



Draft Minutes of Board Meeting

**Held on Friday 19th February 2010
at 10.30am at NTA 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
Anne Graham (Secretary to Board)

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the Board's meeting of January 22nd 2010 were proposed by Mr. King, seconded by Mr. Usher and agreed.

2. CEO Report

A written report had been circulated to Board members in advance of the meeting. The CEO highlighted a few key items in his report.

The Social Benefits Methodology needs to be developed in order to assist the NTA in making decisions in relation to removal of public transport services. Booz consultants have been commissioned to draw this up.

The capital funding for public transport investment has been reduced by €6m. The proposed reduction in Traffic management Grants in 2011/2012 and the impact that has on funding for 2010 projects and the QBN office was discussed.

It is proposed that an update will be presented on the Transport Strategy at each Board meeting until completion.

On Integrated Ticketing the CEO noted that although responsibility for the project has not yet been transferred from the Department of Transport and the Railway Procurement Agency to the NTA, the responsibility for the operating contract will transfer to the NTA in 2011. There have been some delays in this project and it was agreed that the Board would write to the RPA asking them to expedite the operating contract for the Integrated Ticketing System.

Under Planning Matters the CEO drew the Board's attention to the fact that the NTA submissions on regional planning guidelines and development plans go to both the Minister for Transport and the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

The CEO highlighted the NTA work under Smarter Travel Workplaces. A number of blue-chip companies have been engaged in developing mobility plans for their staff. This is a low cost high impact scheme that the NTA want to continue to develop.

The success of the Dublin bikes scheme was noted and the proposal to extend the scheme.

Under Staffing and Budget, the CEO confirmed that four Senior Management positions were approved by the Department of Finance, two of those positions had been advertised by the Public Appointments Service that day. The Director of Corporate Affairs was filled by Anne Graham on secondment from Dublin City Council. The Director of Finance post will be advertised initially within the available Civil Service pool with the option to move to open recruitment if no candidates can be found.

The CEO also pointed out that 10 Dept of Transport staff were to be assigned to the NTA on establishment but this assignment hadn't been fully completed. A further 13 staff are to be assigned in the summer of 2010 and the hope is that the same problems will not arise. The Board noted the CEO's concerns and asked that they be conveyed to the Dept of Transport.

3. Dublin Bus presentation

The CEO of Dublin Bus, Joe Meagher joined the meeting for this item. He gave a power-point presentation, which was circulated to Board members. Following the presentation Mr. Meagher dealt with a number of questions from Board members.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Meagher for his excellent presentation and he left the meeting.

4. NTA submissions on Draft Development Plans & RPGs

Two submissions were discussed as follows:

- 1) Mid West Draft RPG
- 2) Draft Dublin City Development Plan

In relation to 1) it was agreed to send the submission subject to appending the document Smarter Travel – A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009-2020 and to including an observation in relation to the movement of freight within the RPG area.

In relation to 2) it was agreed to include the observation that the density guidelines should be considered a minimum level to support consolidation and not to undermine the investment in public transport.

5. Transport Strategy update

Michael MacAree and Jeremy Ryan joined the meeting to deliver a presentation on the preparation of the Transport Strategy.

A discussion took place on the timing of the RPGs and the Transport Strategy. The population and employment projections were also discussed and the impact on the strategy of not reaching the targets set by the DOEHLG.

The Chairman thanked Michael and Jeremy for their presentation on behalf of the Board and they left the meeting.

6. AOB

The addition of Anne Graham, Director of Corporate Affairs to the signatory list for cheques and on-line banking was proposed by Damian Usher and seconded by Frank King and agreed.

The issue of the directly elected mayor and the impact for the NTA was raised.

A question was raised about the Information Note on NTA planning functions circulated to the board and how it didn't cover the NTA role in development management and under the Strategic Infrastructure Act. It was agreed to update the Information Note and circulate again to the Board.

The Chairperson proposed that the dates of the next two Board meetings be changed to accommodate board members. The next meeting date was changed to Friday 26th March at 10:30am and the April meeting amended to Wednesday 16th April at 9:30am.

Next Meeting Friday 26th March @10.30am at the NTA's offices

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

John Fitzgerald, Chairperson