

**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
July 20, 2022**

The Board of Directors of Pace, the Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation Authority, met in public session on Wednesday, July 20, 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 9:30 a.m.

Roll Call

Directors physically present: Carr, Marcucci, McLeod, Schielke, Soto, Wells, and Chairman Kwasneski.

Directors virtually or telephonically present: Canning, Hastings, Noak, and Smith.

Directors absent: Arfa and Guerin.

SBD #22-53 – Resolution approving the open session meeting minutes of June 15, 2022.

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

Public Comment

None.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Kwasneski reported that he was reappointed for a fifth term as Chairman of the Pace Board of Directors by the Suburban Cook County Commissioners and the Cook and collar county Chairpersons. He thanked appointing authorities for their vote of confidence and said Pace will continue to be a cooperative partner to the region. He congratulated other directors on their reappointments to the Pace Board as well: Director Marcucci by DuPage County, Director

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*

Schielke by Kane County, Director Smith by McHenry County, and Director Soto by Lake County. He welcomed John Noak, Mayor of Romeville, who was recently appointed to the Pace Board of Directors by Will County.

Chairman Kwasneski reported on the ribbon cutting at Pace's new Plainfield Facility tomorrow, saying the event will celebrate a great partnership with the Village of Plainfield. He looks forward to future groundbreaking events at the Northwest Transportation Center and South Campus.

Directors' Reports

Director Canning reported on the joint meeting of the Planning and Infrastructure Committees on June 29th. STV, the consultant who advises Pace's priority project management office on the current and future technologies needed to operate a zero emission fleet by 2040, presented on the challenges that the Pace system faces related to supply chains, batteries, the power grid, and utility requirements. Our goal is to determine if our buses will go where we want them to go with new technology. A summary of the meeting and key slides from the presentation can be found on Pace's website. Director Canning said it was an excellent meeting and urged all directors and the public to read the summary and submit questions and comments.

Director Carr observed that the Burr Ridge Park-n-Ride for Bus on Shoulder, which used to be so full that overflow cars were parked on nearby side streets, was empty during the pandemic and is now three quarters full. Chairman Kwasneski observed a similar increase in riders at the Plainfield Park-n-Ride and said it is great to see people returning to Chicago's central business district. Pace is still determining new ridership patterns post-Covid and remains committed to adjusting service to meet new needs.

Director McLeod congratulated and welcomed Director Noak to the Pace Board of Directors.

Director Noak reported that it has been a pleasure working with many of Pace's Directors in the past and looks forward to working with the Board and the Pace team.

Director Schielke reported on the most recent meeting of the Kane County Board, where representatives from northern areas of Kane expressed appreciation for I-90 Bus on Shoulder service and representatives from southern areas of Kane requested Bus on Shoulder service along I-88, saying many riders/residents would benefit. He said that overall, the meeting was very positive.

Executive Director's Report

Melinda said transit agencies across the country are experiencing a time where the implementation of innovative service and technology is critical to our future success, and Pace is making tremendous progress thanks to the leadership and support provided by our Board of Directors. She extended congratulations to the Chairman on his reappointment. She thanked him for his leadership at Pace and on APTA's Executive Board, which will serve Pace well as we move into the future. She congratulated Directors Marcucci, Schielke, Smith, and Soto on their

reappointments, saying they have been steadfast supporters of Pace and transit. Melinda said she was thrilled to have Director Noak on the Board and looks forward to working with him.

Melinda reported that the Plainfield garage is Pace's first new facility in 30 years and is replacing a 100-year-old building. Chairman Kwasneski added that the demand for Bus on Shoulder service increased the fleet size so dramatically that buses were stored 18 inches apart. Melinda reported that one of the key findings from STV's assessment on electrification is that the way Pace stores equipment will have to change in the future, because electric vehicles need to dock in designated charging stations. Pace therefore must expand capacity at all facilities as we move into zero emissions. STV's report also indicated 40% of existing Pace routes could operate using the battery electric vehicle technology existing today (though Pace needs to install the charging infrastructure).

Melinda reported on events that occurred since the last meeting:

- Two virtual public hearings were held on Pulse Dempster and corresponding changes to Route 250 Dempster Street. Most comments were positive and called for additional service and more station locations. Results will be presented at the August board meeting. Melinda thanked Director Canning for serving as a hearing officer on July 15th.
- Melinda, the Chairman, and Pace staff attended a Will County Center for Economic Development board meeting. Melinda presented on the Joliet Transit Center and Plainfield Facility projects and highlighted ways Pace can be supportive of their initiatives.
- Melinda, Director Marcucci, and Pace staff met with DuPage County leaders to discuss the implementation of new service options and the investments Pace has made to support transit in the county. The county was pleased with the progress made and the delivery of a new paratransit vehicle. Staff will continue to have monthly discussions with Ride DuPage sponsors as we continue to move the service forward.

Melinda reported on the year-to-date budget performance through May. Suburban service is \$19 million favorable to budget. Fuel and sales tax is at budget due to the budget amendment the Board approved in May. Service delivery is underbudget due to feeder service not being reinstated, and additional service not being implemented due to labor shortages. ADA service is \$12 million favorable to budget. In June, systemwide ridership was up 14.5% over June 2021.

Items removed from the Consent Agenda

None.

Approval of Consent Agenda

SBD #22-54 – Ordinance authorizing the award of a sole source contract to ADP, Inc. for the implementation of the Workforce Now Payroll and Time and Attendance systems and the associated payroll processing services. This is a five-year contract in an amount not to exceed \$1,186,880.00.

SBD #22-55 – Ordinance authorizing the award of a sole source contract to Trapeze Software Group, Inc., for the purchase, installation, and integration of Sierra Wireless MG90 gateway routers for fixed route service in an amount not to exceed \$644,166.00.

SBD #22-56 – Ordinance authorizing a change order to Contract No. 226142 with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) for software maintenance and support services on ESRI's proprietary ArcInfo and ArcView GIS software used on Pace's Graphic Information Systems. This change order extends the contract term from August 1, 2022, to July 31, 2023, and increases the contract amount from \$127,791.78 to \$153,709.78, an increase of \$25,918.00.

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

Director Hastings left the meeting at 9:51 a.m.

Action Items

SBD #22-57 – Ordinance authorizing a change order to Contract No. 229336 with TranSystems for architectural and engineering Corporation services for Pace's Pulse Dempster Line on-road stations. This change order increases the contract total from \$1,551,818.61 to \$1,995,808.09, an increase of \$443,989.48.

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

Charlotte Obodzinski, PPMO Manager, presented on the need for full-time professional services due to recent retirements. A discussion ensued about permitting delays with eight municipalities and IDOT, pandemic-related staffing shortages, water main issues, and an aggregate strike that could affect the project delivery timeline.

Issues/Discussion/Reports

Chief Planning Officer Erik Llewellyn presented on the new Route 697 pilot, scheduled to begin service August 8. The new route travels between Northwest Transportation Center in Schaumburg and Harper College in Palatine, also serving businesses and residents of the new "90 North District" in between. Route 696, a longer route, used to serve this market before it was suspended due to Covid; Route 697 therefore represents one attempt to restore transit where there is demand, in an efficient way. If this pilot is successful, Erik said Pace staff would ask the Board to make the new route permanent.

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 McLeod seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Pace Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. at Pace Corporate Headquarters, 550 West Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois.



Elissa Ledvort
Secretary, Board of Directors