Proposed Minutes Ann Arbor Transportation Authority Board of Directors Meeting October 17, 2007

AATA Headquarters, 2700 South Industrial Highway 7:30 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Paul C. Ajegba, Ted Annis, Eli Cooper, Charles Griffith, David Nacht

(Chair), Rich Robben

Board Members Absent:

Sue McCormick

Staff Present:

Terry Black, Francis Borzo, Ron Copeland, Dawn Gabay, Jan

Hallberg, Ed Robertson, Mary Stasiak, Phil Webb, Chris White

LAC Representative

Sam Breck

Recording Secretary:

Karen Wheeler

Mr. Nacht declared that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. Mr. Nacht announced that the Board will identify New Business items at the beginning of the meeting and make note of them. Mr. Nacht announced an addition to the agenda for the Board to discuss sending a congratulatory letter to the Capital Area Transportation Authority in Lansing who recently received an award for the best mid-size transit system in the country from the American Public Transportation Association.

1.0 Public Hearing

There was no public hearing.

2.0 Communications and Announcements

Mr. Nacht announced that AATA is expecting to receive information from the developer of William Street Station for a submission to the Federal Transit Administration. Ms. Gabay recently sent correspondence to the developer requesting the information. The Board continues to be on record as wanting to make the project move ahead. Mr. Nacht added that it is AATA's understanding that the City of Ann Arbor feels the same way. However, it remains unclear if the developer has the wherewithal to get the project done.

Mr. Nacht commented on an article that appeared in <u>The Ann Arbor News</u> acknowledging AATA for their efforts in continuing to fund a portion of bus service in Ypsilanti. Mr. Nacht thanked Ms. Stasiak for her efforts with regard to the article.

Mr. Nacht announced that some very productive committee meetings have taken place recently. Mr. Nacht stated that this fiscal year is going to be very active, and it is his intent, as Board Chair, to move forward an agenda of implementing some things that will be noticed by the public in the nature of service provided.

Mr. Cooper thanked staff for improving the physical appearance of the grounds around the Blake Transit Center in response to a communication he sent to Ms. Gabay.

Mr. Cooper announced an upcoming Ann Arbor Discovering Downtown (A2D2) joint policy board steering committee meeting scheduled for Monday, November 5, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. at the Downtown Development Authority offices.

3.0 Public Time

Jim Mogensen appeared before the Board. Mr. Mogensen commented on the issues that will be facing AATA in the future. Mr. Mogensen wants to be sure the Board understands there is a risk with the new way things may happen, and hopes the Board does not underestimate some of the things and run into difficulty like the University of Michigan did as part of their football stadium repair project.

Tom Partridge appeared before the Board. Mr. Partridge requested that the Board change its meeting schedule from the third Wednesday of the month to avoid a conflict with Washtenaw County Board of Commission meetings. Mr. Partridge requested that the Board change the location of Board meetings to a more appropriate public venue such as the Washtenaw County Chambers, Ann Arbor City Council Chambers, or Ypsilanti City Council Chambers, to accommodate a wider audience. Mr. Partridge requested that AATA Board meetings be broadcast on the Community Television Network for those who cannot attend. Mr. Partridge suggested that Board meetings be taped and available on CD.

Mr. Partridge requested that the Board preserve existing paratransit service in Scio Township and western Washtenaw County including the areas now served by the current A-Ride program, and specifically to the affordable apartment development Lakestone Apartments. Mr. Partridge, through a representative of the management office of Lakestone Apartments, requested data from AATA staff on the number of residents currently using the A-Ride program. Mr. Partridge received a copy of a letter mailed to the apartment complex manager listing the estimated annual cost of providing service as \$56,000 or \$57,000 and the estimated number of annual rides in excess of 5,000. However, there was no information as to number of users. Mr. Partridge indicated that while the figures were merely estimates, he feels that the numbers are inflated.

Mr. Partridge indicated that since AATA notified residents that paratransit service would end on September 30, several people have moved from the development. Mr. Partridge asked the Board again to use creativity, ingenuity and support to preserve A-Ride services for the development and similarly find service at least to the western campus of Washtenaw Community College in Scio Township. Mr. Partridge added that there is no paratransit

service available beyond his apartment community, in the Village of Dexter, the Village of Chelsea, or to other localities of western Washtenaw County.

No one further appearing, Mr. Nacht declared Public Time closed.

4.0 Review and Approval of Minutes

Mr. Griffith moved approval of the minutes with support from Mr. Annis.

- 4.1 Review and Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2007
- 4.2 Review and Approval of Minutes of September 27, 2007

Mr. Annis requested a change to item 5.1 Finance and Audit Committee Report replacing the words "a silly" tax that Ann Arbor residents voted upon themselves... with "the" tax that Ann Arbor residents voted upon themselves...

Mr. Cooper noted a correction to item 8.1 to delete the word "not" from the following statement: "Mr. Cooper recommended not deviating from the service standards in order to implement management control in paring weaker routes and devising innovative new strategies for improving service."

The amended minutes passed unanimously.

5.0 Board and Staff Reports

5.1 Treasurer's Report

Mr. Annis distributed and reviewed a written report which is attached hereto and included as part of the minutes. Mr. Annis noted that AATA's contract with U of M contains a termination clause whereby the contract can be terminated upon one year notification by either party to the other party. AATA is not locked in to the 2009 end date.

5.1.1 <u>First Close Report of Operations for Twelve Months Ended September 30,</u> 2007

Mr. Annis reported that the first close of the Reports of Operations shows a moderate five-figure gain versus the moderate five-figure loss projected in September.

5.2 Finance and Audit Committee Report

Mr. Annis distributed and reviewed a written report which is attached hereto and included as part of the minutes.

5.3 Policy and Operations Committee Report

Mr. Cooper distributed a written report and summarized the report which is attached hereto and included as part of the minutes.

Mr. Cooper announced that the committee supported active participation in the upcoming Ann Arbor Discovering Downtown (A2D2) meeting proposing that a statement of AATA's commitment to achieve the work outlined in the report be made at the meeting. Mr. Cooper and Mr. Nacht both indicated that they are pleased with the work completed by staff on the project thus far. Mr. White responded to questions from Mr. Annis on the details of commuter service contained in the report.

5.4 Personnel Committee Report

Mr. Robben distributed a written report and reviewed the report which is attached hereto and included as part of the minutes. Mr. Robben noted that the committee agreed that labor issues should be resolved prior to hiring a permanent Executive Director. Mr. Robben reported that the FY2008 Goals and Objectives will be submitted to the Board for approval in November.

Mr. Cooper suggested that there be two separate sets of goals and objectives; one for the Executive Director and one for the organization. Members of the Board and Ms. Gabay discussed the suggestion and the content of the draft document without resolution. Mr. Nacht requested that the discussion continue in committee.

5.5 Ad Hoc Committee Report

Mr. Robben reported that the Ad Hoc Committee met twice since the last Board meeting. Mr. Robben noted that the minutes in the Board packet included draft mission and vision statements and key strategies for the Board to review and consider. Mr. Robben indicated that the committee compiled a list of strategic initiatives and challenges. Mr. Robben asked if the full Board wanted to be involved in the next step of creating overarching themes for the items on the list of initiatives and challenges, or if the committee should move forward. It was agreed that the full Board will participate in the process and a working session scheduled prior to the November Board meeting to begin the work. Mr. Nacht invited the labor union to provide input on where they see AATA going in the next ten years.

Mr. Cooper announced that he proposed a strategy on land use considerations to the committee.

5.6 Washtenaw Area Transportation Study Report

There was no report as the WATS Policy Committee meeting was not held.

5.7 Local Advisory Council Report

Mr. Breck reported that the LAC would appreciate Board representation at their meetings. Mr. Breck reported that Mr. Clouse capably responded to questions from meeting attendees regarding service. A draft letter to the city traffic engineer requesting a traffic and speed study on South Industrial Highway was presented for approval by the Executive Committee. A final version of the letter will be presented for signature by LAC Chair Rebecca Burke at the November 13 LAC meeting. Mr. Breck suggested that Board members read the A-Ride User's Guide to gain an understanding of the rules and qualifications of the A-Ride program. Mr. Breck requested that staff forward a copy of the guide to Board members.

Mr. Nacht indicated that the Board will make an effort to have a presence at LAC meetings.

5.8 <u>Interim Executive Director's Report</u>

5.8.1 Report on September Performance Indicators

Ms. Gabay referred to the September Performance Indicators contained in the packet.

5.8.2 Report on Quarterly Operating Statistics

Ms. Gabay referred to the Quarterly Operating Statistics contained in the packet.

5.8.3 Report on Quarterly Service Standards Report

Ms. Gabay referred to the Quarterly Service Standards Report contained in the packet.

5.8.4 Report on FY 2007 Ridership Summary

Ms. Gabay asked Mr. White to report. Mr. White reported that there were very positive trends on almost all of the routes and relatively good productivity in passengers per service hour on most routes over the last fiscal year.

5.8.5 Report on Paratransit Service in Scio Township

Ms. Gabay reported that the Board directed staff to conduct research on paratransit service to Scio Township and to report on the cost of providing service from October 1 and November 30; the 60 day extension approved by the Board in September.

Staff estimated that to provide service equivalent to the service in Ann Arbor cost \$4,333 for the extended period. Staff also did some research work with People's Express of Northfield Human Services (NHS). A representative of People's Express estimated that one year of service would cost \$58,064, and that they have enough revenue available to operate service. However, this would not include Saturday, Sunday or late night service.

Ms. Gabay indicated that she would ask Scio Township to partner in the effort to provide funding for the gap in service currently being provided by SelectRide versus the service that could be provided by People's Express. Mr. Nacht noted that Scio Township has been given legal opinion that their Downtown Development Authority is not allowed to allocate funds to pay for bus service. The Township, however, could pay for service. Ms. Gabay indicated that despite that, and Scio Township's previous unwillingness to partner, she will ask again and report back to the Board in November.

Members of the Board discussed what will happen at the conclusion of the 60 day extension. Mr. Annis indicated that he will follow-up with Ms. McCormick on the availability of additional grant funds, and suggested that if no additional resources are identified, AATA should stop paying for the additional service. Ms. Gabay indicated that she spoke with Ms. McCormick regarding the funds and was directed first to the City Treasurer, and then the County. The grant funds in question are community development block grant (CDBG) funds available to Northfield Human Services through the county. Mr. White indicated that Northfield Human Services (People's Express) receives CDBG funds specifically for transportation, and Scio Township is one of the areas included in that. It is an amount of money that pays part of the cost of a Scio Township resident who is low income. Carolyn Grawi added that CDBG funds are also used to cover heating costs, and thus there are competing interests for those in need.

In response to a question from Mr. Nacht as to the number of residents of Lakestone Apartments who utilize the service, Thomas Partridge indicated that he knows of no more than six people who use the service. Mr. White indicated that in September 24 individuals in Scio Township received paratransit service. Most of the individuals live within the 3/4 mile range within a route where AATA is required to provide service in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. A total of 416 trips were taken.

Mr. Cooper clarified the issue as being the provider of choice, not whether there is an abandonment of service. The riders in question would continue to receive service provided by People's Express of Northfield Human Services. Mr. Cooper suggested that if the housing development can find the resources to continue with the same level of service, then service should continue. If

not, the riders will continue to receive the exact same level of service as every other traveler who lives outside the service area immediately adjacent to the city. Ms. Grawi noted that People's Express has a limited number of vehicles and a limited number of seats available.

In response to a question from Mr. Ajegba regarding the deadline for the extension of service, Ms. Gabay indicated November 30, 2007.

5.8.6 Update on Michigan Flyer Service

Ms. Gabay asked Mr. White to provide an update on Michigan Flyer service to the airport. Mr. White reported report that 53 passengers utilized the service on October 16; the highest ridership day so far. Michigan Flyer representatives are talking with AATA staff about extending the existing route to increase convenience by going into the U of M campus area. Michigan Flyer has approached local cab companies to try to work out a flat fee to get to and from their service. Michigan Flyer is experiencing difficulty at the airport with regard to identifying boarding locations, picking up walk on passengers, and fees.

Mr. Nacht reported on a conversation he had with a representative from Congressman John Dingell's office regarding Michigan Flyer service.

6.0 Question Time

There were no questions from the Board for Ms. Gabay.

7.0 Old Business

- 7.1 Mr. Nacht revisited the issue of a complaint received from the Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues received about a year ago regarding the location of AATA Board meetings and the fact that meetings are not televised. Mr. Nacht suggested that the Board may want to have cameras in the Board Room, or hold meetings at another location. Mr. Nacht noted that a similar request was made by a member of the public earlier in the meeting. A discussion ensued. Suggestions included holding a meeting at an alternate location such as Ann Arbor City Council Chambers or the Ann Arbor District Library as a test or planning to hold meetings in the new meeting room of William Street Station, once construction is complete. Another suggestion was to hold community outreach meetings to engage the public, instead of televising Board meetings. No consensus was reached on the issue.
- 7.2 Mr. Nacht announced that the vote to amend the Bylaws at the September Board meeting did not have the five votes required for an immediate amendment. Therefore, the Bylaws were not amended to eliminate the second Public Time on the agenda.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Congratulatory Letter to Capital Area Transportation Authority

Mr. Nacht moved that AATA commend the Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) on being named the Outstanding Mid-sized Public Transportation System by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). Mr. Cooper supported the motion. The motion carried with five yes votes (Ajegba, Cooper, Griffith, Nacht, Robben). Mr. Annis abstained stating that he would like more information about CATA.

Mr. Nacht asked Ms. Gabay to report to the Board at a future meeting on what impressed APTA about CATA's service so that AATA can learn from its neighbor.

9.0 Public Time

Jim Mogensen appeared before the Board. Mr. Mogensen commented on airport service, the 2X route and the public perception of the service. Mr. Mogensen commented on numerous plans underway that have transportation components suggesting that they have competing issues. Mr. Mogensen suggested that a policy issue will arise about how to maintain urbanized service versus providing expanded service for commuters. Mr. Mogensen noted that Ann Arbor taxpayers are paying a lot of money for service, and AATA is subsidizing service outside of the city where entities cannot afford to pay for service. Mr. Mogensen cautioned against implementing service without a community conversation about how to sort things out.

Tom Partridge appeared before the Board. Mr. Partridge was gratified that the Board made the decision to extend paratransit service to Scio Township in September. AATA staff conveyed to Mr. Partridge that since terminating fixed route service in western Washtenaw County in 2003, AATA continued to provide paratransit service to residents of Scio Township until June of 2007 when the residents were informed that the service would be terminated on September 30. Mr. Partridge requested that if additional funds to continue the service are not found in 60 days, that the Board continue the service for a minimum of one year.

Mr. Partridge indicated that it was his understanding that Ms. McCormick thought that it would be possible to find financing to maintain existing paratransit service in Scio Township, specifically services for the Lakestone affordable apartment development by an agreement with Scio Township, Washtenaw County administration, or other revenue authorities in the area to allocate a portion of the property taxes being paid by the 150 Lakestone apartment development on an annual basis to support the service. Mr. Partridge indicated that 60 days is an unreasonable period of time to seek grants from the federal and state governments. Mr. Partridge was informed by Washtenaw County Commissioner Mark Ouimet that the bus service for western Washtenaw County was supported by merchants in

Scio Township and western Washtenaw County.

Carolyn Grawi appeared before the Board. Ms. Grawi thanked AATA for placing an advertisement in the Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living's "Access" publication. Ms. Grawi distributed copies of the magazine to Board members.

Ms. Grawi commented on a "Get Active Campaign" from the Disability Network of Michigan to get information to legislators to support maintaining and increasing transit dollars. Ms. Grawi voiced her support for a Board member attending LAC meetings, and for holding two public time sessions during Board meetings.

No one further appearing, Mr. Nacht declared Public Time closed.

Mr. Nacht announced that the Executive Session was being held in accordance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, Public Act Number 267 of 1976, as amended, the section entitled "Closed Meetings":

The law provides for closed meetings in specified circumstances; the two that apply to this meeting are:

"strategy and negotiation sessions necessary in reaching a collective bargaining agreement..."

10.0 Executive Session – Labor Negotiations

Mr. Cooper moved to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations. Mr. Ajegba supported the motion. On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously (Robben – yes; Ajegba – yes; Cooper – yes; Griffith – yes; Annis – yes; Nacht – yes). The Executive Session commenced at 9:47 p.m.

Mr. Robben moved to close the Executive Session with support from Mr. Griffith. The motion passed unanimously. The Executive Session closed at 10:40 p.m.

11.0 Adjournment

Mr. Robben moved to adjourn the meeting with support from Mr. Ajegba. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Nacht adjourned the meeting at 10:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yare Wheeler for Eli Cooper, Secretary Date:

17 October 2007

To:

AATA Board

From:

AATA Treasurer. Ted Annis

Subject:

Treasurer's Report for October 2007

Operating Budget

The Report of Operations (P&L) for the first close of the Fiscal Year 2007 and explanatory notes from the CFO are contained in the Board packet. The Report of Operations shows a moderate five-figure gain versus the moderate five-figure loss projected last month.

Capital Budget

Staff asked that the Finance and Audit Committee review three applications for federal grant funds (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality) and recommend their approval by the Board. They are:

1. Outreach and Rideshare for 10/2009 - 9/2010

\$225,000 Federal + 0 State

2. New Express commuter transit service

\$600,000 Federal + 0 State

3. Purchase Hybrid electric buses

\$2.688.000 Federal + \$672,000 State

As Treasurer, I am comfortable recommending approval of #3. Given the changes under consideration by the AATA P&O Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee, I do not have a level of comfort with #1 & 2 and cannot make a recommendation in this report.

University of Michigan (UoM)

The current relationship between the AATA and the UoM is that of Transportation Service Provider and (subsidized) Customer. 40% of the riders on the AATA fixed route bus service are UoM related.

I recommend that UoM be regarded as a Professional Stakeholder in the AATA in addition to a (subsidized) Customer.

Currently, Ann Arbor taxpayers pay \$9.7M/year in taxes to support the AATA, which is 40% of its total Operating Budget. UoM pays no such support.

As a Professional Stakeholder, the UoM share of the current tax subsidy would be \$3.9M. The AA taxpayers' \$9.7M/year tax burden could be reduced by this amount. This is close to a one millage point reduction to the AA taxpayers, and would help to make Ann Arbor affordable.

It is requested that the Ad Hoc Committee review this situation as part of its charter to develop the new AATA Vision.

Respectfully,

Ted Annis **AATA Treasurer** Date:

17 October 2007

To:

AATA Board

From:

Finance and Audit Committee

Subject:

Minutes of the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting of 11 October 2007

Attendees:

Ted Annis (Committee Chair)

Dawn Gabay Chris White Phil Webb Mary Stasiak Karen Wheeler

Not in Attendance:

Rich Robben (Committee Member)
Sue McCormick (Committee Member)

The agenda proposed by the committee chair was as follows:

- 1. 2007 Wrap up of financial statements
- 2. Economic analysis of hybrid buses
- 3. Loss of brand identity due to full wrap of buses for advertising purposes economic opportunity cost
- 4. Fare Box Ratio of 14% versus a national average of 35% what to do about improving it
- 5. UoM Fare Agreement
- 6. Cost per regular rider of \$6000/year how to reduce
- 7. Expense containment

Due to the absence of two of the committee members, the committee meeting was converted into a meeting with the Treasurer. Meeting matters are contained in the Treasurer's Report .

Respectfully,

Ted Annis

Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee

Date:

October 17, 2007

To:

AATA Board

From:

AATA Policy and Operations Committee

Subject:

Policy and Operations Committee Report for October 2007

Meeting Preface...

The chair called the meeting to order and asked the committee to note that several of the items on the agenda related to the upcoming A2D2 Meeting called by the City. He advised the committee that we would consider an action to support the A2D2 Program after each of the items has been addressed.

Express Commuter Bus Service

Staff reported that they are in the process of developing a RFP for this service. The timeline is for the service to be running next spring. The exact nature of the service and locations to be served will be assessed through the fall and winter months and be dependent in part to the type of response that we receive. Staff pointed to at least two areas that have potential, the Canton and Chelsea areas.

Park and Ride

Staff reported that MDOT responded favorable to the letter that was sent following the last Board meeting. Staff continues working with the MDOT staff to define what the opportunities are and a timetable for project development. The committee and staff continued to explore the potential for park and ride in other approaches. The City's Transportation and Parking Study call for integrating Park and ride into existing commercial areas. Staff highlighted some of their past experience with smaller informal understanding and agreed to develop a programmatic approach to seeking the use of existing underutilized parking in commercial center and other loations including churches. The thought would be to secure a number of smaller park and ride lots along our routes in addition to constructing larger lots as a means of enhancing access to our system

Recommend Timetable for Service Evaluation

Staff presented a Timeline and a draft Table of Potential Service reduction areas. The potential reductions were derived based on low productivity routes as well as previous consultant work. The committee deliberated whether the direction was to provide only cuts or to present a package that would allow for reduction of poor performing services and redeploying the resources to strengthen exist productive routes are try new services. The committee and staff had an engaging dialogue regarding this with staff agreeing to continue to refine the draft potential service reduction list and also preparing recommendations to redeploy the resources.

FY 2009 CMAQ

Staff advised the committee of the timeframe for applying for FY 2009 CMAQ, federal funding program. The applications are submitted to the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), where they are ranked with other transit projects based on the project cost and emissions improvements. Based on previous experience, the AATA will not receive all of the requested funding. However, it makes sense to apply for a larger number of projects in case some of the other transit operators do not submit projects. Among the areas staff will be seeking to apply for such funding includes Employer based travel choices programs, additional Hybrid

electric buses and express type services to northeastern Ann Arbor, possibly to connect to the new park and ride facility mentioned under agenda item 1. The committee asked staff if the funds were not used to purchase buses in the year that funds are available for, could the existing buses continue be used and provide service at a reasonable maintenance cost and interval. Staff reported as long as we are talking about a limited number of buses, it is possible to extend the life of a few buses for period of time. The committee asked staff to consider possible alternative use of funds.

Flagship service within Ann Arbor

The committee and staff discussed the possibility of introducing a higher level of service on key routes such as the Plymouth Rd or Washtenaw Ave corridors as outlined in the PB service Development study. Additionally, the committee chairman asked if the committee had a position regarding AATA serving as the lead agency in a study related to the City's Model for Mobility Local Connector service. The response was positive. Although the Ad-hoc committee's work is in progress the conversation was such that agreeing to move ahead on these analysis was a proper step and is aligned with the direction of the Ad Hoc committee.

Transit Farebox and Parking Pass Media

The committee looked at moving forward with an integrated fare media, transit pass, that would work for both transit as well as parking in the City. Staff noted that previous conversation with DDA indicated that this issue is one that would provide benefit to both organizations as well as the public. Staff agreed to contact DDDA and become familiar with the parking authorities needs and interests to move this issue forward.

A2D2 Meeting Support

Given the committee's broad agreement with each of the issues defined in the A2D2 Report, the Chairman sought the sense of the committee to support the authority actively participating in the November 5, 2007, meeting and stating our commitment to achieving the work outlined in the report. The committee agreed that it seems like positive step forward and authorized the chairman to report to the Board as such on October 17.

Peer Review

Time was short and Staff pointed out that as service planning was on a tight timetable, this work might be delayed. The staff and committee thought about alternative approaches to moving this work forward. Ideas included identifying an Intern from the University of Michigan, explore a contract for analysis with University or seeking the assistance of a consultant to prepare a report of the key findings regarding this work. Staff will report back at the next meeting a suggested path forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Eli Cooper, Chairman Policy and Operations Committee

Proposed Minutes October 30, 2007

Ann Arbor Transportation Authority Board of Directors Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

AATA Headquarters, 2700 South Industrial Highway 5:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Paul C. Ajegba (Committee Chair), Ted Annis, Eli Cooper,

Charles Griffith, Sue McCormick, David Nacht (Board Chair),

Rich Robben

Staff Present:

Terry Black, Ron Copeland, Jan Hallberg, Ed Robertson, Mary

Stasiak

1.0 Ad Hoc Committee Business

Mr. Ajegba recapped where the committee left off from their last meeting. The committee grouped goals into different categories to present to the Board for their approval to move forward. At the October 17 Board meeting the consensus from the Board was to move to the next step with the full Board. Mr. Ajegba indicated that the group would start looking at goals and objectives to accomplish the draft vision and mission statements. Mr. Ajegba distributed key strategies, mission and vision statements, and strategic initiatives, noting that submissions previously made by Board members were included.

Mr. Ajegba announced that prior to beginning the evening's work, meeting attendees would have an opportunity to ask questions of the two consultants who responded to a request for proposal soliciting quotations from qualified firms interested in providing consulting services to revisit AATA's vision and mission statement, develop strategic leverage and work with the Board to develop future organizational milestones and goals. Meeting attendees discussed the need for a consultant and the timing for interviewing them by conference call. It was agreed that since the calls had been arranged, they would take place.

Ms. Wheeler distributed copies of the responses to the request for proposals and meeting attendees reviewed the documents. A conference call was held with each of the consultants; Mr. Alan Barr followed by Ms. Marcia Steele. Board members and staff asked questions of Mr. Barr and Ms. Steele.

At the conclusion of the calls, meeting attendees provided feedback on the information received from the consultants and shared their ideas for next steps. It was suggested that the Board may have a different scope than that outlined in the request for proposal. The group agreed to reconsider their focus and consider scaling back the support of a facilitator, possibly to a one day session.

The discussion continued and suggestions for moving forward with work on mission and vision included bringing in transit industry experts to complement the use of a consultant to aid the process of planning long term; hiring a consultant who is an expert in facilitation, not transportation; undertaking a series of learning opportunities from experts; and involving community partners in the discussion prior to the Board deciding on a long term vision for AATA.

During the discussion it was noted that the Ad Hoc Committee has done a significant amount of work solidifying the draft mission and vision statements. It was suggested that the draft mission and vision statements be considered for adoption at the November 14 Board meeting, and that the Board discuss how they want to move forward with a facilitator at that meeting.

Mr. Cooper requested that Board members submit the names of local consultants to staff by November 2. Mr. Cooper requested that staff compile the list and circulate it to the Board prior to November 14. Staff was also asked to notify the Board, at their next meeting, of the procurement requirements should the scope of work with a consultant change.

Meeting attendees discussed the decision previously made not to move forward with the search for a permanent Executive Director until labor negotiations are concluded. It was suggested that the Board reconsider this and begin pursuing candidates for the position of Executive Director, and bring the successful candidate into the strategic planning process.

2.0 New Business

2.1 Mr. Robertson informed the Board of the need for an additional check signer due to the current availability of signers. Mr. Robertson indicated that Ms. Gabay previously intended to name him as a signatory.

Mr. Nacht moved that Mr. Robertson be named a check signer in accordance with the following resolution. Mr. Cooper supported the motion.

Resolution 1/2008

AUTHORIZATION TO REVISE SIGNERS ON BANK ACCOUNTS

WHEREAS, the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (AATA) deposits funds in checking and savings accounts in accordance with the Authority's Investment Policy such that funds so deposited may be withdrawn upon a check, draft, note, or order of the Authority, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to increase the number of authorized signers based on the availability of personnel to sign checks,

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that all checks, drafts, notes, orders or withdrawals against said accounts be signed by any two (2) of the following:

Chair of the Board
Treasurer of the Board
Executive Director
Assistant Executive Director
Controller
Manager of Service Development
Manager of Human Resources

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that investment transactions may be authorized by any one (1) of the following:

Executive Director Assistant Executive Director Controller Treasurer

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorize the Treasurer, or the Executive Director, or the Assistant Executive Director, or the Controller to authorize Electronic Clearing House Operation (ECHO) drawdown requests for Federal funds, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that all checks against the Authority Payroll Bank Account may also be signed with the facsimile signature of the Executive Director.

The motion passed unanimously with four affirmative votes (Ajegba, Cooper, Griffith and Nacht). (Annis, McCormick and Robben left the meeting prior to the vote.)

Mr. Cooper moved that the Board adopt, as a draft, for the purposes of furthering the business of the Authority, the current mission and vision statement. Mr. Nacht supported the motion. Members of the Board discussed the motion and agreed to take up adoption of the mission and vision statements during the next Board meeting. No vote was taken.

3.0 Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Ajegba adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jares Wheller for Paul C. Ajegba, Ad Hoc Committee Chair