

**DRAFT**

**Central Florida Commuter Rail Commission**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Date: Monday, July 21, 2014  
Time: 9:30 a.m.  
Location: MetroPlan Orlando  
315 East Robinson Street, Suite 355  
Orlando, Florida

- Call to Order – Chairman Teresa Jacobs called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Confirmation of Quorum
  1. Members in attendance were:
    - Commission Chairman Teresa Jacobs
    - Commissioner Buddy Dyer
    - Commissioner Secretary Carlton Henley
    - Commissioner Jason P. Davis
  2. Members not in attendance were:
    - Commissioner Frank Attkisson
- Agenda Review – FDOT District Five Secretary Noranne Downs, P.E.
  1. Secretary Downs provided the agenda review.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

1. Chairman Jacobs requested FDOT District 5 Secretary Noranne Downs, P.E. to provide the Agenda Review.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. Adoption of minutes from April 11, 2014 meeting.
2. The meeting minutes were unanimously adopted upon a motion by Mayor Jacobs and seconded by Commissioner Henley.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Phase 1 Project Update – Tawny Olore, P.E.
  - a. Grand Opening Celebration
    - i. Ms. Olore stated that SunRail opened on time, on budget and exceeded expectations.
    - ii. Ms. Olore played a video clip of the grand opening celebration and congratulated the entire Central Florida community on the start of service. She then showed pictures of the each completed SunRail station.
  - b. Operations Update
    - i. Ridership
      - Ms. Olore stated that SunRail opened up to free service with 10,000 passengers on the first day of free service to 17,000 on the last day. She noted that another car was added to service to keep up with demand.

- Ms. Olore stated that revenue started and ridership leveled off as a result. She stated that an additional train was added to the schedule to keep up with demand. Most of the trains, Ms. Olore noted, are 85% full.
- Ms. Olore stated that SunRail is meeting the goal for ridership is 4,300 passengers per day.
- Ms. Olore noted that there is a lot of ADA and bicycle usage on the train.
- In terms of on-time performance, Ms. Olore noted that the established standards are being met. If the trains are running on-time service, the contractors will receive an incentive. However, if they are late or there are other issues that arise related to on-time performance, then penalties will apply. There are both incentive and disincentives for performance built in to the Operations and Maintenance contract, Ms. Olore stated.
- Ms. Olore discussed the park and ride lots at SunRail stations, noting that they are designed to meet 20 year forecasts and are currently being monitored on a weekly basis. The DeBary park and ride lot is experiencing high usage and FDOT is in the process of identifying additional land for potential expansion.

ii. Technology

- Ms. Olore stated that some of the issues with the ticket vending machines (TVM) have been resolved. She stated that there is an integrated network to handle all of the systems associated with the project and that new equipment was ordered and is being installed.

iii. Safety

- Ms. Olore provided an update on safety activities. She noted that there were several grade crossing accidents and as a result FDOT developed radio spots and put up seven billboards. Ms. Olore stated that FHP has been hired to help monitor the grade crossings along the corridor.
- Ms. Olore stated that there are also two full-time outreach specialists who conduct safety education. Ms. Olore said that a booklet of all safety initiatives that the safety team has been executing to educate riders and the public about how to stay safe around railroad tracks. Commissioner Henley stated that when he was in the military, his unit actually extended the grade arms about three feet more to prevent cars from going around the crossings.
- Ms. Olore stated that is in not just drivers that FDOT is targeting, it is people and passengers also trespassing on the tracks. Ms. Olore stated that there was a situation recently where cameras on the platforms caught a woman taking pictures of her three children on the tracks.

iv. Service Enhancements

- Ms. Olore discussed service enhancements. She stated that there has been discussion of bringing DMUs from South Florida to help with the demand for train service. She stated that this option is being explored at the moment and that there would be an update at the next CFCRC meeting. Commissioner Henley asked about the costs of running trains for special events. He asked specifically about what the cost covers. Ms. Olore stated that it covers the crew per train and to have personnel available after hours, as well as operational costs



## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Mr. David Bottomley stated that SunRail must be successful and it must work. SunRail must go from Tampa to Daytona Beach. He stated that SunRail was not running on July 4, 2014. He stated that the public would like to see service extended. Tampa is watching closely in order to connect to SunRail. Ms. Olore stated that the project is looking in to the costs and resources needed to run extended service and the funding to do so.
2. Joe Torresin stated that he is a resident of the Preserve at Lake Monroe. He advised that the Rand Yard is right behind his home and he has been in communications with SunRail for 18 months. He stated that he has 44 pages of emails where residents have been communicating with representatives of the project. He advised that the engines are revving at all times of the day and night. Chairman Jacobs that Mr. Torresin leave copies of the emails with the CFCRC. Ms. Olore stated that Cliff Davy is the designated liaison to work with the Preserve at Lake Monroe to address their noise complaints and that he has been in constant communication with the residents of the community.
3. Joanne Counelis stated that she would like to have the SunRail Train on weekends, holidays, and nighttime so that no one is stranded like they are now.
4. Lynn Henderson stated that she lived here for 24 years and is a transplant from up north and an avid train commuter from up north. This is an opportunity to make this a true commuter rail system. It needs to have expanded service to include nights and weekends. There was a big opportunity for SunRail and it should run all the way to the airport. She stated that the state needs to get more cars off the roads and to please consider running on nights and weekends.
5. Joanne Lucarelli, a commissioner from the city of Lake Mary, stated that she is in support of SunRail running on nights and weekends. She stated that this only makes sense and will increase ridership and revenue. Ms. Olore stated that FDOT is looking at the resources needed to run extended service and the funding to do so and thanked the group for their comments.

## **NEXT MEETING**

1. Review of next meeting date
  - a. The next meeting date has not been scheduled as yet.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:41am.