

HILLSBOROUGH AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Conference Room, 4305 E. 21st Avenue  
Tampa, Florida

MINUTES

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority was held on Monday, June 3, 1985, at 8:00 AM. The meeting was called to order and presided over by the Chairman, Charles M. Banks.

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present: Charles M. Banks  
C. Lawrence Stagg  
Mayor Bob Martinez  
Richard Maurer  
Lawrence J. O'Neil  
Robert Scott  
Commissioner Ron Glickman

Board Members Absent: Dr. William Leonard  
Councilman John King

Others Present: Cliff Hayden, Jr.  
Brad Vinson  
Harry Orr  
Neal Meader  
Frank Ahedo  
Rob Gregg  
Dennis McDougal  
Irma Capaz  
Mike Nuechterlein

Chairman Banks stated that this special meeting was called for the purpose of dealing with the problem of our bus shelters which were removed from in front of the Federal Courthouse.

Chairman Banks went on to state that some kind of acceptable arrangement was being sought for both the Transit Authority and the Federal Judges. A meeting was scheduled with Chief Judge Hodges, but due to a conflict in the Judge's schedule, the meeting was cancelled. Our attorney was directed to continue negotiations with the Chief Judge, and an arrangement has been worked out that is acceptable to the Federal Judges. Chairman Banks recommends that we accept the arrangement.

This arrangement would locate new shelters on Zack Street North of the Federal Building. The shelters would face South, or the approaching buses as they come up Florida Avenue. This is a temporary measure until we get our permanent set up on Marion Street.

Chairman Banks said we have three choices:

- 1) Do nothing (which is unacceptable)
- 2) Possible extended period of litigation
- 3) Accept this arrangement (which is recommended)

Mr. Scott would be in favor of accepting this arrangement if we are going to provide adequate shelter for our bus riders.

Mr. Scott moved to accept the recommendation to place the shelters in the northwest section of the Federal Building as shown on the sketch that was presented. Mr. O'Neil seconded the motion.

There was further discussion.

The shelters will seat about 15 people and provide a shaded area for waiting passengers.

Mr. Bob Gilder, NAACP President, stated that this is a possible solution to the problem of having a stalemate with the Judge. Mr. Gilder feels that if this is accepted it is a way out for everybody, but still thinks somebody owes the poor people who ride the bus an apology for the hardship, the interruption, and the disrespect that they have been shown.

Mr. Randy Graham, representing the League of Young Voters, stated he appreciates the Board's efforts in trying to resolve this problem. The shelters were in front of the Federal Building for 14 years and up to now have had no problems. It is not fair, we pay our taxes and have no voice. Legal steps can be taken because just removing the benches and having them put around the corner is not solving the problem.

Mayor Martinez asked who would be working with the drivers. Mr. Hayden stated that assuming the Board passed this recommendation, supervisors would be there for the first couple of weeks until the people and the drivers get used to the new situation. This is not the best solution, but it is a solution that will offer some shelter and some benches for the riders.

Mayor Martinez stated we have to make sure it works. This should not be just a place for benches to solve the dispute between two agencies. We should go on record that we will spend whatever money is required for the benches to be moved again if in fact the people will not sit here because they are afraid they will miss their bus.

Mr. O'Neil suggested we take it for a trial period.

Mr. Maurer stated that the motion could be amended to accept the recommendation and review the situation after a 60-day period.

Mr. Scott amended his motion to review the situation after a 60-day period.

Mr. O'Neil amended his second with the understanding that if we found out prior to 60 days that it is not working, then this Board should act.

Mr. Bob Gilder would like the Authority to get some kind of input from the riders. Chairman Banks stated this would be done.

Mr. Stagg asked about the status of the Federal Grant and what is the predicted construction time on Marion Street once the Federal funds are released.

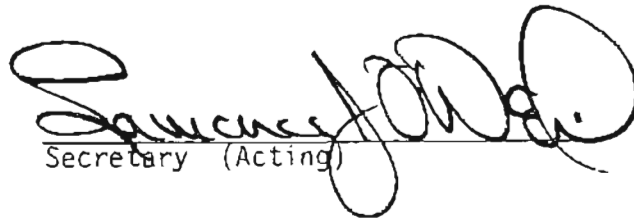
Mr. Hayden stated we are still waiting for grant approval. We are hoping to put out the Request for Proposal for architect/design by next week. We hope to be well underway with construction early next year.

Chairman asked for vote on the motion.

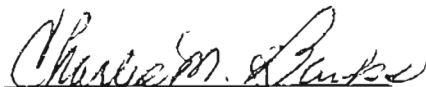
Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Secretary (Acting)

Approved:

  
Chairman

Officials of the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority and Chief Judge Wm. Terrell Hodges of the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, today announced an accord in the placement and location of facilities for bus patrons near the United States Courthouse in downtown Tampa.

In reaching their accord, the parties sought to reconcile the public's interest in unimpeded access to the United States Courthouse and in suitable facilities for those awaiting bus transportation.

The parties' agreement will result in new, convenient shelters for bus patrons being established at the Authority's expense on Zack Street near the existing bus stop. These facilities will give bus patrons comfortable and easy access to the bus stop while leaving access to the main entrance of the Courthouse open to all.

Upon the advice of their attorneys, and as a part of the effort to amicably resolve a matter of public concern, HART will not assert a claim, if any exists, for the shelters previously removed.

Both Chief Judge Hodges and members of the Authority express pleasure and satisfaction in the resolution of a matter about which there has been considerable misunderstanding.



## Hillsborough Area Regional Transit

May 29, 1985

TO: ALL NEWS MEDIA  
FROM: CLIFF HAYDEN, JR., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SUBJECT: SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

**Directors:**  
CHARLES M. BANKS  
Chairman  
RODNEY COLSON  
Vice-Chairman  
Commissioner  
Hillsborough County  
C. LAWRENCE STAGG  
Secretary  
BOB MARTINEZ  
Mayor, City of Tampa  
WILLIAM N. LEONARD  
RICHARD MAURER  
LAWRENCE J. O'NEIL  
ROBERT R. SCOTT  
JOHN M. KING  
Councilman  
Temple Terrace  
**Executive Director**  
CLIFF HAYDEN, JR.

A special meeting of the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority Board of Directors has been called by the Chairman, Charles M. Banks, for Monday, June 3, 1985, at 8:00 AM, to be held at the HART office located at 4305 East 21st Avenue, Tampa, Florida.

CPH/nas