



Minutes of Board Meeting

**Held on Tuesday 1st December 2009
at 3.30pm at Department of Transport offices**

Present:

Mr. John Fitzgerald (Chairperson), Dr. Berna Grist, Mr. Frank King, Mr. Gerry Murphy (Chief Executive), Ms. Linda Saunders, Mr. John Tierney, Mr. Damian Usher

1. Chairperson's introduction

Mr. Fitzgerald welcomed Board members to the inaugural meeting of the NTA and asked the members to briefly introduce themselves. In his introduction Mr. Frank King noted that he carried out a range of consultancy work including work for private transport operators but envisaged that particular strand of consultancy work would diminish in 2010.

Minister Dempsey joined the meeting and thanked the members for taking up their appointments. He noted the key role of the National Transport Authority in developing public transport services for consumers and wished the Board well in its work. Minister Dempsey then left the meeting

2 Items for decision

- a) The members discussed the date on which the Dublin Transportation Office (DTO) should be dissolved. Following discussion the date of 1st December was proposed by Mr. Tierney, seconded by Dr. Grist and agreed.
- b) The members considered the Board paper material regarding the proposed public service contracts with Bus Eireann, Bus Atha Cliath and Iarnrod Eireann. The Chairperson set out the statutory background and the Chief Executive elaborated on the intent and effect of these contracts. Following discussion, Ms. Saunders proposed that the Authority execute these contracts, this was seconded by Mr. Tierney and agreed.
- c) The members considered the briefing note on the draft NTA pension scheme. In the discussion Ms. Saunders wished it to be noted that she was a DTO staff member. Two matters were before the Board for decision, namely:

(i) confirmation that Authority will base its pension schemes on Department of Finance Model Scheme for non-commercial state sponsored bodies.

(ii) Approval to seek administrative sanction from the Minister for Transport for the Authority to operate, with immediate effect, Department of Finance Model Pension Scheme terms.

Mr. King proposed approval for both matters, this was seconded by Mr. Usher and was agreed.

d) Mr. Murphy left the meeting for this item concerning the Chief Executive's appointment. The members discussed the terms and conditions upon which the Chief Executive is to hold office – these terms being the standard requirements of the Department of Finance. Dr. Grist proposed approval of these terms, Mr. Usher seconded the proposal and it was agreed. Mr. Murphy returned to the meeting.

3 AOB

Mr. Fitzgerald suggested that in the order of 10 or 11 Board meetings would take place annually. He suggested that members might consider a full day meeting in February that would allow a series of briefings on the wide remit of the Authority. He also said that the need for Board Committees will have to be considered and noted that an Audit Committee will be needed.

4 Date of next meeting

The next meeting is to take place on **Friday 22nd January at 10.30am.**

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

John Fitzgerald
Chairperson