

**MINUTES OF**  
**INTERURBAN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP BOARD**  
**As Recorded on August 1, 2018**

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: Charis Austin, David Bilardello, Rosalynn Bliss, Gary Carey, Tracie Coffman (via conference call), Randy Gelderloos, Andy Guy, Jack Hoffman, Mark Huizenga, Stephen Kepley (Chair), Robert Postema, Terry Schweitzer, Amna Seibold, Paul Troost, Michael Verhulst

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Kathy Anderson, Ali Brown, Michael Bulthuis, Steve Clapp, Robin Crothers, Meegan Joyce, Linda Medina, Jeremy Mlaker, Brian Pouget, Dina Reed, Steve Schipper, Peter Varga (CEO)

Others Present: Robert Doyle (Acton Institute), Watchdog Miller

Mayor Kepley called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. He highlighted the process for developing the employment agreement for Andrew Johnson as CEO. The Rapid's attorney, Grant Pecor, prepared the agreement. He thanked the CEO Search Committee and other Board members who participated in the CEO search process.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was held until the end of the meeting.

2. MINUTES – June 27, 2018 Board Meeting

Mayor Kepley asked for corrections to the minutes. None were offered. The minutes of the June 27, 2018 Board meeting were approved as written.

3. AGENDA ITEMS

a) CEO Employment Agreement

Mayor Kepley asked for comments from the Board on the proposed agreement. Ms. Austin expressed concern that "reasonable entertainment costs" was somewhat ambiguous. She felt that this should be more defined.

Discussion took place on expense reimbursements. It was suggested that this not be included in the contract and that a policy be developed for the CEO. Mayor Kepley noted that the CEO Committee can create this policy.

Mayor Bliss mentioned that the language in the contract seemed pretty standard.

Mr. Guy stated that there needs to be checks and balances on these types of expenses.

Mr. Varga commented that the Board has a travel policy for expense reimbursement that could be followed and/or revised.

Mr. Guy asked about the CEO's benefits and vacation hours that were included in the agreement and whether they went along with industry standards. Mayor Kepley indicated that the benefits are standard for The Rapid CEO position.

A motion was made by Seibold, supported by Bliss, to approve the CEO employment agreement with Andrew Johnson, as amended regarding expense reimbursement and as approved by legal counsel, and to authorize the ITP Board Chair to execute the agreement on behalf of the ITP Board of Directors.

Mayor Kepley stated that unfortunately he would be voting no on the contract for Andrew Johnson as The Rapid's CEO and gave his reasons for this decision.

Board members gave their perspectives as relating to the reasons stated. Some Board members had differences in opinion on the assessment of the issues mentioned and commented on their support for hiring Andrew Johnson as CEO. There were also views stated that coincided with those expressed by Mayor Kepley.

A vote was taken on the motion, with 12 in favor and 3 opposed.

Yes: Austin, Bilardello, Bliss, Carey, Coffman, Gelderloos, Guy, Hoffman, Huizenga, Postema, Seibold, Troost  
No: Kepley, Schweitzer, Verhulst

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Watchdog Miller stated that The Rapid shouldn't implement the WAVE until the new CEO arrives. There is no way to check fare evasion with the WAVE program and we should hold off on it. He mentioned that The Rapid has come out with coloring books but took away the chairs and tables in Central Station. He also noted that several trees will be knocked down because of the Laker Line stations.

Mr. Robert Doyle was concerned that a Rapid bus stop was temporarily moved to 118 Fulton near his place of employment. He said there is construction there and a lot of people hang out because of the bus stop. He is concerned that someone will get hurt. The temporary bus stop has been there for over a year now.

Mr. Pouget responded to Mr. Doyle stating that it was a City of Grand Rapids decision to move the bus stop. The Rapid has been working on getting it moved from the 118 Fulton location but nothing has been resolved. He will follow up with the city.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Robin Crothers, Board Secretary