



**WACCAMAW REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
d/b/a THE COAST RTA  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Wednesday, February 26, 2025  
10:00 PM**

**Board Present:** Katharine D'Angelo  
Darrell Eickhoff  
Lillie Jean Johnson  
Elijah Metherd  
Sarah Pope  
Bernard Silverman  
Marvin Keene  
Randal Wallace

**Staff Present:** Brian Piascik, General Manager/CEO  
Ron Prater, CFO  
Lauren Morris, Strategic Communications Manager  
Candace Brown, Senior Planner/Special Projects  
Ann-Martin Buffkin, Staff Accountant/Board Liaison  
Doug Herriott, Operations Manager  
Tom Burda, Maintenance Manager

**Visitors:** Mary Kate and Bella

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the FY2025 meeting schedule was provided to the press at the beginning of the 2025 fiscal year, stating the date, time, and location. In addition, notice of this meeting was provided to the press and stakeholders, stating the date, time, and location on February 24, 2025.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Silverman called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and welcomed everyone.

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mr. Silverman gave the invocation, then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL/ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM:** Roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard; the agenda was approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard; the minutes for January 29, 2025, were approved unanimously.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS:** Mary Kate Morookian from Kimley-Horn and Bella Linck – Intern at Coast RTA. Ms. Linck gave an introduction of herself and her future plans as a student at CCU and as an intern for Coast RTA.

**SERVICE/PACC COMMITTEE:** Ms. D'Angelo began by updating the Board on what was discussed at the Service/PACC committee meeting. Items discussed included TDP, Title VI, Entertainment Shuttles, and trend data on incoming calls. There will be no fee for the shuttle this upcoming season. Coast RTA is hoping to have more ridership by increasing marketing for the shuttles. There will be public meetings today and this week regarding TDP and Title VI discussions.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Dr. Keene updated the Board on what was discussed at the Finance committee meeting. Items discussed included January financials and the plan leading up to the transition in funding and how that will affect cash and cash requirements. Brian Piascik stated that from a budget perspective, Coast is in good shape. Mr. Piascik shared a new cash requirements report and requested it be added to the Board Report. There was a consensus from the Board. The big take away from the cash requirements report was that on March 25, 2025, Coast will need a loan from bank in order to float cash until funding goes in to place the later part of this year. The first loan request will be \$550,000 which will pay off the current CNB loan note of \$147,000.

**COMPENSATION COMMITTEE:** None

**AD HOC COMMITTEES:** None

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:** Mary Kate Morookian began by providing an update on Kimley Horn projects. She and Mr. Piascik presented a spreadsheet to show how Ride IV money will make an impact for Coast. The Ride IV money will cover the loss of current funding – to include road use fees, MB/NMB, and 5307 urbanized formula, which will move to capital. Ride IV funding will also cover the shortfall on current services, salary and wage increases, increased frequencies,

and microtransit/vanpool services. Some of the remaining funds will go to the O&M reserve and capital purchases/projects.

Mr. Piascik provided an update on TASC. He explained how there has been a decline in transit funding over the last 40 years. In 1987, there were only 7 transit systems that split \$6,000,000 compared to 2025, with 34 transit systems. These 34 systems are still splitting the same \$6,000,000. TASC members are going to the State to ask for increased funding from \$6,000,000 to \$80,000,000.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was a motion to go into Executive Session by Ms. D'Angelo with a second by Mr. Eickhoff at which time the recording session ended. A motion to come out of the Executive Session was made by Mr. Eickhoff and a second by Ms. D'Angelo. No decisions were made, and no votes were taken.

Once Executive Session ended, the Board discussed Mr. Piascik's recommended bonus. The Board suggested a \$30,000 bonus for Mr. Piascik. Mr. Eickhoff made the motion and a second was made by Ms. Lillie Jean Johnson. Mr. Piascik's recommended bonus was approved unanimously.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:** None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** There was a motion by Mr. Metherd to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Silverman adjourned the meeting at 12:23 PM.

