



BUS & PARATRANSIT CEOS' COMMITTEE MEETING

BRAD MILLER, PRESIDING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2014

2:30 – 4PM

ROOM 335AB

HILTON AMERICAS, HOUSTON, TX

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions – Brad Miller, committee chair
2. Conversation with FTA – Therese McMillan, acting administrator
3. Report from the APTA Chair – Phil Washington
4. APTA Legislative Update – Rob Healy, APTA
5. APTA Regulatory Update – Jim LaRusch, APTA
6. Presentation from Cell Phones for Soldiers, an MBTA partner charity

Leadership APTA Presentation – **Team 5 – Surfing the Data Tsunami: Agile Data/Information Strategies for Public Transportation**

Project team: Mark Ellis, team coordinator (Maintenance Design Group, LLC); Louis Cripps (RTD – Denver); Roderick Diaz (Metrolink); David Huffaker; (Sound Transit); Laura Minns (LYNX – Orlando).

Data and Information Management has become an integral component of every transit system regardless of size or service area. In order for the industry to deal with this “tsunami” of data they must understanding the volume and complexity of the data, its architecture and availability, the value and the impact, and the resulting policies. These are all key factors in the successful management of the data and information. This paper is directed at CEOs and decision-makers and aims to identify the current trends in data and information management and how transit agencies are addressing data storage, internal and external data distribution, and issues surrounding open and closed architecture of data generating systems. The research collected for this paper and the resulting analysis is focused on understanding how the transit agencies can position themselves and their data and information management approaches and policies to be more agile, open to innovation, and able to maximize value for the themselves, their customers, and to the vendor community that serves organizations and users related to the industry.

Administrative Items

Review of the Minutes

Next meeting – Saturday, February 7, 2015 in Phoenix



Cell Phones For Soldiers Fact Sheet

[Cell Phones For Soldiers](http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com) is a national nonprofit serving troops and veterans with free communication services and emergency funding. Founded in 2004 by Robbie and Brittany Bergquist, then 12 and 13 years old, Cell Phones For Soldiers relies on generous cash contributions and donations of gently-used cell phones to provide a lifeline for America's bravest.

By The Numbers:

Cell Phones For Soldiers has two programs:

Minutes That Matter provides free calling cards to active-duty military members to connect with loved ones.

Helping Heroes Homes assists veterans with emergency funds to alleviate communication challenges as well as physical, emotional and assimilation hardships.

Since 2004, Cell Phones For Soldiers has provided U.S. troops with more than 210 million "Minutes That Matter" and distributed more than 3 million prepaid international calling cards.

In 2013, Cell Phones For Soldiers distributed more than 23 million minutes of free talk time and more than 380,000 calling cards.

Mails approximately 3,200 calling cards each week

A \$5 donation warrants 2.5 hours of talk time; a \$100.00 donation gives 50 hours or 3,000 minutes of talk time.

Since July 2012, Helping Heroes Home has assisted more than 2,500 veterans and their families with emergency funding.

There are more than 3,400 public cell phone collection points across the nation.

Since 2004, more than 11.3 million cell phones have been recycled, reducing the impact on landfills.

For more information, please visit www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Google+](#) and [Pinterest](#) pages.



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Bus and Paratransit CEOs' Committee Meeting

May 4, 2014

Kansas City, MO

Welcome and introductions: Brad Miller opened the meeting and introductions were made

Regulatory Update – Jim LaRusch reported that the comment period just closed on FTA's SOGR legislative comment period. The document included something of a definition of a state of good repair, which APTA challenged. They also attempted to embellish definition of BRT, which we also challenged. Jim encouraged everyone to make their own comments too, even though the period has closed. Those comments should reflect impacts on your own agency.

"Utility" patent trolls, have begun sending letters to members - not yet claims – but seem to be making threats based on patent claims.

APTA has joined the Patent Big Tent Coalition supporting patent reform with a letter in the Senate.

APTA Chair's Report – Peter Varga. At a meeting earlier in the weekend, the executive Committee did a performance review of APTA and the CEO. It was an excellent review, and the EC is very proud of the staff and performance. The EC also went through the budget and reached a "good healthy compromise" on next year's budget. The governance review work is coming to a close. We're on a good roll, moving the association forward. RCA and Finance councils are also making good progress and cementing the chair's intent.

The association has a solid reauthorization proposal. The administration's proposal is actually somewhat more aggressive, reaching in year four what APTA expected in year six.

Legislative Update – Rob Healy reported the appropriations process has started. We are pushing for a long term bill. Boxer's bill does not include growth – we've effectively been frozen for five years. We need to include growth in a long-term bill. The administration's bill was released this week. It does not have a long-term financing fix.

We sent a letter to the House and Senate this week about our concerns regarding the trust fund, and will share a template this week.

Tax extenders: we are pushing for commute benefit and alt fuels, retroactive to January and through 2015.

ASE Certification Discussion – Bob Cornwell (Test Development Operations, ASE) –provided an update on the number of technicians who have taken advantage of the test; and asked how APTA can help with an outreach to more technicians. Three thousand are certified across all tests out of a universe of 35,000 technicians nation-wide. Numbers have stagnated. How do we get more technicians taking the test? Benefits to the agency: a higher rate of "fix it right the first time" and employee retention.

Chris Jenks – is there an education element that's missing – educating the maintenance managers; asking how the ASE is being used; how it's being incentivized. www.ASE.com

APTF – Accessible Services Scholarship – Jill Stober reported that APTF is looking to create a new Accessible Services Scholarship, timely because 2015 marks the 25th anniversary of ADA. Jill asked the leadership for their support of this scholarship for students involved in and pursuing transit accessibility.

Bus Safety Committee and 100 Years of Safety – Sue Stewart, chair, APTA Safety Committee. In 2014 the committee will be celebrating ideas that are innovative but also transferrable. Safety committee is making good progress on safety areas in MAP-21: master system safety plan template; white paper on reducing pedestrian conflict; and working on 2 TCRP problems statements; hours of service, worker health and safety.

Administrative - minutes from the February 2014 meeting were approved.

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