expressed today are his own and do not reflect those of any organization.

Mr. Walsh welcomed each new and returning member of the Board of Directors of Port Authority of Allegheny County. He continued saying that as I am sure you are aware, your new position comes with difficulties, and very possibly future controversies. Thank you for your willingness to spend your time and energy for the benefit of future public transportation in Allegheny County. Unlike perhaps a century ago, today most people do not use public transit. Most of these non-transit users do not understand that they still derive benefits from a good public transit system. These benefits include less traffic congestion, greater opportunities for economic development, as well as more efficient use of our energy resources and a less polluted environment. And with the continuing development of Port Authority's Light Rail Transit System, the shorter commute times by rail may be a benefit that even non-riders could find of value. Mr. Walsh asked that the Board use their new positions to explain to the general public the many benefits everyone receives with having a good public transit system in Allegheny County. Of course, he understands that the first order of business is to work towards passage of a long overdue statewide transportation funding bill, one which appreciates the importance of public transportation in the urban and suburban regions of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Walsh concluded his report by stating that he wishes the best of luck in the Board's work on behalf of Port Authority of Allegheny County and offered his help in these important efforts.

Mr. Letwin thanked Mr. Walsh for his comments.

Mr. Letwin noted that as he alluded to earlier, new legislation was passed which caused reconstitution of the Board; 11 members now with appointing authorities from the state as well as the county. It is appropriate then for the Board to elect new officers to serve for the balance of the year, which is basically the last quarter. He then opened the floor to nominations.

At this time, Mr. Tague nominated a slate of officers which included Mr. Robert Hurley as Chairman, Mr. Thomas Donatelli as Vice Chairman, Ms. Constance Parker as Treasurer, and the Honorable Jim Brewster as Secretary.

Mr. Letwin asked for any further nominations and there were none. Mr. Letwin then requested a motion to accept the nominations as presented. It was moved to accept the slate of officers presented by Mr. Tague, seconded, and unanimously agreed to accept the slate of office as presented.

Mr. Letwin called on the Chairman elect to appoint staff to positions of assistant treasurer and assistant secretary.

The newly elected Chairman, Mr. Robert Hurley, reported that Article II, Section 5 and Article III, Section 1 of the by-laws of Port Authority provide that the Board may appoint management and staff of the Authority to positions of assistant treasurer and assistant secretary as deemed necessary by the Board on an annual basis to effectively carry out the business activities of the Board and Port Authority.

As it is in the best interest of the Authority, recommendation is made to appoint Ms. Ellen McLean and Mr. Peter Schenk as assistant treasurers and Mr. Michael Cetra, Ms. Diane Williamson, Ms.

Karen Bown, Ms. Debra Roode and Ms. Rebecca Janicik as assistant secretaries effective as of September 27, 2013, and it is further recommended that these appointees be fully authorized to carry out their duties in accordance with the by-laws of Port Authority of Allegheny County and otherwise as necessary and proper to carry out the purpose and intent of their duties.

Mr. Hurley requested a motion to appoint these individuals as assistant treasurers and assistant secretaries, respectively. It was moved by Mr. Letwin, seconded by Mr. Tague and the motion carried.

There was no new business.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Friday, October 25, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned.