

Minutes of Board Meeting

Held on Friday 31st August 2012

At 10.30am in NTA Offices on Harcourt Lane

Present: Mr John Fitzgerald (Chairperson), Mr Gerry Murphy (CEO), Mr Hugh Creegan (Director of Transport Investment and Taxi Regulation), Mr Frank King, Mr Damian Usher, Dr Berna Grist, Ms Margaret O'Shaughnessy, Ms Valerie O'Reilly, Ms Linda Saunders, Mr Daithí Alcorn, Mr James Deegan, Mr John Tierney (Dublin City Manager).

Apologies: None.

Staff in attendance: Mr Mark O'Sullivan (Item 3), Ms Anne Graham (Items 5, & 7) and Mr Karl Seeber (Minutes).

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1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2012 were agreed without amendment.

2. CEO Report and Finance Update

The Chief Executive informed the Board of developments concerning integrated ticketing, the purchase of new buses for PSO services in Dublin and staffing and responded to issues raised by Board members. It was agreed that the CEO should write to the Department concerning the Authority's staffing needs.

Mr O'Sullivan presented the main aspects of the Authority's financial performance in June 2012 and in the January to June 2012 period.

3. Meeting with Minister, CIÉ Group Funding

The Chairperson and Chief Executive reported on their recent review meeting with the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport. The Chief Executive advised that the NTA would now proceed to develop an integrated implementation plan for transport infrastructure and services in the Greater Dublin Area in accordance with section 13 of the Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008.

The Chief Executive outlined developments concerning the Government's decision to allocate an additional €36 million to PSO services in 2012. The distribution of this funding among the operators is yet to be determined.

The Chief Executive made a presentation on the fares submissions for 2013 received from operators, the issues associated with each, and the fares increases that would be needed to protect service levels. Board members discussed the fare levels, and the balance between the need to increase fares with the objective of increasing public transport use.

4. Update on Taxi Matters

Mr Creegan updated the Board on developments with regard to the implementation of the recommendations made in the Government Review of Taxi Regulation and presented some latest livery proposals.

5. Bus issues – market opening, rural transport, Abbeyleix service

Ms Graham outlined the work of the National Integrated Rural Transport Committee which looked at barriers to integration of rural transport services and ways of overcoming these. A report in the matter, copy included in the Board papers, had been submitted to Minister of State Kelly.

Ms Graham outlined the main issues raised by respondents to the recent public and market consultations concerning arrangements for the awarding of contracts for PSO bus services when the existing contracts expire in 2014.

Finally, Ms Graham outlined procurement progress with regard to the Authority's efforts to secure a replacement bus service for Urlingford to Portlaoise. She noted that Bus Éireann has extended its temporary licence for the route until end September.

A number of other issues were discussed including the deployment of new intercity trains and speeds on the Dublin-Galway rail line.

6. Any other business

The Board agreed to a proposed change in the payment schedule for Board fees in order to bring it into line with the staff payroll schedule.

Next Meeting: Friday 21st September 2012 @ 10.30am at NTA Headquarters.

Signed: _____

John Fitzgerald, Chairperson

Dated: _____