

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**ARIZONA TRANSIT ASSOCIATION**

Monday, August 1, 2005  
Parsons Brinckerhoff  
Phoenix, AZ 10:00 a.m.

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice President Paul Miller called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**II. ATTENDANCE**

Paul Miller  
Jim Dickey  
Jean Ann Fisher  
Steve Tyminski  
Jeff Meilbeck  
Steve Brown  
Ken Driggs  
Brad Bixler  
Dave Boggs  
Carlos de Leon  
Pat McGowan  
John Anderson  
Richard D. Stuart – Lunchbox Collective, Website Consultant  
Stuart Goodman – Goodman Schwartz Public Affairs

**III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Stuart Goodman briefed the board on a League of Cities and Towns resolution that would be supportive of AzTA in opposing any legislative attacks on LTAF II during that next legislative session and thereafter.

The following points were presented by Stuart Goodman in a handout to the Board.

Existing state statute requires funds from the multi-state lottery game to be available for distribution to local governments for use in public transportation related expenditures. Under the LTAF II program, local government distributions, capped at \$18 million, are available after the state's General Fund receives the first \$31 million in revenue from the multi-state lottery game.

During the 2005 legislative session, however, the state budget for FY 2006 temporarily increased the threshold to \$37 million and the cap of available funds was decreased to \$12 million. The legislation did not impact the state budget beyond the current fiscal year.

Many communities rely on LTAF II funds to support public transportation services and one-time capital expenditures that may otherwise not receive funding due to the limited resources available from other transportation program sources.

Allowing such random and unpredictable reductions in the LTAF II program creates an artificial reduction beyond the accepted cyclical nature of the multi-state lottery game. Without the ability to rely on the stability of the LTAF II program, the confidence of smaller communities to remain committed to providing public transportation services will be jeopardized.

By opposing legislation that reduces the availability and amount of LTAF II distributions, municipal transit providers will be able to effectively manage and improve public transportation services in communities throughout the state.

Preserving the statutorily prescribed funding levels of the LTAF II program is critical to the ongoing ability of local governments to provide public transportation services that will meet the diverse needs of residents and visitors alike.

As a consequence of the potential for additional reductions to the LTAF II program, municipal governments will be required to either reallocate funding from other programs or, alternatively, reduce or otherwise delay critical expenditures for public transportation projects and services.

As the LTAF II distribution levels are codified in existing state statute, there is no anticipated fiscal impact on the state General Fund to maintain the statutorily required funding levels.

Stuart Goodman also gave a summary of the Executive Committee's meeting with Gail Howard which included pursuing the re-establishment of the \$5 million dollar annual public transportation allocation. Miss Howard was supportive of this endeavor.

In our discussions with Gail Howard, the subject of ADOT board member selection was discussed. AzTA floated some names which again were well received. While no guarantees, our final candidates should certainly get a strong consideration by the Governor's Office.

#### IV. ACTION ITEMS

##### A. Meeting Minutes

***Motion: David Boggs moved approval of the June 24, 2005 Board Retreat meeting minutes.***

***Second: Jim Dickey***

***Action: Approved Unanimously***

##### B. Financial Report a/o June 30, 2005

The reconciled financial report as of June 30, 2005, shows a checking account balance of \$102,354. Paul Miller inquired as to the need for a financial audit. Ken Driggs responded RPTA's financial department had committed to a review. David Boggs indicated the review would likely take place in the next two months.

***Motion: Jeff Meilbeck moved approval of the financial report.***

***Second: Jim Dickey***

***Action: Approved Unanimously***

##### C. 2006 Board Retreat

Brad Bixler updated the board on his research concerning holding the next Board Retreat in Lake Havasu City. Brad Bixler recommended two sites for the retreat: London Bridge Resort and the Island Inn Resort. He presented the Board with a handout with information on each of these hotels. After some discussion, it was suggested that the Executive Director pursue and negotiate with the London Bridge Resort for a Board Retreat on June 22-23, 2006.

***Motion: Carlos de Leon moved the 2006 Board Retreat be held at the London Bridge Resort.***

***Second: David Boggs***

***Action: Approved Unanimously***

The following items were deferred to the September Board meeting:

Liability/insurance discussion – Jack LaSota, Attorney

Investment Income update – Nate Peterson

Training Institute update

Strategic Plan update – Larry Miller

Rural Transportation Working Group update – Paul Miller

## V. OTHER BUSINESS

### A. Website Development

Carlos de Leon introduced Richard Stuart who made a presentation on the status of the new website. The target date for the new rollout is September 2005. The presentation was well received.

### B. Statewide Planning Issues

Jim Dickey gave a brief overview of statewide planning issues. After which he requested an hour at the next board meeting for a more detailed presentation. (The Board suggested a 3-hour working lunch at the next meeting. John will coordinate this with Rick.) Jim also briefed on some of the things going on at ADOT including his efforts for an improved coordination with Transportation Planning division involving regional transit studies; COGs studies; small area transportations studies done by TP; updates on connector service implementations.

Jim also briefed on his recent attendance at the APTA State Affairs/ASHTO/CTAA Conference in Washington. Jim was surprised when he found that many state DOTs' public transportation staffing levels were smaller than here in Arizona. He also indicated that State Transit Associations are involved in managing public transportation data and suggested that we might explore AzTA as a vehicle for coordinating and submitting all statewide requests for discretionary funding.

Some coordinated action may be necessary regarding proper signage for HOV lane use. The new signage will not include buses which could significantly impact current Valley Metro dead-heading options.

### C. Board Vacancy

John Anderson briefed the board on two applicants to replace Beth O'Connor's board vacancy. They are Shirley Scott, Dispatcher/Transportation Manager for the City of Cottonwood and Maxine Anderson, Transportation Supervisor for Phoenix Reserve-A-Ride. Maxine has also served as Director of Special Transportation Services for the Central AZ Chapter of the Red Cross.

John also suggested two additional names who have not applied: Bruce Ahern of Michael Baker Corporation and Mack Luckie with the MPO in Yuma. The Board directed John to inquire as to the desire of Helen Knoll of Sedona to participate on the board. The Board asked John to include a spreadsheet depicting each of our existing board members as to whether they are private/public and urban/rural and include this with the candidates. Additionally the Board suggested that those interested and not selected be invited to participate on committees or otherwise get involved

in the organization. John Anderson should submit four applicant resumes if possible to the Board in advance of the next Board meeting.

**VI. BUSINESS NOT OTHERWISE ON AGENDA**

A. ADOT Board Meeting - Payson

Ken Driggs reported that he attended the ADOT Board meeting in Payson. He had also been invited to attend the Invitational dinner the night before. A brief discussion ensued regarding the importance/value of having an AzTA Board member at each of these meetings. John Anderson was directed to verify the rest of the schedule and line up the attendee for each meeting.

B. Paul Miller asked Brad Bixler to sit it on the Rural Working committee in place of Beth O'Connor. John Anderson was directed to add Brad's name to that committee.

**VII. NEXT MEETINGS**

Monday, September 12, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. at PBQD.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice President Paul Miller adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.