association of central oklahoma governments

Chair Elizabeth Waner
Edmond Councilmember

Vice-Chair Pete White
Oklahoma City Councilmember

Secretary/Treasurer Vacant

Executive Director
John G. Johnson

# Central Oklahoma Regional Transit Authority Task Force

June 15, 2016 – 3:00-4:30 p.m.
ACOG Board Room, 21 E. Main St., Suite 100
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73104

## AGENDA

I. **Welcome and Introductions (Attachment I)**

II. **Approval of April 20, 2016 RTA Task Force Meeting Minutes (Attachment II)**
Action Requested: Motion to approve April 20, 2016 minutes

III. **Polling Discussion**
Action Requested: Action as desired by the RTA Task Force

IV. **Election of RTA Task Force Vice-Chair**
Action Requested: Action as desired by the RTA Task Force

V. **New Business**

VI. **Adjourn**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 21, 2016, 3:00-4:30 p.m.**

## CENTRAL OKLAHOMA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY TASK FORCE

| CITY | NAME | TITLE | VOTING MEMBERSHIP |
|---|---|---|---|
| CITY OF DEL CITY | Hon. Brian Linley | Mayor | Member |
| | Hon. Ken Bartlett | Councilmember | Alternate |
| CITY OF EDMOND | Hon. Elizabeth Waner | Councilmember | Member |
| | Hon. Victoria Caldwell | Councilmember | Alternate |
| CITY OF MIDWEST CITY | Hon. Matt Dukes | Mayor | Member |
| | Hon. Daniel McClure, Jr. | Councilmember | Alternate |
| CITY OF MOORE | Hon. Mark Hamm | Councilmember | Member |
| | Hon. Jason Blair | Councilmember | Alternate |
| CITY OF NORMAN | Hon. Cindy Rosenthal | Mayor | Member |
| | Hon. Robert Castleberry | Councilmember | Alternate |
| | Hon. Lynne Miller | Councilmember | Alternate |
| CITY OF OKLHOMA CITY | Hon. Mick Cornett | Mayor | Member |
| | Hon. Pete White | Councilmember | Alternate |
| TRANSIT PROVIDERS | NAME | TITLE | NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP |
| COTPA | Jason Ferbrache | Administrator | Advisory |
| CART | Doug Myers | Director | Advisory |
| Citylink-Edmond | Harry Fenton | Project Engineer | Advisory |
| PRIVATE SECTOR | NAME | TITLE | NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP |
| Greater OKC Chamber | Roy Williams | President | Advisory |
| | Derek Sparks | Mgr/Gov't Relations | Alternate |
| Norman Chamber | Tom Sherman | Past Chairman | Advisory |
| OnTrac | Marion Hutchison | Chair, Exec. Comm. | Advisory |

# CENTRAL OKLAHOMA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY TASK FORCE
## MEETING MINUTES
## APRIL 20, 2016, 3:00 P.M.
## ACOG BOARD ROOM, 21 E. MAIN ST, OKLAHOMA CITY

Voting Members and Alternates Present

| | |
|---|---|
| Hon. Ken Bartlett | City of Del City |
| Hon. Elizabeth Waner | City of Edmond |
| Hon. Victoria Caldwell | City of Edmond |
| Hon. Mark Hamm | City of Moore |
| Hon. Cindy Rosenthal | City of Norman |
| Hon. Mick Cornett | City of Oklahoma City |

Non-Voting Members and Alternates Present

| | |
|---|---|
| Karleene Smith | CART |
| Jason Ferbrache | COTPA |
| Derek Sparks | Greater OKC Chamber |
| Marion Hutchison | OnTrac |

Members and Alternates Absent

| | |
|---|---|
| Hon. Brian Linley | City of Del City |
| Hon. Matt Dukes | City of Midwest City |
| Hon. Daniel McClure, Jr. | City of Midwest City |
| Hon. Jason Blair | City of Moore |
| Hon. Robert Castleberry | City of Norman |
| Hon. Lynne Miller | City of Norman |
| Hon. Pete White | City of Oklahoma City |
| Doug Myers | CART |
| Harry Fenton | Citylink-Edmond |
| Roy Williams | Greater OKC Chamber |
| Tom Sherman | Norman Chamber |

Guests

| | |
|---|---|
| Lee Nichols | AECOM |
| Dennis Blind | HALFF |

| ACOG Staff | Position |
|---|---|
| John G. Johnson | Executive Director |
| Daniel J. O'Connor | Division Director, Transportation & Planning Servies |
| Holly Massie | Special Programs Officer II, TPS |

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mayor Mick Cornett called the meeting to order, and asked everyone present to introduce themselves and who they represent.

II. Approval of February 17, 2016 RTA Task Force Meeting Minutes

Councilman Mark Hamm made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2016 meeting. Mayor Cindy Rosenthal seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

III. Polling Discussion

Mayor Cornett advised that there has been a conversation with Pat McFarron, pollster for the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, who will be present at the May meeting. He suggested that the members discuss what they hope to learn from a poll, saying that he hopes to ascertain how ready the larger community is to hear more about regional transit, how much education is necessary, and in what areas education efforts need to be focused.

Other discussion about what the Task Force hopes to learn from polling included:

- How well will regional transit efforts be received given local bond and sales tax elections throughout the region?
- Does the public understand the need for public transportation; do they see it as a need?
- What are the pollster's thoughts about timing? Polling may cause citizens to think an election is coming soon.
- What is the satisfaction level with existing transit services; how important is it?
- Scenario questions could be useful in educating the public about the benefits of transit. For example: Given that congestion will continue to worsen and there will be no further expansion of I-35 South, how does that impact your thoughts about regional transit?
- Polling will be useful in conveying the interest in transit to the business community.
- What are citizens' experiences with regional transit in other areas they've traveled?

IV. Review RTA Governance Scenarios from Regional Transit Dialogue

John Johnson gave a presentation on the governance scenarios that were developed during the first phase of the Regional Transit Dialogue (RTD). He noted that information on RTA boundary scenarios was presented at the February meeting, and advised that the RTD Steering Committee preferred the district model, rather than whole county or city based models. He said the potential district would include the urbanized portion of the region, where the greatest population and employment is located, and would be adjusted to follow precinct boundaries. The Committee also recommended that the district include nine subdistricts that would be generally equal in population and include whole cities to the extent possible, with RTA Board members appointed by the local governments within each subdistrict.

Mr. Johnson then reviewed the three RTA governance scenarios that were developed during the RTD process: Scenario 1—9 Member Model and Scenarios 2A and 2B—11 Member Models. Scenario 1 would include one board member per subdistrict, with the appointment process led by the city with the largest population and confirmed by the councils of the other cities. The 11-member models would be similar, but would also include two member-at-large seats from the smaller entities within the subdistrict. Mr. Johnson advised that each scenario included provisions for rejection of the RTA board member nomination if a certain level of agreement was not reached, giving all cities a say in the appointment process and to encourage collaboration. He said that the RTD Steering Committee preferred the 9-Member Model, as a starting point, as a means to keep the process simple.

A copy of the presentation slides can be viewed at:
http://www.acogok.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Presentation-on-RTD-Governance-Scenarios-4-20-2016.pdf

V. Activity Log of 2016 RTA Task Force Meetings

John Johnson said this item provides a listing of topics that the Task Force will need to address in the future and serves as a guide for developing upcoming meeting agendas. He noted that the May meeting will focus on discussions with the pollster.

Mr. Johnson also stated that the task of bringing forward the history of the work by the RTD Steering Committee and subcommittees has been accomplished. Mayor Rosenthal suggested the Task Force acknowledge and accept the work that was performed as the conceptual framework for the RTA governance and boundary, realizing that exact details remain to be determined and formalized into a memorandum of agreement.

Mayor Rosenthal made a motion to adopt the boundary and governance recommendations of the Regional Transit Dialogue Steering Committee as the conceptual framework for the Regional Transit Authority. Councilwoman Waner seconded the motion, and the motion carried with the following roll call vote:

AYE: Bartlett, Waner, Hamm, Rosenthal, Cornett
NAY: None

Councilwoman Waner mentioned the item in the activity log on guest speakers and asked if staff has anyone in mind. John Johnson said there are several potential candidates from other regions and the transit industry. Ms. Waner said it can take time to get a speaker scheduled and encouraged that effort be started. Mr. Johnson said staff would inquire about her availability to see if she could be scheduled sometime this summer. It was mentioned that she may have insight on how to read the results we receive from the polling; how to chart a path forward based on the polling.

Derek Sparks advised that another good speaker would be someone from Phoenix to discuss their experience with establishing regional transit. He said the Chamber recently visited Phoenix as a region similar to ours. It has a large transit system, but initially had a couple of failed votes, so they could share some lessons learned.

VI. FY 2017 RTA Task Force Budget Reminder

John Johnson said as member communities are preparing their FY 2017 budgets, they are reminded to include a placeholder for their share of the FY 2017 Task Force budget that was outlined in the RTA Task Force Memorandum of Understanding. He said that staff will send an email reminder to each of the city managers as well.

VII. New Business

Mayor Cornett mentioned the Heartland Flyer, saying the City is trying to create a positive atmosphere for it especially in light of the work that is being done to renovate Santa Fe Station using federal TIGER grant funds and other sources. He encouraged Task Force members to speak to their legislators about funding the operations of the Heartland Flyer, noting that the ultimate success and perception of the hub will have an influence on how people feel about passing a regional transit initiative eventually.

Danny O'Conner advised of a recent article in The Wichita Eagle about new bus service starting this week from Newton, Kansas to Oklahoma City to provide a connection to the Heartland Flyer to close the gap between the Heartland Flyer and the Southwest Chief train routes. He said staff would send out the article to the Task Force.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 pm.