



Minutes of Board Meeting

Held on Friday 21 November 2014

At 10.30am in the NTA Offices

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

Apologies: Mr James Deegan, Mr Owen Keegan (CEO, Dublin City Council), Ms Valerie O'Reilly.

Staff in attendance: Mr Philip L'Estrange (Item 3), Ms Anne Graham (Items 4 to 7), Mr Karl Seeber (Minutes).

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1. Minutes of previous meeting

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2014 were agreed subject to the replacement of references to "Mr King" with references to "Mr David King" in items 5 and 6.

2. CEO Report

The Chief Executive updated the Board on developments since the last meeting and responded to other issues raised by members. The matters discussed included

- Wheelchair accessibility in the licensed bus sector,
- Swords Bus Rapid Transit,
- Taxi fares,
- Taxi regulations,
- Discount on Dublin Bus and off-peak Luas fares via Leap card,
- Real time app enhancements,
- Launch of Regional Bike schemes,
- Recent discussions with the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport,
- Proposed legislative changes,
- The *Transport For Ireland* People's Awards,
- Luas Cross City,
- Provision of a coach parking facility in Dublin,
- Staffing and pension issues.

The CEO confirmed that a presentation will be made to the Board following the conclusion of the review of public transport services in Mayo.

3. Financial Report

Mr L'Estrange outlined the Authority's Management Accounts for September 2014 which are better than projected. He then outlined the Authority's proposals for:-

1. 5-year extension of the existing IBM/MSI support contract for the Leap system,
2. Award of a contract for Supply of Bus Stop Poles & Flags, and
3. Award of contract for Contact Centre and Business Administration Services.

Following discussion the Board approved these proposals. In the case of items 2 and 3, the Board approved the award of contracts to Larkin Engineering and SGS respectively.

4. Shared Stops Designations and Conditions

Ms Graham recalled the Board's decision earlier this year to designate Dublin Bus stops as shared facilities. Arising from that decision the Authority had undertaken a further consultation with stakeholders concerning a proposal to determine the conditions under which access to the stops would be managed. Ms Graham summarised the contents of a document in the matter which had been circulated to the Board explaining the legislative background, the Authority's proposal, the outcome of the consultation process and the Authority's consideration.

Following discussion the Board resolved in accordance with section 62 of the Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008 to confirm the general conditions for the designated shared facilities as set out in the proposal. The Authority will subsequently publish guidelines, consistent with these conditions, on the implementation of access to shared facilities to which the relevant parties shall have regard when operating such shared facilities.

Ms Graham then explained that the Authority had also consulted with stakeholders concerning (a) proposals to designate Bus Éireann stops as shared facilities and (b) to determine the conditions under which Bus Éireann shall allow access to its stops. Once again Ms Graham summarised the contents of a document in the matter which had been circulated to the Board explaining the legislative background, the Authority's proposals, the outcome of the consultation process and the Authority's consideration.

Following discussion the Board resolved in accordance with section 62 of the Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008 to designate all bus stops and stands in the State, currently owned or operated by Bus Éireann, or its parent company CIÉ, except for those stops on privately owned lands or Dublin Airport Authority lands, as shared facilities for the use of bus operators other than Bus Éireann. The Board also resolved in accordance with section 62 to confirm the general conditions for the designated shared facilities as set out in the proposal. The Authority will subsequently publish guidelines, consistent with these conditions, on the implementation of access to shared facilities to which the relevant parties shall have regard when operating such shared facilities.

5. Irish Rail

The Chief Executive outlined a number of recent developments relating to Irish Rail including the meetings between the Authority and trades unions representing employees, funding, the proposed public consultation on rail financial viability, and DART developments.

6. Direct Award Bus Contracts

The Chief Executive and Ms Graham noted that the Authority's existing direct award contracts with Bus Éireann and Dublin Bus will expire on 30 November next. The Authority has prepared revised direct award contracts for both companies in accordance with the Board decision in late 2013 to renew the contracts for a further 5-year period. They noted that the combined values of the new contracts to the companies over that period will be about €1.5 billion. They outlined the principal changes contained in the revised contracts including in particular with regard to performance obligations and risk allocation.

Following discussion the Board approved the risk allocation of the new direct award contracts to Dublin Bus and Bus Éireann, as outlined by the Chief Executive and Ms Graham, and approved the execution of these contracts.

The Board noted that the Chairperson would be writing to the Chairpersons of Dublin Bus and Bus Éireann to acknowledge the very high level of compliance by their companies with the performance obligations under the existing contracts and looking forward to a continued collaborative approach over the next 5 years.

7. December Bus Tendering

The Chief Executive updated the Board on the discussions taking place at the Labour Relations Commission with trades unions representing workers at Dublin Bus and Bus Éireann concerning the Authority's decision to seek tenders from bus operators in respect of 10% of bus routes currently operated by those companies under direct award contracts with the Authority. He explained that the Authority will engage in further discussions with the trade unions during December and January and that the Prequalification process would commence in January 2015 rather than December 2014.

8. Any other business

The Chairperson informed the Board that the recent public competition for the filling of the Chief Executive's post had been completed and that the recommendation of the Public Appointments Service was that Ms Anne Graham should be appointed to the position. The Board approved the appointment of Ms Graham to the post of Chief Executive with effect from 16 December 2014 subject to the consent of the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport as required under section 19 of the Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008.

The Chairperson noted that the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport had recently announced his decision to re-appoint a number of existing Board members with effect from 1 December next. He indicated that he has been invited to attend a meeting of the Joint Committee on Transport and Communications next week concerning his re-appointment as Chairperson.

The Board expressed its gratitude to the Chief Executive and outgoing Board members for their contribution to the Authority since its inception.

Next Meeting: Friday 19 December 2014 @ 10.30am in the NTA Offices.

Signed: _____

John Fitzgerald, Chairperson

Dated: _____