



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

**WORK SESSION**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021**

**ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

**via WebEx**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

Board Chair Rita Scott called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

<b>Board Members Present</b>	<b>Staff Members Present</b>
Robert Ashe III	Jeffrey Parker
Stacy Blakley	Collie Greenwood
Jim Durrett	Rhonda Allen
William Floyd	Luz Borrero
Roderick Frierson	Melissa Mullinax
Ryan Glover <sup>1</sup>	Elizabeth O'Neill
Russell McMurry <sup>2</sup>	Franklin Rucker
John Pond	Raj Srinath
Kathryn Powers	
Rita Scott, <b>Chair</b>	
Reginald Snyder	
Christopher Tomlinson <sup>2</sup>	
W. Thomas Worthy	

Also, in attendance: MARTA Board General Counsel Justice Leah Ward Sears of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP; other MARTA staff members: Heather Alhadeff, Marsha Anderson Bomar, LaShanda Dawkins, Jacqueline Holland, Tyrene Huff, Jonathan Hunt, Kevin Hurley, Michael Kreher, Patricia Lucek, Gena Major, Paula Nash, Santiago Osorio, Larry Prescott, Kirk Talbott, Emil Tzanov, and George Wright; other guests: Jarrett Walker and Michelle Poyourow of Jarrett Walker + Associates.

**Report from the Chair**

Chair Rita Scott noted that both Vice Chair Roberta Abdul-Salaam and Board Member Freda Hardage were not in attendance due to prior and unavoidable commitments.

<sup>1,2</sup>Board members Ryan Glover, Russell McMurry, and Christopher Tomlinson joined the meeting after the vote to approve the minutes.

<sup>2</sup>Russell McMurry is Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and Christopher Tomlinson is Executive Director of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA). Per the MARTA Act, both are non-voting members of the Board of Directors.

***Approval of the January 14, 2021 Work Session Meeting Minutes***

Chair Scott called for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion to approve was made by Board Member Jim Durrett and seconded by Board Member Roderick Frierson. The minutes were approved unanimously by a vote of 10 to 0 with ten members present.<sup>1,2</sup>

Chair Scott announced that during the next Board Work Session on March 11 an in-depth discussion regarding the selection/election process for Board officers will be held.

At Chair Scott's request, Board Member Robert Ashe III spoke to the possible introduction of a bill in the Georgia General Assembly regarding the venue for personal injury lawsuits filed against MARTA. The MARTA Act directs that such lawsuits should be filed in Superior Court, however, from time to time, plaintiffs mistakenly file in State Court. Re-directing the case from State to Superior Court is time-consuming and can be costly. The proposed bill would allow personal injury lawsuits against MARTA to be heard in State Court, if filed there. Further updates will be provided to Board members as the bill proceeds through the General Assembly.

**Report from the General Manager/CEO**

General Manager Jeffrey Parker announced upcoming meetings.

***Transformation Initiative 2.0***

GM Parker, along with Deputy General Manager of Operations Collie Greenwood and Chief Administrative Officer Luz Borrero, provided an in-depth presentation of administrative and operations efforts being made by the Authority to address revenue shortfalls anticipated through 2025.

***Bus Network Re-design***

Jarrett Walker and Michelle Poyourow of Jarrett Walker + Associates introduced the process whereby MARTA will work with its county and city jurisdictions and the riding public to re-design the current bus network by examining the competing needs of ridership and coverage.

**Other Matters**

None.

**Adjournment**

The Committee meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.