



Minutes of Board Meeting

Held on Friday 24th March 2017

At 10.30am in NTA Offices

Present: Mr John Fitzgerald (Chairperson), Ms Anne Graham (CEO), Mr Hugh Creegan (Deputy CEO), Ms Fiona Ross, Mr Pat Mangan, Ms Linda Saunders, Ms Ann Fitzgerald, Dr Berna Grist, Ms Sineád Walsh, Mr Owen Keegan (CEO, Dublin City Council), Mr Frank O'Connor.

Apologies: Mr Frank Gleeson.

Staff in attendance: Mr Philip L'Estrange, Director, Finance & Corporate Services / Board Secretary; Mr Tim Gaston, Director, Public Transport Services; Mr Noel Beecher (Agenda Item 3 – Risk Management items); Ms Marian Wilson (Agenda Item 5); Mr Karl Seeber (Minutes).

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1. Minutes of previous meeting

The draft minutes of the Board meeting held on 24 February were agreed subject to the addition of the following item under Agenda Item 3 (Finance and Corporate Governance):-

“e. It was agreed that a proposal on the management of the Authority’s reserves should be prepared for the Board’s consideration.”

2. CEO Report

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

- NTA submission on National Planning Framework;
- Proposed Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy;
- Progress of National Household Survey;
- Luas Cross City and purchase of additional trams;
- New Metro North;
- Review of Government’s Capital Plan;
- Licensing of drivers of small public service vehicles;
- Vehicle Clamping;
- Trends in passenger numbers and fare revenues across main contracted operators;
- Bus Market Opening;
- Bus Éireann issues;
- Leap Card developments;
- NTA participation in Ireland’s bid to host Rugby World Cup 2023;
- Legal issues;
- Train signalling systems;
- Traffic speeds;
- National Train Control Centre.

3. Finance & Corporate Governance

The Board noted the Management Accounts for February.

Mr Beecher outlined the Authority's draft Risk Management Framework including the proposed process for managing risk. Following discussion, the Board approved the draft document subject to a number of amendments. It was agreed that further work needs to be done to define the Authority's risk appetite and that proposals in this regard should be submitted to the Board for consideration in due course.

Mr L'Estrange noted that the Board Effectiveness Review will take place on 21 April next.

Following discussion the Board approved the following proposals:-

- a. Award of contracts for the provision of ticketing equipment and automatic vehicle location (AVL) in respect of bus market opening to Parkeon (ticketing equipment) and INIT and Trapeze (AVL).
- b. Award of contract to Dancor Civil Engineering Consortium for the construction of the temporary coach park at Sheriff Street Lower.
- c. Entry into a lease agreement with Córas Iompair Éireann for the lease of a site at Sheriff Street Lower for a period of up to 5 years for the provision of the temporary coach park.

4. Dublin Region Bus Proposals

Mr Creegan made a presentation on proposals for a major redesign of the bus network and significant upgrading of bus infrastructure in the Dublin region. The objective is to make the bus system more efficient and to carry more passengers to more places. Mr Creegan outlined some of the key emerging challenges and next steps which will include engagement with local authorities as well as a major public consultation exercise.

5. Town Services Bus Proposals

Ms Wilson made a presentation on the work being undertaken by the Authority with a view to the development of bus services in large towns nationally. Ms Wilson noted that of 19 towns with a population in excess of 10,000 only 11 had any regular bus services. In many cases the existing services do not adequately cater for the demand for travel within those towns. Accordingly, the Authority has identified a need for intervention by the Authority to meet gaps in the service network in towns which will contribute to the achievement of important transport, land use and environmental objectives.

Ms Wilson outlined the work currently being undertaken by the Authority with regard to the possible provision of town services in Kilkenny. She noted that Kilkenny County Council is supportive of the work being undertaken by the Authority.

The Board welcomed the work being undertaken. The Board noted the importance of securing the commitment of relevant local and regional authorities (including financial support) to the development of bus services in their areas in order to ensure their success and having regard to the benefits that will accrue locally.

6. AOB

The Chairperson noted that he will complete his term of office on 31 May next. He understands that the position of Chairperson will be publicly advertised in the near future.

Next Meeting: 21 April 2017

Signed: _____
John Fitzgerald, Chairperson

Dated: _____