



## **Minutes of Board Meeting**

**Held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

**At 10.30am at NTA Offices**

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

**Apologies:** None

**Staff in attendance:** Mr Philip L'Estrange (Item 3), Mr Karl Seeber (Minutes).

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### **1. Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2011 were agreed subject to

- (a) the insertion of the following sentence at the end of the first paragraph under Agenda Item 2: "The Board expressed regret that increases in fares on subsidised public transport services may be required having regard to the important role that those services play in supporting Government policy on achieving a sustainable transport system.";
- (b) the replacement of "observed" by "used" in final sentence under Agenda Item 5.

On matters arising from the minutes, the Chief Executive confirmed that the Authority is implementing arrangements which will ensure the systematic collation and recording of data concerning anti-social behaviour activity on subsidised public transport services.

### **2. CEO Report**

The Authority has received applications for fares increases from Dublin Bus, Bus Éireann, Irish Rail and the RPA.

Planned improvements in PSO services in the regional cities arising from the review process undertaken earlier in the year will come on stream early in the New Year.

The Authority is liaising with the Garda authorities on the enforcement of licensed bus services.

The Authority successfully participated in symposia in the main regional cities to explore the potential for bicycle schemes in those cities.

The Authority has signed charters on mobility management with UCD and UCC.

The real-time passenger information system in Cork is due to become operational shortly. The Cork system will have 47 signs. The roll-out to Galway, Limerick and Waterford will occur in 2012.

The Authority is developing an app for smartphones, which will provide real-time passenger information for all public transport operators. The app should be ready close to Christmas.

The Authority has given access to its public transport database to Pobal (which manages the Rural Transport Scheme) and Dublinked (a public initiative to facilitate data-driven innovation in the urban environment).

The remit of the Director of Finance has been widened to include responsibility for Corporate Affairs.

Middle management staff of the Authority are currently receiving training in leadership and project management.

Board members raised a number of issues including operation of the real-time passenger information system, optimisation of the Authority's online public transport information services, coach parking study, regional freight strategy, Dublin commuter belt public transport review and agency staffing arrangements. The CEO noted the comments made and agreed to follow up on these as required.

### **3. Finance update**

The Director of Finance provided an overview of the September Management Accounts.

The Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General has completed its audit of the Authority's 2010 accounts. The audit did not give rise to any significant issues.

The Authority's draft 2012 budget will be presented to the Board at its December meeting.

### **4. Government's Capital Plan**

The Director of Transport Planning and Investment gave a detailed presentation outlining the impact on the Authority's capital project of the recently published Public Capital Investment Programme. He also outlined the status of the proposed Luas BXD line on which construction is targeted to start in 2015.

The Board discussed the implications of the revised financial envelope for transport infrastructure and the options being considered.

### **5. Taxi Vehicle Standards (Size)**

The Chief Executive outlined progress to date on the taxi vehicle standards consultation exercise in relation to vehicle size. The consultation exercise outlined two options. Option 1 would involve application of new size requirements to all licence holders while option 2 would involve application of new size requirements only upon change of vehicle and transfer of taxi licence ownership. The chosen option would apply after 3 January 2012.

Having considered the outcome of the public consultation exercise, the views of the Advisory Committee and the impacts/benefits of each of the options, the Board approved the implementation of option 2.

**6. Integrated Ticketing launch**

The Chief Executive outlined the background to the recent mini-launch involving an invitation to members of the public to assist in system testing. Subject to successful completion of the testing phase, a formal launch to mark the start of operations is due to be held before Christmas. The Board welcomed the progress being made.

**7. Any other business**

The Chairperson drew attention to the recent announcement on public sector reforms.

**Next Meeting: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011 @ 10.30am at NTA Offices.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**John Fitzgerald, Chairperson**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_