

**Pace, the Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation Authority
550 West Algonquin Road
Arlington Heights, Illinois
Minutes of the Open Session Meeting of the Pace Board of Directors
November 9, 2022**

The Board of Directors of Pace, the Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation Authority, met in public session on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. at Pace corporate headquarters, 550 West Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois, pursuant to notice.

Chairman Kwasneski led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Kwasneski called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Roll Call

Directors physically present: Canning, Carr, Guerin, Marcucci, Schielke, Wells, and Chairman Kwasneski.

Directors virtually or telephonically present: Arfa, Hastings, McLeod, Noak, and Soto.

Directors absent: Smith.

SBD #22-88 – Resolution approving the open session meeting minutes of October 19, 2022.

Director Schielke moved, and Director Guerin seconded a motion to approve the Resolution. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Public Comment

None.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Kwasneski thanked everyone for the support he received on the loss of his mother.

Chairman Kwasneski expressed his gratitude to the board members and staff for their involvement at the budget public hearings.

Richard A. Kwasneski, *Chairman*

Rachel Arfa Christopher S. Canning Terrance M. Carr David B. Guerin Kyle R. Hastings Thomas D. Marcucci
William D. McLeod John D. Noak Jeffery D. Schielke Erin Smith Linda Soto Terry R. Wells

Board of Directors

Melinda J. Metzger, *Executive Director*

Directors' Reports

Director Canning reported that he was the hearing officer for the virtual presentation of the Pace budget in Cook County on October 21, 2022. Director Canning reported that he attended the Cook County Board meeting along with Melinda Metzger and that it went very well. Director Canning reported that Melinda did an outstanding job with outreach prior to the meeting with Cook County.

Director Guerin complimented Director Canning and Melinda Metzger on the Cook County Board presentation. Director Guerin reported that he was the hearing officer for the Pace budget presentation in Cook County on October 28, 2022. Director Guerin thanked the Howard Mohr Community Center for allowing Pace to hold the public hearing at their facility. Director Guerin thanked staff for a great event.

Director Marcucci reported that Pace received the APTA AdWheel award for Best Marketing and Communications on COVID-19 "We're Ready Even if You're Not" campaign. Director Marcucci reported that he was the hearing officer for the Pace budget presentation in DuPage County and that two individuals attended the public hearing to voice their opinions about the same feeder route being discontinued. Director Marcucci stated that DuPage County has the most discontinued routes. Director Marcucci reported that there is a letter from the Mayor of Warrenville which came in recently regarding the discontinuance of route 676. Director Marcucci reported that Director Canning and Melinda Metzger provided a great presentation to the Cook County Board.

Director McLeod reported that Director Canning and Melinda Metzger provided a great presentation to the Cook County Board.

Director Schielke reported that he was the hearing officer for the Pace budget presentation in Kane County. Director Schielke reported on a conversation that he had with the fire chief about the educational training that the fire department will need to extinguish fires on the new electric buses in Pace's fleet. Director Schielke stated that he would like to have outreach provided to the fire departments to learn more about electric vehicles.

Director Soto reported that she was the hearing officer for the virtual Pace budget presentation in Lake County. Director Soto thanked Ed Gallagher for a job well done on the hearing. Director Soto congratulated Melinda Metzger for the outstanding job she did presenting the Pace budget to the Lake County Board Committee of the Whole.

Executive Director's Report

Melinda Metzger reported that Pace was the recipient of an Employer Innovation Award from the Illinois Department of Human Resources for working with the Division of Rehabilitation Services supporting people with disabilities. Melinda stated that this award is another reminder of the essential service we provide to the disability community. Melinda thanked everyone involved in this service.

Melinda reported the award Pace received from APTA for Best Marketing and Communications on COVID-19 “We’re Ready Even if You’re Not” campaign arrived yesterday.

Melinda thanked the budget staff for their hard work and dedication in producing a balanced budget and bringing it to our stakeholders for input. Melinda thanked the board members who served as hearing officers.

Melinda reported that there is plenty of good news in the 2023 budget; that the state and federal funding Pace received in recent years has set us on a path to modernize our facilities, build new Pulse lines, convert our fleet to zero-emission buses, and take advantage of the latest technology; never in Pace’s history have we had so many exciting capital projects happening all at once; and while she is pleased to report such a positive budget for 2023, it is important that we address the looming fiscal situation that we and our sister transit agencies are facing. Melinda reported that the federal COVID relief money runs out at the end of 2025, and we will need to ensure that Pace positions itself financially to meet the future demands for service. Melinda reported that she is working with CMAP, RTA and regional stakeholders, as required by the General Assembly, to lay the groundwork for those discussions and decisions. Melinda thanked the Board members for their guidance and leadership and looks forward to working together on future decisions on finances and policy advocacy unfolding in the years ahead.

Melinda announced that the first bus rolled out of Plainfield Division on time at 4:15 a.m. on October 24th and that this is the first new Pace operating garage in over 30 years. Melinda reported the Plainfield garage will support Bus on Shoulder Express service and provide increased access to employment and opportunities for the region. Melinda congratulated all who made this project a success and thanked everyone for their hard work.

Melinda reported that the work at Pace’s South Campus continues with underground plumbing, electrical, and slab placement at the Acceptance Facility. Melinda reported that this campus will be able to accommodate the acceptance of electric vehicles that will be placed into service at North Division and will include a CDL training course.

Melinda reported that Pace will host its first public meeting on the Pulse 95th Street Line on Thursday, November 17th at 5:00 p.m. This will be a virtual meeting where project staff will solicit feedback and provide an overview of the proposed Pulse Line, station locations and planning process. Melinda reported that Pulse station designs are under development, environmental work is underway, and engagement with corridor stakeholders is taking place as the project progresses.

Melinda reported that ridership continues to trend upward reporting that for the month of October the systems total ridership is up 4.7% over October 2021, carrying about 1.6 million riders with an average weekday ridership of just over 70,000.

Melinda summarized the agenda items, highlighting who will be presenting each item.

Items removed from the Consent Agenda

None.

Approval of Consent Agenda

SBD #22-89 - Ordinance authorizing the award of a contract to Davis Bancorp, Inc. for armored car services for the transportation of revenue collection equipment and for revenue counting services for Pace garages and Pace contract carriers in an amount not to exceed \$412,320.00.

SBD #22-90 - Ordinance authorizing the award of a contract to Dell Marketing L.P. for Microsoft Enterprise licenses in an amount not to exceed \$1,748,349.60.

Director Schielke moved, and Director Guerin seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Directors Arfa, Canning, Carr, Guerin, Hastings, Marcucci, McLeod, Noak, Schielke, Soto, Wells, and Chairman Kwasneski. All directors voted aye.

Action Items

Director Smith joined the meeting virtually at 9:54 a.m.

SBD #22-91 - Ordinance adopting the 2023 Operating Budget and 2024-2025 Two-Year Financial Plan for Suburban Service and Regional ADA Paratransit Service, the 2023-2027 Five-Year Capital Program, and 2023 appropriation of funds in accordance with the Operating Budget and Capital Program. This ordinance also authorizes the Operating Budget and Capital Program to be submitted to the RTA upon adoption by the Pace Board.

Director Schielke moved, and Director Wells seconded a motion to approve the Ordinance. The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Directors Arfa, Canning, Carr, Guerin, Hastings, Marcucci, McLeod, Noak, Schielke, Smith, Soto, Wells, and Chairman Kwasneski. All directors voted aye.

SBD #22-92 - Ordinance authorizing the award of a contract to John Burns Construction Company for construction services for the Northwest Transportation Center ADA Transfer Facility in an amount not to exceed \$5,929,000.00.

Director Marcucci moved, and Director Schielke seconded a motion to approve the Ordinance. The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Directors Arfa, Canning, Carr, Guerin, Hastings, Marcucci, McLeod, Noak, Schielke, Smith, Soto, Wells, and Chairman Kwasneski. All directors voted aye.

Director Canning left the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Director Canning rejoined the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

SBD #22-93 - Ordinance authorizing Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 231981 with Mythics, Inc. for managed database services and OnDemand database services for Oracle database and Microsoft SQL server databases. This change order extends the contract through December 31, 2024, and increases the contract total from \$1,222,416.64 to \$2,689,316.56, an increase of \$1,466,899.92.

Director Wells moved, and Director McLeod seconded a motion to approve the Ordinance. The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Directors Arfa, Canning, Carr, Guerin, Hastings, Marcucci, McLeod, Noak, Schielke, Smith, Soto, Wells, and Chairman Kwasneski. All directors voted aye.

SBD #22-94 - Ordinance authorizing the Executive Director to continue the part-time fare structure vanpool pilot program for an additional six months.

Director Canning requested that the Board be provided with metrics regarding the growth of this pilot.

Director Schielke moved, and Director Wells seconded a motion to approve the Ordinance. The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Directors Arfa, Canning, Carr, Guerin, Hastings, Marcucci, McLeod, Noak, Schielke, Smith, Soto, Wells, and Chairman Kwasneski. All directors voted aye.

Director Smith left the meeting at 10:21 a.m.

SBD #22-95 – Resolution honoring William (Bill) Lynch.

Director Schielke moved, and Director Marcucci seconded a motion to approve the Resolution. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Issues/Discussion/Reports

Chairman Kwasneski encouraged the Directors to review the September 2022 budget reports and financial statements contained in their packets, and to reach out to staff with questions.

Adjournment

Chairman Kwasneski asked for a motion to adjourn into closed session for the purposes of discussing Closed Session Minutes (2-C-21) and Pending Litigation (2-C-11). Director McLeod moved, and Director Guerin seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. All directors voted aye.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Reconvene

Chairman Kwasneski reconvened the open session of the Pace Board of Directors meeting at 11:07 a.m.

Directors physically present: Canning, Carr, Guerin, Marcucci, Schielke, Wells, and Chairman Kwasneski.

Directors virtually or telephonically present: Arfa, Hastings, McLeod, Noak, and Soto.

Directors absent: Smith.

SBD #22-96 – Resolution approving the closed session meeting minutes of September 21, 2022. Director Schielke moved, and Director Wells seconded a motion to approve the Resolution. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

SBD #22-97 – Ordinance approving action on Dwayne Davis & Sharlita Davis vs. Pace, the Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation Authority and Annette Johnson; Cook County Case No. 2018 L 00693.

Director Canning moved, and Director Wells seconded a motion to approve the Ordinance. The motion passed with the following roll call vote: Directors Arfa, Canning, Carr, Guerin, Hastings, Marcucci, McLeod, Noak, Schielke, Soto, Wells and Chairman Kwasneski. All Directors voted Aye.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Kwasneski asked for a motion and second to adjourn the Pace Board of Directors meeting.

Director Schielke moved, and Director Guerin seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Pace Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. at Pace Corporate Headquarters, 550 West Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois.

Linda Swedlund
Acting Board Secretary, Board of Directors