#### **Board of Trustees**

Mr. Christopher Lawson, President City of Hamilton

> Mr. Perry Gordon, Vice President City of Oxford Police Department

Mr. Travis C. Bautz MidPointe Library System

Mr. David Fehr Butler County Department of Development

Mr. James A. Foster

Ms. Nancy Schmitt UC Health West Chester Hospital

Mr. Corey Watt

Ms. Kathy Wyenandt

**Executive Director** Mr. Matthew M. Dutkevicz

Legal Counsel Mr. Mark Landes Isaac Wiles Burkholder & Teetor, LLC



# \*\*\* PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE \*\*\*

# Butler County Regional Transit Authority Board of Trustees

The BCRTA Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. This meeting will be held in the Board Room at the Butler County Regional Transit Authority located at 3045 Moser Court, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.

In accordance with the American Disabilities Act, if anyone has a disability and requires assistance or, in accordance with the Limited English Proficiency Executive Order, requires translation services, please call Mr. Matthew Dutkevicz at 513.785.5237 or 800.750.0750 (Ohio Relay Service).





# BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES May 18, 2022, 8:00 AM Butler County Regional Transit Authority 3045 Moser Court, Hamilton, OH 45011

## PRELIMINARY AGENDA

- I. Call to Order & Roll
- II. Consideration of Absences
- III. Consent Agenda (Motion Requested)
  - a. Approval of the Agenda
  - b. Approval of the April 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- IV. Comments from Citizens
- V. Secretary/Treasurer's Report March 2022 (Motion Requested)
- VI. Action Items
  - a. **Resolution 22-05-01:** Appointing Directors to the Transit Alliance of Butler County (TABC) Board of Directors.
  - b. **Resolution 22-05-02:** Supporting Ohio Department of Transportation and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Collaborative Federal Funding Application for the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor.

#### VII. Governance

- a. Vacancies
  - i. Discussion
  - ii. Recommend candidates to commissioners (Motion Requested)

#### VIII. Committee & Staff Reports

a. OKI

- b. Service & Metrics Luke Morgan, Director of Operation
- c. Marketing & Outreach Shawn Cowan, Communications & Outreach Manager

Next Meeting Date: June 15, 2022 @ 8:00 AM Butler County RTA ● Hamilton Board Room 3045 Moser Court, Hamilton, OH 45011

# BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES May 18, 2022, 8:00 AM Butler County Regional Transit Authority 3045 Moser Court, Hamilton, OH 45011

d. Director's Report

- IX. Executive Session subject to ORC 121.22 (G)(1) (Motion Requested)
  - a. To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official.
- X. Adjourn (Motion Requested)

Next Meeting Date: June 15, 2022 @ 8:00 AM Butler County RTA ● Hamilton Board Room 3045 Moser Court, Hamilton, OH 45011

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bautz, Travis	X	x	х	х								
Fehr, David	X	Х	E	E								
Foster, Jim	Х	Х	Х	Х								
Gordon, Perry	Х	Х	Х	Х								
Lawson, Chris	Х	E	Х	Х								
Schmitt, Nancy	E*	E	Х	Х								
Watt, Corey	х	Х	Х	Х								
Wyenandt			Х	Х								

# 2022 Butler County RTA Board of Trustees Attendance

X = Present

E = Excused

sed

A = Absent

E\* = Online not Official

# **Butler County Regional Transit Authority**

# Board of Trustees Meeting

# Wednesday, April 20, 2022

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The BCRTA Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 8:00 AM at the Butler County Regional Transit Authority Board Room, 3045 Moser Court, Hamilton, Ohio 45011. Proper public notice was given in advance of the meeting.

PRESENT:	Chris Lawson, President Perry Gordon, Vice President Travis Bautz* Jim Foster Nancy Schmitt* Corey Watt Kathy Wyenandt	STAFF:	Matthew Dutkevicz, Executive Director Delene Weidner, Director of Finance & Administration Shawn Cowan, Communication & Outreach Manager Luke Morgan, Director of Operations Meagan Varney, Procurement & Compliance Specialist* Christine Yannitty, Staff Accountant Mary Jane Leveline, Talent & Benefits Manager
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ABSENT:	David Fehr	OTHERS PRESENT:	None
CITIZENS:	Amelia Glenchur	LEGAL	Mark Landes, Isaac Wiles*
	Chris Hoffer	COUNSEL:	Patrick Pickett, Isaac Wiles*

CITIZENS: Amelia Glenchur Chris Hoffer Whitney Harris David Stover Linda Yarger

\*Attended via video conference.

#### I. Call to Order & Roll Call

Mr. Lawson called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. Mr. Dutkevicz took a call of the roll. A quorum of the Board was present.

#### a. Consideration of Absences

Mr. Fehr requested to be excused. Mr. Foster made a motion to excuse Mr. Fehr. Mr. Watt seconded. The motion carried.

#### II. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Mr. Dutkevicz presented an amended meeting agenda that included an Executive Session. Ms. Wyenandt moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Gordon seconded. The consent agenda was approved.

#### III. Comments from Citizens

Ms. Harris and Mr. Hoffer provided comments. Their written submissions are included in Appendix A with these minutes.

Mr. Dutkevicz introduced Patrick Pickett with Isaac Wiles and Christine Yannitty, BCRTA staff Accountant. He also asked guests to introduce themselves.

#### IV. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Ms. Weidner presented the treasurer's report for the month of February 2022:

Ms. Weidner presented year-end February 2022 compared to the Annual Budget. Revenues overall ended the period slightly under budget. Passenger Fares remain under budget due to the suspension of general public BGo trips. The increase in Butler County Veterans trips continue to offset Passenger Fares. Partnership Transit Revenue dropped below budget due to suspending the R2 and R4 which are supported by the City of Middletown. Transit Development Funds remain over-budget due to Miami University's Winter Term. Expenses for the period were also under budget primarily due to the timing of the Professional Service projects and staff shortages. Fuel and parts for the Gillig buses, and not yet recognizing any Insurance recoveries had both Materials & Supplies and Insurance slightly over-budget. The Gain before Est. Depreciation, Net Pension & OPEB Expense was just over \$492K.

The Transaction logs for the month of January were included in the packet presenting all cash transactions for the period. The balance sheet for February 2022, was presented with normal balances for assets, as well as liabilities and equity.

At the end of January, Available Funds were approximately \$5.79M. Current or planned grants were just slightly overmatched. Non-Restricted Funds of \$1.94M will be used to match future year large bus purchases and any needed match for the Chestnut Fields facility.

Mr. Watt moved to approve the treasurer's report. Ms. Wyenandt seconded the motion. The treasurer's report was approved.

#### V. Executive Session subject to ORC 121.22 (G)(2) (Motion Requested)

a. Mr. Foster moved to enter executive session to consider the purchase of property for public purposes, the sale of property at competitive bidding, or the sale or other disposition of unneeded, obsolete, or unfit-for-use property in accordance with section 505.10 of the Revised Code, if premature disclosure of information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal, private interest is adverse to the general public interest. Ms. Wyenandt seconded the motion. Upon a call of the roll, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Bautz	Yes
Mr. Fehr	ABSENT
Mr. Foster	Yes
Mr. Gordon	Yes
Mr. Lawson	Yes
Ms. Schmitt	Yes
Mr. Watt	Yes
Ms. Wyenandt	Yes

Executive session commenced at 8:23 am. Mr. Landes, Mr. Pickett, Ms. Varney, Ms. Weidner, Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Dutkevicz were invited to stay.

Executive session concluded at 8:48 am.

#### VI. Action Items

a. Resolution 22-04-01: Authorizing the BCRTA Executive Director to File Applications and Execute Contracts with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Ohio Public Transportation Assistance Grants Including, but not limited to, the Ohio Transit Partnership Program (OTP2), the Ohio Elderly and Disabled Transit Fare Assistance Program (E&D), the Rural Transit Program (RTP/5311), Bus & Bus Facilities (5339)program, and the Urban Transit Program (UTP).

Mr. Gordon moved to adopt resolution 22-04-01. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Mr. Dutkevicz explained that this resolution is a requirement every year for BCRTA to apply for ODOT grants. Mr. Dutkevicz noted that the language was prescribed by ODOT and had been updated this year

Mr. Bautz	Yes
Mr. Fehr	ABSENT
Mr. Foster	Yes
Mr. Gordon	Yes
Mr. Lawson	Yes
Ms. Schmitt	Yes
Mr. Watt	Yes
Ms. Wyenandt	Yes

Upon a call of the roll the vote resulted as follows:

The resolution was adopted.

b. **Resolution 22-04-02:** Authorizing the Appointment of an Alternate Trustees to the Board of Trustees of the Health Transit Pool of Ohio.

Ms. Wyenandt moved to adopt resolution 22-04-02. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Mr. Dutkevicz described that this resolution would add Mary Jane Leveline as a voting member, in addition to Ms. Weidner and Mr. Dutkevicz, for BCRTA to the Ohio Health Transit Pool.

Upon a call of the roll the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Bautz	Yes
Mr. Fehr	ABSENT
Mr. Foster	Yes
Mr. Gordon	Yes
Mr. Lawson	Yes
Ms. Schmitt	Yes
Mr. Watt	Yes
Ms. Wyenandt	Yes

The resolution was adopted.

c. Resolution 22-04-03: Authorizing the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA)
Executive Director to Amend an Agreement for Part III Architecture
& Engineering Services for the Chestnut Fields Multimodal Station & Shared Services Facility.

Mr. Watt moved to adopt resolution 22-04-03. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Ms. Varney provided an overview of the Bowen contract to date and noted that approval of this amendment would produce 100% design documents for the Chestnut Fields facility. Mr. Foster acknowledged that the authorization was a large sum but, in his experience, design is usually 10% of the total construction cost and this seemed reasonable for the size of the project. Mr. Watt asked if any environmental mitigation was included in this amendment. Mr. Dutkevicz answered that the design and research phase did dictate the need for some mitigation from the existing fuel tanks and that was built into the construction estimate. However, that cost would be included in the construction phase.

Mr. Bautz	Yes
Mr. Fehr	ABSENT
Mr. Foster	Yes
Mr. Gordon	Yes
Mr. Lawson	Yes
Ms. Schmitt	Yes
Mr. Watt	Yes
Ms. Wyenandt	Yes

Upon a call of the roll the vote resulted as follows:

The resolution was adopted.

#### VII. Governance

#### a. Vacancies

1. Discussion

Mr. Dutkevicz noted that the list of applicants was updated and included in the packet. He also mentioned that the Executive Committee would continue to meet and interview candidates as needed.

2. Recommend candidates to County Commission

No recommendations were made.

## b. TABC

1. Accept the resignation of Susan Cohen from the Transit Alliance of Butler County

Mr. Dutkevicz mentioned that Ms. Cohen has taken a new position in Union Township, Clermont

County and would no longer serve on the TABC. Mr. Watt moved to accept the resignation and Mr. Foster seconded. The resignation was accepted.

#### VIII. Committee & Staff Reports

#### a. OKI

Mr. Lawson mentioned that electric vehicle charging station funding was discussed as part of IIJA. Mr. Lawson also noted that the Unified Planning Work Program was adopted.

### b. Service & Metrics

Mr. Morgan provided the metrics report: Leveraging Competitive Funding & Partnerships

- Average Fleet Age
  - 4.61 years This is an increase of 24.95 percent from February 2021.
- Subsidy per Passenger
  - The subsidy per passenger decreased in February of 2022 in comparison to last February by \$9.99 or 42.3 percent.
- Admin Cost Per Revenue Hour
  - Administrative Overhead cost per hour has increased by \$6.09 or 30.1 percent comparing February of 2021 to February of 2022.

## Enhancing Connectivity

- BCRTA Transit App Users
  - BCRTA had 3,532 users during the month of February for the Transit App. This is a 90.8 percent increase from the previous year.
- BCRTA Transit App Downloads
  - BCRTA tracked 678 new downloads for the Transit App in February of 2022. This is a 75.96 percent increase from the previous year.
- BGO App Rides/Total BGO Rides
  - 38.1 percent of all trips were booked utilizing the mobile application. This is a 12.08 percent increase from February of 2021.
- BGO App Downloads
  - BCRTA had 178 new users download the mobile application. This is a 48.88 percent decrease in app downloads from February 2021.
- BGO Mobile Payment & Total Trips
  - BCRTA completed 2,084 non contracted trips in February of 2022. This is a 31.9 percent decrease in completed, non - contracted trips from February of last year.

- 26.99 percent of all completed, non contracted trips were paid for using the BCRTA mobile application (BrainTree).
- EZFARE is currently live and being utilized by passengers. 2.77 percent of all BGo trips were paid for using the EZFARE platform.

# Improving Mobility & Eliminating Barriers

- Passengers Per Revenue Hour
  - Fixed routes had 11.3 passengers per revenue hour in February of 2022, this is 207.1 percent higher than February of 2021.
  - Demand Response service had 1.8 passengers per revenue hour in February of 2022, this is a 1.1 percent increase from February of 2021.
- Accidents and Injuries
  - Fault Total BCRTA had 3 at fault accidents in February of 2022.
  - No Fault Total BCRTA also had 4 no fault accidents.
- Target Operator Staffing
  - 72%
  - This number has decreased .18 percent from the same month for the previous year. The yearly average was 76.45 percent.
- Denials and Refusals/ Total BGO Trips
  - 180.23 percent of all requested BGO trips were refused or denied in February of 2022 due to time and capacity limitations. This is a 177.4 percent increase from February of 2021.
  - Mr. Watt asked how it was possible for this number to exceed 100%. Mr. Dutkevicz explained that the metric is total trips denied or refused as a percentage of total trips provided. When denied trips exceed the total number provided, the number can exceed 100%, eg: 3,294 trips were denied and 2,084 were provided. 3,294/2,084 = 1.7961 or 179.61%
- Supporting Employers
  - 42x Park and Ride Total Trips
    - The 42x had 719 riders. This is a 100 percent increase from February of the previous year.
  - BGO Employment Trips
    - BCRTA completed 854 BGO trips for the purpose of employment in February of 2022, this is a 13.58 percent decrease from the same month the previous year.

## Developing Multimodal Infrastructure

- Goal
- This field is to show the progress of our upcoming Chestnut Fields Multi-Modal Transit Station. BCRTA has secured funding for \$12,145,255 of our \$21,000,000 goal.

- Days Until Chestnut Fields Completed
  - BCRTA expects this project to be completed within the next 545 days or 1.5 years.
  - Mr. Gordon asked if this estimate was still accurate. Mr. Dutkevicz explained it was likely to be extended but a more solid date would not be able to be determined until construction begins.

## c. Marketing & Outreach

Ms. Cowan provided the marketing and outreach report. She noted that BCRTA is in its fourth month of work with Hunter Marketing. Ms. Cowan provided an overview of impact provided by the contract. Ms. Cowan noted that the hiring trend is increased over the same time frame from last year. Ms. Cowan added that new marketing materials for hiring are including more emphasis on "total rewards." Ms. Cowan ended by mentioning that the Free Ride campaign would kick off next month and that staff would be out engaging in "Max Your Vax" in early May.

- d. Director's Report
  - A. Staffing & Facility
    - 1. Staffing

BCRTA staffing is becoming a critical weakness. Attrition still outpaces new hires and prospecting new applicants has been a monumental task. BCRTA must continue to retain current workforce AND adapt practices to engage new talent. Staff are devoting significant effort to addressing this objective.

BCRTA is currently seeking to fill the following positions:

Administrative Specialist	Location: , OH Department: Type: Full Time
Dispatcher - Full time	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Operations Type: Full Time
Dispatcher - Part time	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Operations Type: Part Time
Street Supervisor	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Operations Type: Full Time
Bus Driver Trainer	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Operations Type: Full Time
Planning & Special Projects Manager	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Administration Type: Full Time
Bus Driver - Fixed Route	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: BCRTA Type: Full Time
Bus Driver - No CDL Required	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Operations Type: Full Time
SafeRide - Night Shift Van Drivers	Location: Oxford, OH Department: Operations Type: Part Time
Accounting Clerk	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Accounting and Finance Type: Full Time
Customer Service Supervisor	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Type: Full Time
TABC Board of Directors	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Transit Alliance of Butler County Type: Volunteer
Trustee	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Board of Trustees Type: Volunteer

A biweekly email digest of open positions is available. Please contact

Mary Jane Leveline, BCRTA Talent & Benefits Manager (<u>levelinem@butlercountyrta.com</u>) if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

APTA recently published a policy brief with survey results demonstrating that BCRTA's hiring struggles are not unique. The brief also supports BCRTA's current strategy of raising wages and providing referral incentives. The brief is included with the April Board packet.

#### 2. Vaccination

Leadership is implementing a new tool as part of the existing HRIS system that queries employees for their vaccine status and will also support reporting of testing requirements if needed in the future. BCRTA is incentivizing participation pursuant to Board authority earlier this year.

#### B. Planning

## 1. Moser Court Parking

With the addition of commuter service in 2023, BCRTA will be adding eight vehicles to the fleet. BCRTA also expects to take delivery of longawaited small bus purchases in 2023. This combination of expansion and rise in service demand indicates a need for expanded parking. Staff will be issuing a task order as part of the new A&E contract to evaluate current parking, identify alternatives, price options, and design a final alternative for construction.

#### 2. Transit Studies

MTS's final study report should be available soon. BCRTA's Short Range Planning Study (SRPS) is underway. A project website has been launched at <u>www.bcrtatransitplan.com</u>. The website is also accessible from the "Major Projects" menu on the BCRTA homepage. The consultant, Kimley-Horn, was onsite to collect public opinion and drive rider survey responses in early April. Stakeholder surveys will be coming out soon.

#### 3. Regional Gap Study

As part of the new regional transit collaborative, BCRTA will join with other local transit systems to engage a consultant to specifically examine and recommend change to address jurisdictional and boundary issues and limitations with regional travel patterns. Study cost will be shared among the systems, with SORTA likely absorbing the most expense. A report should be due late in 2022.

#### 4. Alternative Fuel Study

BCRTA is participating in a joint engagement with Cincinnati Metro and TANK to evaluate regional needs and feasibility for future alternative fuel vehicles. Staff will be meeting with project partners and the selected consultant this month to get started.

#### 5. Chestnut Street Multimodal Station

The Part I concept design report and Part II schematic design reports have been posted to the <u>BCRTA "Major Projects" webpage.</u>

The latest cost estimate is just over \$20M which does not include the total design fee or bus wash facility. The estimate does include contingency costs. Staff are aggressively pursuing cost savings in design and additional funding if available. Complete value engineering will require the BCRTA Board to continue to the next phase of authorization on the A&E contract to achieve 60% design and a new cost estimate.

BCRTA has requested an additional \$450,000 from CMAQ and more than \$2.7M in available 5307 funds lapsing elsewhere in the State.

Lease negotiations have ramped up in the last month, but no agreement has been reached yet.

#### C. Outreach & Communications

#### 1. City of Middletown

BCRTA lost its primary liaison with the City of Middletown, Susan Cohen. Mrs. Cohen has taken a new position in Union Township. A new liaison has not yet been selected.

#### 2. BCRTA "Cash-In" Incentive Program

Staff are working to prepare an incentive program to reward vaccinated passengers and also incentivize passengers with old paper media to exchange it for EZfare media. Staff plan to begin holding a series of events that will allow people to demonstrate their vaccine status and receive up to \$150 in EZfare funds (funded by ODOT RCI) or turn in old paper BCRTA media and receive an increased value in EZfare media. Marketing should launch in late April and early May.

#### 3. BCRTA Trustee Vacancies

Staff have reposted the opening to attract additional candidates to fill underrepresented positions on the Board.

Candidates must have the endorsement of the BCRTA Board and a background check, competed by the county administrator, before being appointed.

## D. Funding & Discretionary Grant Availability

#### 1. Congressionally Directed Spending

Sen. Sherrod Brown's office is accepting requests for Congressionally Directed spending for the next federal fiscal year. NEORide is

collaborating with its members to work through planning steps and software acquisition to operate regional call centers to improve crossorganizational performance and regional travel for ADA and transit users. NEORide will be requesting these funds to advance the project. BCRTA is a project partner and has provided a letter of support.

#### 2. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

This is an HISTORIC piece of legislation for transit. BCRTA will see a significant increase in 5307 and 5339 formula funds. The competitive discretionary bus and bus facilities program and low/no emissions programs will also receive historic increases that will have transformational change on public transit in the US. Staff are still familiarizing themselves with the changes. It is still likely that local match will continue to be critical after federal stimulus dollars run out. Although the dollars are generally intended for capital, BCRTA expects to be able to program some money for preventative maintenance and operating assistance. Operating allowances for small systems like BCRTA have not yet been published.

Based upon estimates provided by FTA and APTA, BCRTA and MTS may expect the following changes if the legislation was passed as proposed:

Agency	2021 5307 Funding	2022 Estimated	Difference
BCRTA	2,098,087	3,143,970	1,045,883
MTS	1,481,697	2,339,551	857,854

No data has become available yet on small system operating caps that allows BCRTA to use a portion of this funding for operating rather than capital purposes.

#### E. On the Horizon ...

#### 1. Upcoming Procurements >\$25,000

- a) A&E On Call Task Order Moser Court Parking Lot Expansion
- b) Tires
- c) Chestnut Fields A&E Part III
- d) Chestnut Fields A&E Part IV
- e) Commuter Services Marketing & Branding Services (on behalf of MTS)
- f) Procurement, Maintenance, and Finance Software Integrated Solution

Mr. Dutkevicz added that the proposed driver wage increases were expected to roll out in May. He added that he did not expect the change to affect 2022 appropriations but allowed that he will bring any changes needed back to the board if the need arises.

Mr. Dutkevicz also suggested that it might be time to convene a Board retreat. Mr. Dutkevicz agreed to have staff work on an RFP for a facilitator barring any objection from the Board.

Mr. Lawson thanked Mr. Morgan for his transparency in the metrics report. Mr. Foster agreed.

#### IX. Adjourn

Mr. Watt moved to adjourn, and Mr. Gordon seconded. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 09:32 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew M. Dutkevicz, Executive Director

Approved

### **APPENDIX A – Comments from Citizens**

### Chris Hoffer

To: BCRTA Board of Trustees April 20, 2022

BCRTA was created by the Butler County Commissioners in 1994 as a public agency in accordance with Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 306 to be governed by a nine-member Board of Trustees appointed by the Butler County Commissioners with the intention of resulting in a coordinated transportation program that better meets the needs of the residents of the county to:

Provide access to health and human service programs.

Better foster the economic development and vitality of the county by providing better access to jobs, education, shopping and government services.

Conserve energy and reduce pollution.

Become the designated grantee (designated by the Ohio Governor) for federal and state transportation funds within the Cincinnati Urbanized Area of Butler County.

Serve as a broker of transportation services for various county boards and agencies that wish to contract with the BCRTA to manage their transportation needs.

Let's see how the Board is not meeting the needs of Butler County and it's residents as outlined by their mission set up by the Butler County Commissioners.

BCRTA has fallen very short of providing transportation of residents to jobs, education, shopping and government services. Going back to just January of 2022, BCRTA denied over 900 trips to clients who needed to use BCRTA services. Shortly after this, BCRTA suspended Routes R2, R4 and B-Go Service to the taxpayers of this community. As you can see BCRTA is reducing service not increasing service to meet the growing needs of this community. Covid is not to be blamed. Pre-Covid, BCRTA has been a hiring factory only to see drivers leave at an extremely high level. BCRTA has a hiring and retention problem. Executives at BCRTA and the BCRTA Board have moved way slow to fix this issue. Some users have lost their jobs as a result of not having B-Go available. The Board plans to review a new pay package for the drivers. Before you vote to accept this too little to late package consider these facts. BCRTA is competing against Cincinnati Metro, Dayton RTA, Amazon Package Drivers starting at \$18.25/hr plus large bonuses, Office Depot Delivery Driver at \$19.00/hr, Kroger Home Deliver \$19.00 to name a few. Companies are in competition against each other to land qualified candidates. Please consider an option on pay that is higher than the \$16.50 starting pay and the \$20 + for senior workers. Ask yourself, do I want to fix this issue.

Next, you might ask how do we pay this. Fortunately, BCRTA is financially strong to pay higher wages for the next 3 plus years. The Board must start work today to find revenue sources to support this bus company and meet the service needs of this community.

Thanks for listening,

Chris Hoffer Chrishoffer79@gmail.com

Revenue Sources to explore. Will not be easy. Must lobby, get buy in, etc.

Sales Taxes BCRTA Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes April 20, 2022 Gas Taxes Rental Car Tax License, Registration or Title Fees D. Tire Tax Weight-Based Vehicle Sales Taxes F. Vehicle Battery Tax Weight Mile Truck Fee Toll Roads, Development and Real Estate Charges Storm Water Fees Real Estate Transfer Tax Parking Tax

**Development Impact Fees** 

#### Whitney Harris

On the paper schedule for the R3, the stops at Main and Eaton going BOTH WAYS (to Oxford and from Oxford) are NOT listed. ON the app, as well as BuzTrakr, only the stop for Main and Eaton going towards Oxford is listed. The only way I knew that there was a stop at Main and Eaton going towards Hamilton was because someone activated the stop request...

Going to Oxford (Northbound), the Main and Eaton stop is announced on the bus, going towards Hamilton (Southbound), it is not, and after the Butler County Lumber stop, the screen displays that the next stop is Main and D street (Armstead Park).

I have attached photos as well as a video, on the next page, to clarify this issue more clearly.

#### \*\*\*PLEASE SEE THE COMMENT BELOW ABOUT THE R3 SUMMER SCHEDULE\*\*\*

The R3 going down to every other hour in the summer poses an issue for me getting to school. This summer, I have an internship that is sponsored by my school, and I need to be at school no later than 9:00am. With the R3 only being every other hour, the only options I can take from my house are 5:55 and 7:55am. The 5:55am is too early for me, as I need to get adequate sleep because of my medical condition, the 7:55am will make me late. There is not another bus I can take. I will leave Middletown at 6:30pm. Right now, I can connect to the 7:38pm R3 to get back to my residence located near the Fairfield area. With it going down to every 2 hours in the summer, my only options are the 8:22pm R3 (which I will have to ride from the hub to Oxford and then back around again), or the 9:38pm R3, meaning I have a 2 hour wait, outside, (which I cannot do in the summer because I overheat easily and quickly), at the hub, for the bus, not an ideal situation for safety. Getting home at 10pm after getting up at 4am is not an ideal situation for me either because of the amount of sleep I must get each night due to my medical condition. If I don't get enough sleep, I can have seizures and other health issues. My classmates have also been talking about how the R3 going down to every other hour in the summer will be a problem for them with not only school, but employment purposes, as not every employer is willing to work around the bus schedules. The R3 going down to every other hour also poses a major issue with me getting to my medical appointments, as I don't have another way around besides the bus, and I often cannot schedule around the bus schedule. My residence is too far to walk to the hub (especially in the heat of summer) to catch the bus, and it is too hard for me to get a ride even to the hub. I know that I am probably not the only one that has an issue with the summer R3 schedule each year.

Whitney Harris dontgiveup9638@gmail.com (513)-454-4176 (mobile) (513)-889-2602 (landline)

#### BCRTA Income Statement March 2022

	Year to Date Last Year	Year to Date This Year	Annual Budget	YTD % of Budget
Passenger Fares	46,998	2,573	116,400	2.2%
Contract Fares	31,444	78,031	140,800	55.4%
Partnership Transit Rev (COM)	475,465	442,323	1,980,000	22.3%
Transit Development Rev (MU)	450,596	573,494	2,025,250	28.3%
Mgt./Cons. Services	61,320	61,320	245,280	25.0%
Interest & Other	248,723	9,858	22,300	44.2%
Agency Funding	9,500	10,417	38,000	27.4%
Park-n-Ride Program	51,987	129,968	560,000	23.2%
State Funding	77,952	16,636	134,000	12.4%
Federal Funding	401,626	1,004,711	4,873,345	20.6%
Total Revenues	1,855,612	2,329,330	10,135,375	23.0%
Expenses				
Wages	726,065	740,085	3,481,326	21.3%
Fringes	192,110	345,345	1,867,153	18.5%
Services	126,939	155,471	1,064,360	14.6%
Materials & Supplies	139,917	192,651	598,350	32.2%
Utilities	25,057	22,501	131,152	17.2%
Insurance	53,183	71,468	219,828	32.5%
Purchased Transportation	51,987	129,968	560,000	23.2%
Misc. Items	37,505	15,219	79,900	19.0%
Contingency	17,065	-	20,000	0.0%
Total Expenses	1,369,828	1,672,708	8,022,069	20.9%
Gain/Loss before Depr, NP & OPEB Exp	485,784	656,622	2,113,306	31.1%
Local Share of Depreciation Exp		51,828	324,000	16.0%
Net Pension & OPEB Exp (Inc)		-	818,495	0.0%
Total Gain/(Loss)		604,794	970,811	62.3%

	Date	Reference	Jrnl	Trans Description	Debit Amt	Credit Amt	Balance
Checking - P	NC (Nationa	l City)					
	3/1/22			Beginning Balance			1,008,125.65
	3/1/22	02/01-28/22	CRJ	Farebox Receipts	392.00		
	3/1/22	!0398368	CRJ	Miami University	150,300.67		
	3/1/22	03/01/22	GENJ	Service Charge		3.00	
	3/3/22	PRWE 02/25/22	GENJ			17,834.62	
	3/3/22	PRWE 02/25/22	GENJ			96,337.58	
	3/3/22	PRWE 02/25/22	GENJ			1,960.32	
	3/3/22	PRWE 02/25/22	GENJ			1,977.88	
	3/3/22	!0398510	CRJ	Miami University	126,614.91		
	3/4/22	AT-03/04/2022	CDJ	Paycom		1,020.49	
	3/4/22	10445	CDJ	Affordable Pest Control Inc.		50.00	
	3/4/22	10446	CDJ	BCRTA Petty Cash		495.14	
	3/4/22	10447	CDJ	Barry L Brown Paving LLC		9,800.00	
	3/4/22	10448	CDJ	Cincinnati Bell Any Distance		514.37	
	3/4/22	10449	CDJ	Cummins Bridgeway LLC		503.52	
	3/4/22	10450	CDJ	Cornett's Pressure Cleaning		695.00	
	3/4/22	10451	CDJ	Finn All Seasons		318.50	
	3/4/22	10452	CDJ	Health Transit Pool of Ohio		55,000.00	
	3/4/22	10453	CDJ	Minuteman Press - Fairfield		339.00	
	3/4/22	10454	CDJ	Ohio Deferred Compensation		890.00	
	3/4/22	10455	CDJ	RICOH USA, INC		22.70	
	3/4/22	10456	CDJ	STAR Ohio		1,700,176.60	
	3/4/22	10457	CDJ	Trebor Electrical Contractors		555.00	
	3/4/22	10457	CDJ	Vanguard Cleaning Systems Of O		825.00	
	3/4/22	10459	CDJ	Verizon Wireless		2,552.96	
	3/4/22	03/04/2022	CRJ	BCRTA Items	873,566.11	2,332.90	
	3/4/22	0045996605	CRJ	Ohio Department of Transportat	20,334.65		
	3/4/22	0045970885	CRJ		1,160.00		
	3/4/22		CRJ	Ohio Dept of Medicaid	,		
		01094328		Butler County Veterans Service	3,784.46		
	3/4/22	01094329	CRJ	Butler County Veterans Service	7,355.76		
	3/4/22	01094330	CRJ	Butler County Veterans Service	10,005.85		
	3/4/22	4920749	CRJ	BCRTA Items	25.00	2 1 4 2 5 4	
	3/7/22	AT-03/07/2022	CDJ	BCRTA PNC Card Purchases		3,143.56	
	3/11/22	ACH03/11/2022	CDJ	SuperFleet Mastercard Program		31,496.48	
	3/11/22	10460	CDJ	16 Points Solutions		150.00	
	3/11/22	10461	CDJ	Amazon Capital Services		1,391.91	
	3/11/22	10462	CDJ	Richard L. Bowen & Associates,		10,357.20	
	3/11/22	10463	CDJ	Cintas Corporation		1,242.05	
	3/11/22	10464	CDJ	Finn All Seasons		318.50	
	3/11/22	10465	CDJ	Fuller Ford		335.58	
	3/11/22	10466	CDJ	Fleet Pride		71.45	
	3/11/22	10467	CDJ	GMV SYNCROMATICS		104,970.00	
	3/11/22	10468	CDJ	Isaac Wiles Burkholder & Teeto		3,534.00	
	3/11/22	10469	CDJ	Jani-King of Cincinnati LLC		137.50	
	3/11/22	10470	CDJ	KOI Enterprises, Inc.		1,205.68	
	3/11/22	10471	CDJ	Millennium Business Systems,LL		324.85	
	3/11/22	10472	CDJ	Minuteman Press - Fairfield		135.00	
	3/11/22	10473	CDJ	Overhead Door of Greater Cinci		505.50	
	3/11/22	10474	CDJ	Office Depot Inc.		8.22	

3/11/22	10475	CDJ	Ohio Hydraulics Inc.		121.08
3/11/22	10476	CDJ	PERS		59,458.92
3/11/22	10477	CDJ	Ports Petroleum Co Inc		1,480.00
3/11/22	10478	CDJ	Port Technology LLC		1,968.95
3/11/22	10479	CDJ	Rumpke Of Ohio Inc.		260.09
3/11/22	10480	CDJ	Sportsworks Global LLC		1,103.06
3/11/22	10481	CDJ	Talawanda School District		11,880.22
3/11/22	03/11/2022	CRJ	BCRTA Items	120,715.00	
3/16/22	283883	CRJ	City of Middletown	192,854.16	
3/16/22	0046045151	CRJ	BCRTA Items	1,940.50	
3/16/22	01094882	CRJ	Butler County Veterans Service	12,028.65	
3/16/22	282260	CRJ	Farebox Receipts	4.56	
3/17/22	PRWE 03/11/22	GENJ			98,676.50
3/17/22	PRWE 03/11/22	GENJ			17,902.18
3/17/22	PRWE 03/11/22	GENJ			2,043.01
3/17/22	PRWE 03/11/22	GENJ	Check 1467		1,114.02
3/17/22	AT-03/17/2022	CDJ	Paycom		173.90
3/17/22	AT/03-17/22	CDJ	Paycom		1,040.50
3/18/22	PRWE 03/11/22A	GENJ			2.71
3/18/22	PRWE 03/11/22A	GENJ			48.02
3/18/22	10482	CDJ	Cintas Uniforms		1,480.64
3/18/22	10483	CDJ	Bryce's Lawncare & Landscaping		250.00
3/18/22	10484	CDJ	Brighton Spring Service		125.00
3/18/22	10485	CDJ	Cummins Bridgeway LLC		8,108.06
3/18/22	10486	CDJ	City of Hamilton - Utilities		4,332.64
3/18/22	10487	CDJ	Cornett's Pressure Cleaning		1,365.00
3/18/22	10488	CDJ	Cintas Uniforms		1,477.49
3/18/22	10489	CDJ	Fuller Ford		300.00
3/18/22	10490	CDJ	Gillig		1,646.58
3/18/22	10491	CDJ	Hunter Marketing		11,471.29
3/18/22	10492	CDJ	Kimley-Horn And Associates, In		6,929.00
3/18/22	10493	CDJ	Myers Equipment Corporation		994.80
3/18/22	10494	CDJ	Ohio Deferred Compensation		890.00
3/18/22	10495	CDJ	Prefered Fire Protection		236.75
3/18/22	10496	CDJ	Refitt's LLC		400.00
3/18/22	10497	CDJ	Vanguard Cleaning Systems Of O		825.00
3/25/22	10498	CDJ	Apple Spice Junction		1,245.23
3/25/22	10499	CDJ	Bethesda Healthcare Inc.		174.25
3/25/22	10500	CDJ	Brighton Spring Service		150.00
3/25/22	10501	CDJ	Cornett's Pressure Cleaning		3,015.00
3/25/22	10502	CDJ	Clarke Power Services		15,083.04
3/25/22	10503	CDJ	Fuller Ford		5,465.66
3/25/22	10504	CDJ	Frank's Heavy Truck Collision		1,661.00
3/25/22	10505	CDJ	GemCity Tires, Inc		1,522.95
3/25/22	10506	CDJ	ODACS, LLC		325.00
3/25/22	10507	CDJ	Office Depot Inc.		16.41
3/25/22	10508	CDJ	Ohio Newspapers, Inc.		63.95
3/25/22	10509	CDJ	Treasurer State of Ohio		661.50
3/25/22	10510	CDJ	Verizon Wireless		88.49
3/25/22	10510 10509V	CDJ	Treasurer State of Ohio	661.50	00.77
3/25/22	10509V 10510V	CDJ	Verizon Wireless	88.49	
علما الرمو ال	100101		. enzon whereas	50.77	

	3/25/22	10511	CDJ	Treasurer State of Ohio		661.50	
	3/25/22	10512	CDJ	Verizon Wireless		88.49	
	3/25/22	03252022	CRJ	Ohio Transit Risk Pool	1,219.00		
	3/31/22	PRWE 03/25/22	GENJ			1,898.77	
	3/31/22	PRWE 03/25/22	GENJ	Check		974.61	
	3/31/22	PRWE 03/25/22	GENJ			95,454.95	
	3/31/22	PRWE 03/25/22	GENJ			17,438.22	
	3/31/22	PRWE 03/25/22	GENJ			2,043.01	
	3/31/22	AT 04/01/2022	CDJ	Paycom		1,051.21	
				Current Period Change	1,523,051.27	2,438,387.81	-915,336.54
	3/31/22			Ending Balance			92,789.11
Savings - PN	C (National C	ity)					
	3/1/22			Beginning Balance			49,307.99
	3/1/22	03/01/22	GENJ	Service Charge		4.38	
	3/31/22	03/31/22	GENJ	Interest Income	0.42		
	3/31/22	CC 03/31/22	CRJ	Farebox Receipts	11.69		
				Current Period Change	12.11	4.38	7.73
	3/31/22			Ending Balance			49,315.72
Savings - PN	C Bank						
	3/1/22			Beginning Balance			1,873,578.48
	3/1/22	03/01/22	GENJ	Service Charge		2.00	
	3/4/22	03/04/2022	CRJ	BCRTA Items - to checking - STAR xfer		873,566.11	
	3/11/22	03/11/2022	CRJ	BCRTA Items - to Checking		120,715.00	
	3/31/22	03/31/22	GENJ	Interest Income	8.52		
				Current Period Change	8.52	994,283.11	-994,274.59
	3/31/22			Ending Balance			879,303.89
STAR Ohio							
	3/1/22			Beginning Balance			2,001,087.47
	3/1/22	030122XFER	РJ	STAR Ohio - STAR TRANSFER FUNDS AT 03.01	1,700,176.60		
	3/31/22	03/31/22	GENJ	Interest Income	784.39		
				– Current Period Change	1,700,960.99		1,700,960.99
	3/31/22			Ending Balance			3,702,048.46

#### BCRTA Balance Sheet March 2022

#### Assets

Current Assets Checking - PNC Savings - PNC Savings - PNC STAR Ohio M&S Inventory	92,789.11 49,315.72 879,303.89 3,702,048.46 57,817.91	*Other Assets Net Pension Asset Net OPEB Asset Deferred Outflows-Pensions Deferred Outflows-OPEB	37,624.00 347,230.00 513,337.00 228,073.00	
Petty Cash	1,000.00	Property & Equipment		
Accounts Receivable	1,652,847.50	Vehicles	12,087,369.05	
Prepaids	139,603.95	Buildings & Land	2,734,604.53	
		Furniture & Equipment	1,371,267.71	
		Amenities & Misc.	69,631.89	
		WIP-Building	67,953.25	
		WIP-Technology Upgrade	709,765.94	
		WIP-Chestnut Fields	387,395.52	
		Accum. Depr.	(8,747,022.91)	
	6,574,726.54		9,807,228.98	Total Assets
				16,381,955.52
Liabilities & Equity				
Current Liabilities		*Long-term Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	167,603.60	Net Pension Liability	2,837,919.00	
Payroll Payables	61,450.26	Deferred Inflows-Pensions	1,354,577.00	
Other Payables	-	Deferred Inflows-OPEB	1,137,453.00	
Accrued PTO	148,508.41			
Reserve ACA Fines	-	Equity		
FTA Vehicle Funds	68,131.00	Balance Equity	2,861,645.23	
Future Match Funds	20,833.30	Federal & State Capital	15,262,553.25	
Unearned Tickets	28,119.50	Local Capital	89,410.00	
		Retained Earnings	(8,312,870.02)	
		Net Income	656,621.99	Total Liabilities
			15,887,309.45	and Capital
	494,646.07			16,381,955.52

## BCRTA Cash Reserves

March 2022

Current Assets	6,574,726.54	
Current Liabilities	(494,646.07)	
Available Funds	6,080,080.47	
Board Reserves		
Local Share Grant Obligations		
OH-2018-21-00	315,662.00	
OH-2021-56-00	92,676.00	
OH-2021-60-00	1,227,721.00	
Pending Federal Chestnut Fields Project (STBG Funds)	1,125,000.00	
Less Miami University Chestnut Fields Match	(1,600,000.00)	
Less Projected Local Match	(1,175,006.00)	MU, MED, R6, VA
Match Required or (Overmatch)	(13,947.00)	
FTA Grants	-	Match Required
Working Capital Funds (2 Mths.)	1,247,033.00	
Capital Replacement Funds	2,598,150.00	2022 - 2026 Local Share of Projects Not Yet on Grants
Contingency Funds	-	
Total Board Reserves	3,845,183.00	
Non-Restricted Funds	2,234,897.47	

# **BCRTA Resolution No. 22-05-01**

# Appointing Directors to the Transit Alliance of Butler County (TABC) Board of Directors.

**Whereas** the Transit Alliance Board of Directors amended its Code of Regulations as of August 18, 2008 to make BCRTA its sole member; and

Whereas the TABC Code of Regulations requires that the corporation have at least nine (9) directors and collectively they shall be known as the Board of Directors; and

**Whereas** the TABC Code of Regulations requires that the Member elect the Directors of the Corporation.

**Now, therefore be it resolved** that the BCRTA Board of Trustees hereby appoints the following individuals to three (3) year terms as members of the Board of Directors of the TABC.

- Ms. Melissa O'Brien, Reappointment
  - $\circ$   $\ \ \,$  term to expire June 30, 2025

Furthermore, the BCRTA Board of Trustees authorizes the Executive Director to work with the TABC Board of Directors to take all actions necessary to enact this resolution.

Adopted May 18, 2022.

Perry Gordon Vice President Matthew Dutkevicz Executive Director

# Supporting Ohio Department of Transportation and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Collaborative Federal Funding Application for the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor.

**Whereas** the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) are soliciting the support of regional stakeholders for the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor; and

**Whereas** the proposed Corridor Project will construct a critical companion bridge to the existing Brent Spence Bridge, improve traffic flow on the existing bridge, and construct improvements to the interstate network throughout an eight-mile corridor from the Western Hills Viaduct in Ohio to the Dixie Highway in Kentucky; and

**Whereas** The Brent Spence Bridge, which carries Interstate 71/75 over the Ohio River, is currently accommodating 160,000 vehicles per day, twice the capacity it was designed to safely accommodate when it opened in 1963; and

**Whereas** the Corridor Project represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity with a strong bi-state commitment to improve both quality of life and equitable access to employment hubs and other destinations for those who live and work in the region; and

**Whereas** Ohio and Kentucky have committed significant state funding to move the Corridor Project forward upon securing the necessary federal support.

**Now, therefore be it resolved** that the BCRTA Board of Trustees hereby declares its full support for this funding request and looks forward to the successful completion of the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor.

Adopted May 18, 2022.

Perry Gordon Vice President Matthew Dutkevicz Executive Director



Mr. Christopher Lawson, President City of Hamilton

> Mr. Perry Gordon, Vice President City of Oxford Police Department

Mr. Travis C. Bautz MidPointe Library System

Mr. David Fehr Butler County Department of Development

Mr. James A. Foster

Ms. Nancy Schmitt UC Health West Chester Hospital

Mr. Corey Watt

Ms. Kathy Wyenandt

#### **Executive Director** Mr. Matthew M. Dutkevicz

Legal Counsel Mr. Mark Landes Isaac Wiles Burkholder & Teetor, LLC



May 18, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg Secretary of Transportation US Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA) we are excited to share our support for the **Brent Spence Bridge Corridor Project's** federal funding application submitted by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in collaboration with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC). The Corridor Project will construct a critical companion bridge to the existing Brent Spence Bridge, improve traffic flow on the existing bridge, and construct improvements to the interstate network throughout an eight-mile corridor from the Western Hills Viaduct in Ohio to the Dixie Highway in Kentucky.

The Brent Spence Bridge, which carries Interstate 71/75 over the Ohio River, is currently accommodating 160,000 vehicles per day, twice the capacity it was designed to safely accommodate when it opened in 1963. The bridge also carries nearly 43 million tons of goods by truck annually. With 70 percent of the current one million regional jobs located within five miles of the I-71/75 corridor and expected significant future growth, the lack of a companion bridge will stifle the ability of the region to prosper in the future.

The Corridor Project represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity with a strong bi-state commitment to improve both quality of life and equitable access to employment hubs and other destinations for those who live and work in the region. This project will support local business growth while also improving one of the most important national corridors for commerce and freight stretching from Michigan to Florida on I-75. Building a new companion bridge to the west of the existing bridge will improve safety and ease both regional and local congestion. The additional river crossing capacity and improvements to bridge approaches both north and south will also improve air quality and increase system resiliency.

Ohio and Kentucky have committed significant state funding to move the Corridor Project forward upon securing the necessary federal support. Business, transportation, political, civic and community leaders have come together to ensure the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor Project is successful. BCRTA is proud to be part of the regional coalition that understands the importance of this project locally, regionally, and nationally. We fully support this funding request and look forward to the successful completion of the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor Project.

Sincerely,



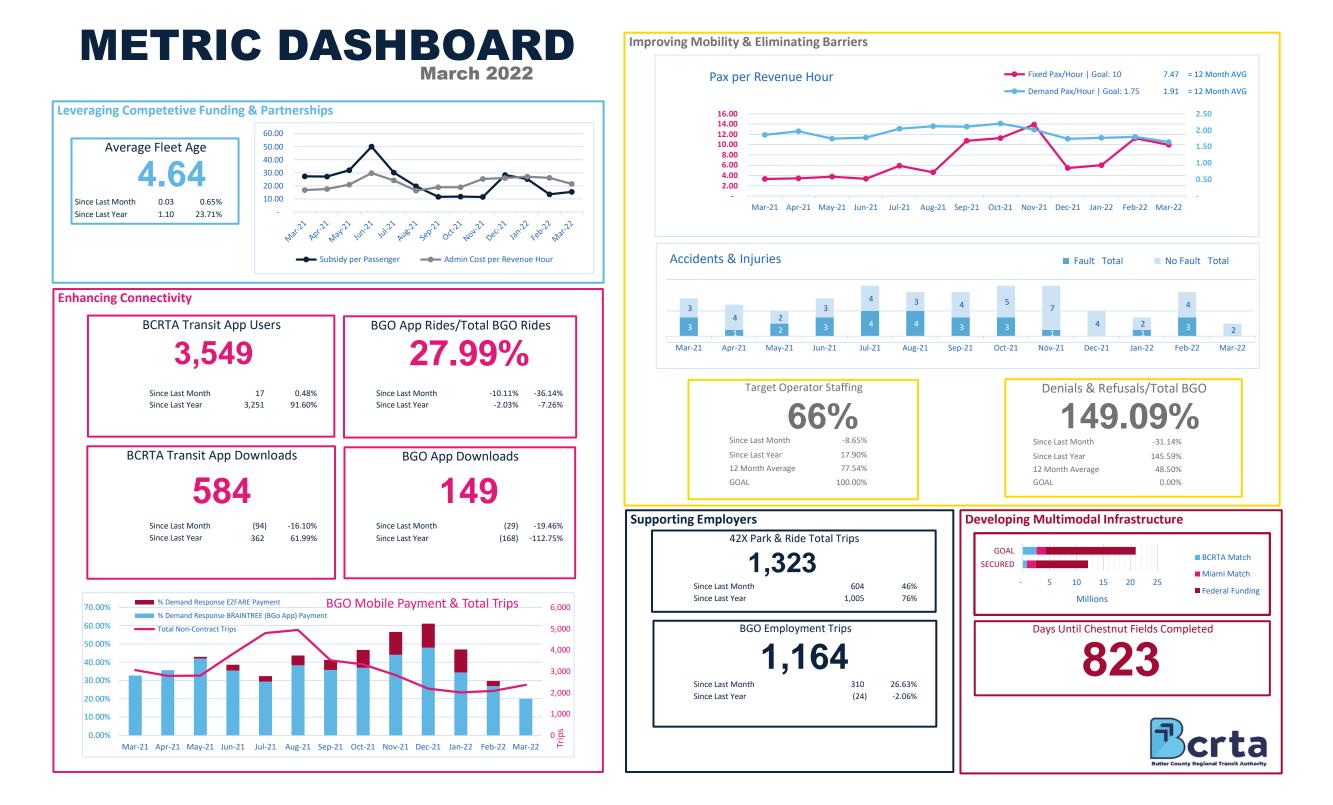


# BCRTA BOARD OF TRUSTEES CANDIDATES

MAY 2022

Candidate Name	Interviewed by Executive Committee	Highlights
Chafin, Amanda Applied 5/10/2021	Oct 20, 2021	County Resident: YES - Hamilton College - Master of Science BCRTA Rider Employer: Lane Community Library
Hoffer, Christopher Applied 1/11/2022	Jan 19, 2022	County Resident: YES – Liberty TWP College - Bachelor of Science Retired Executive with USPS <i>Employer: BCRTA</i>
Stover, David Applied 9/29/2021	Oct 20, 2021	County Resident: No Some College Former BCRTA Vehicle Operator Employer: Unknown (retired)
Wilson-Harris, Whitney Applied 5/19/2021	Oct 20, 2021	County Resident: YES - Fairfield Some College BCRTA Rider Employer: Unknown
Linda Yarger Applied 3/29/2022	April 20, 2022	County Resident: Yes – Liberty TWP College – Bachelor of Arts – Business Management Former president of Fairfield Community Foundation Employer: retired
Amelia Glenchur Applied 3/14/2022	April 20, 2022	County Resident: Yes - Hamilton College – Bachelor of Science Elderly care experience Employer: Lifespan, Inc

Nick Bauer	TBD	County Resident: Yes - Hamilton
Applied 4/21/2022		College – Bachelor of Fine Arts
		Local business owner
		Employer: DBS Stainless Steel Fabricators



# Director's Notes - May 2022

# A. Staffing & Facility

1. Staffing

BCRTA staffing is becoming a critical weakness. Attrition still outpaces new hires and prospecting new applicants has been a monumental task. BCRTA must continue to retain current workforce AND adapt practices to engage new talent. Staff are devoting significant effort to addressing this objective.

BCRTA is currently seeking to fill the following positions:

#### **Open Positions**

Bus Driver - Fixed Route	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: BCRTA Type: Full Time
Bus Driver - No CDL Required	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Operations Type: Full Time
Bus Driver Trainer	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Operations Type: Full Time
Customer Service Supervisor	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Type: Full Time
HRIS Analyst - Sr. HR Generalist	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Type: Full Time
Administrative Specialist	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: BCRTA Type: Full Time
Dispatcher - Full time	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Operations Type: Full Time
Dispatcher - Part time	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Operations Type: Part Time
Street Supervisor	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Operations Type: Full Time
Planning & Special Projects Manager	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Administration Type: Full Time
SafeRide - Night Shift Van Drivers	Location: Oxford, OH Department: Operations Type: Part Time
TABC Board of Directors	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Transit Alliance of Butler County Type: Volunteer
Trustee	Location: Hamilton, OH Department: Board of Trustees Type: Volunteer

A biweekly email digest of open positions is available. Please contact Mary Jane Leveline, BCRTA Talent & Benefits Manager (<u>levelinem@butlercountyrta.com</u>) if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

#### 2. Vaccination

BCRTA staff is 72% vaccinated for Covid-19 as of May 5, 2022. 61 employees are boosted, 12 have declined vaccination, and 15 have not reported.

# B. Planning

#### 1. Moser Court Parking

With the addition of commuter service in 2023, BCRTA will be adding eight vehicles to the fleet. BCRTA also expects to take delivery of long-awaited small bus purchases in 2023. This combination of expansion and rise in service demand indicates a need for expanded parking. Staff will be issuing a task order as part of the new A&E contract to evaluate current parking, identify alternatives, price options, and design a final alternative for construction.

# 2. Transit Studies

BCRTA's Short Range Planning Study (SRPS) is underway. A project website has been launched at <u>www.bcrtatransitplan.com</u>. The website is also accessible from the "Major Projects" menu on the BCRTA homepage. The consultant, Kimley-Horn, was onsite to collect public opinion and drive rider survey responses in early April. Focus groups have been gathering during late April and early May.

# 3. Chestnut Street Multimodal Station

The Part I concept design report and Part II schematic design reports have been posted to the <u>BCRTA "Major Projects" webpage.</u>

The latest cost estimate is just over \$20M which does not include the total design fee or bus wash facility. The estimate does include contingency costs. Staff are aggressively pursuing cost savings in design and additional funding if available. Complete value engineering will require the BCRTA Board to continue to the next phase of authorization on the A&E contract to achieve 60% design and a new cost estimate.

BCRTA has requested an additional \$450,000 from CMAQ and more than \$2.7M in available 5307 funds lapsing elsewhere in the State.

Lease negotiations have ramped up in the last month, but no agreement has been reached yet.

C. Outreach & Communications

# 1. Brent Spence Bridge Support

ODOT has requested a letter of support from BCRTA for a grant application funding the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor project. A resolution is included on the May agenda.

## 2. City of Middletown

BCRTA lost its primary liaison with the City of Middletown, Susan Cohen. Mrs. Cohen has taken a new position in Union Township. A new liaison has not yet been selected.

## 3. "Max Your Vax" Incentive Program

"Max Your Vax" kicked off in early May allowing people to demonstrate their vaccine status and receive up to \$150 in EZfare funds (funded by ODOT RCI). Initial efforts have been focused on the 42X to boost commuter ridership back to pre-pandemic levels. Staff will examine expanding the program as BGo services can return.

## 4. BCRTA Trustee Vacancies

Staff have reposted the opening to attract additional candidates to fill underrepresented positions on the Board.

Candidates must have the endorsement of the BCRTA Board and a background check,

# Director's Notes - May 2022

competed by the county administrator, before being appointed.

D. Funding & Discretionary Grant Availability

# 1. Congressionally Directed Spending

Sen. Sherrod Brown's office is accepting requests for Congressionally Directed spending for the next federal fiscal year. NEORide is collaborating with its members to work through planning steps and software acquisition to operate regional call centers to improve cross-organizational performance and regional travel for ADA and transit users. NEORide will be requesting these funds to advance the project. BCRTA is a project partner and has provided a letter of support.

E. On the Horizon ...

# 1. Upcoming Procurements >\$25,000

- a) A&E On Call Task Order Moser Court Parking Lot Expansion
- b) Tires
- c) Chestnut Fields A&E Part III
- d) Chestnut Fields A&E Part IV
- e) Commuter Services Marketing & Branding Services (on behalf of MTS)
- f) Procurement, Maintenance, and Finance Software Integrated Solution

# Director's Notes - May 2022

#### Strategic Vision 2025

As Ohio's public transit innovator, BCRTA provides smart mobility options and infrastructure that seamlessly connect people to employers, educational, healthcare, and recreational destinations.

Leverage competitive federal funding and forge mutually beneficial partnerships with organizations, including incubators, chambers, universities, start-ups, economic development bodies, and planning professionals.

- Expand participation in NeoRide as appropriate to address needs and improve grant funding
- Sustain Miami University relationship, plan for future
- Retain BCVSC and BCDD contracts
- Leverage MTS transit plan and maintain relationship with City of Middletown
- Improve DBE access
- Keep finger on pulse of autonomous tech
- Examine Cincinnati commuter service for ways to reduce cost (42X)

Enhance connectivity with constituents by leading in the implementation of new transit tech (onboard Wi-Fi tools).

- Test and expand onboard WIFI where possible
- Implement onboard validation for EZfare
- Expand BGO app service
- Launch new & updated website
- Expand use of real-time info signs and kiosks

Improve mobility access and eliminate barriers to ridership, especially for riders who may be elderly or have disabilities.

- Reduce DR fares to \$5.00
- Make peak BGO service available
- Hire operators to address demand
- Relocate customer service closer to riders
- Pursue payment options for unbanked
- Consider free fixed route fares

Support employers with effective workforce transportation in at least 75% of Butler County's densest corridors.

- Evaluate existing R routes for effectiveness and reallocate to improved frequency or BGO as necessary
- Solicit BGO services in employer-dense areas.
- Evaluate options for Spooky Nook connectivity
- Address Butler/Warren connection in Monroe

Develop multimodal infrastructure and wayfinding to create seamless user experiences.

- Accelerate completion/progress for Oxford Multimodal facility
- Improve Hamilton/Warren County connectivity for fixed route and ADA
- Eliminate paper transfers
- Address Transit Center convenience and utility (Hamilton, Oxford, Middletown)
- Improve regional connections with commuter service, rail, interurban bus, rideshare, bikeshare, scooters