



**BERKS AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
AGENDA REPORT
June 17, 2015**

DATE: June 17, 2015
TIME: 6:30 PM
PLACE: 1700 North Eleventh Street
Reading, PA
PURPOSE: Regular Meeting

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment on Agenda Items
3. Approval of the Minutes of the May 20, 2015 Regular Board Meeting
4. Bills and Communications - None
5. Reports of Committees - None
6. Old Business - None
7. New Business
 - A. Resolution 4-15 Approval of Management Agreement with SCTA
 - B. Approval to Provide Shuttle Bus Service on Experimental Basis
 - C. Approval of Emergency Repair Service
 - D. Proposed Route & Schedule Changes
 - E. Financial Statement Approval for May, 2015
8. Public Comment
9. Adjournment

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AGENDA REPORT
JUNE 2015

1. Minutes - The minutes of the May 20, 2015 public meeting are enclosed with the Agenda for your review.
2. Committee Reports - None
3. Old Business
 - A. None at this time.
4. New Business
 - A. Resolution 4-15 - Approval of Management Agreement with SCTA - A copy of the proposed Management Agreement with SCTA for FY 2016 is included in the packet for review. As part of the merger and the designation of SCTA as the recipient for state and federal funds, the management agreement has been modified from the current agreement with SCTA now contracting with BARTA to provide all drivers, mechanics, including all benefits, and vehicles, and will reimburse BARTA monthly deficit for those costs. SCTA will lease the facilities from BARTA and will be responsible for all operating costs and any maintenance of the facilities. The Management Agreement is structured to be a four year agreement, subject to amendment, as required.
 - B. Approval to Provide Shuttle Bus Service on Experimental Basis – With the expected closure of the Buttonwood Bridge in July and the subsequent traffic congestion to downtown Reading, BARTA is proposing to provide an experimental shuttle service from the VF Outlets to downtown Reading for a three month period to determine demand for such a service. The proposed route would make a loop in the downtown area to serve major employers. A proposed schedule is included in the packet. Staff is currently finalizing an agreement with VF to utilize a vacant parking area off of Park Road behind Willowby’s Restaurant. The service is expected to start by the first week in July and a recommendation to continue the service would be presented at the September Board meeting. Staff recommends approval.
 - C. Approval of Emergency Repair Service – Due to the leak in the underground piping for the sprinkler system on June 4, 2015, emergency repairs were needed to the system. This was a 6” water line that fed the sprinkler system in the maintenance area that caused some minor damage and S&L Plumbing was contacted as the contractor for the system to make the repairs. After excavation of the section that leaked was replaced, the contractor tried to pressurize the system that resulted in the failure of the next section of piping. All of this underground piping was part of the original construction of the facility in the mid-70’s and it was clear from visual inspection the cast iron pipes have corroded through where the leak occurred and the rest of the piping has corroded enough for the system not to hold pressure. As a result, the entire line has been replaced in order to restore service with the sprinkler system for the entire system. The total cost is roughly \$75-80,000 and while insurance will pay for the cost of the initial leak damage, it will not pay for the replacement of the entire piping. Since S&L was

already on-site with their equipment, they were requested to continue to perform the work in order to get the system back on line as soon as possible. Requesting approval for this work as an emergency service due to the safety related issues with the sprinkler system.

- D. Proposed Route & Schedule Changes – A proposed listing of route and schedule changes will be presented at the meeting. A special Rider Notice and a Public Hearing on the proposed changes will be scheduled to solicit input from our customers. Staff will be scheduling a meeting with the Operations Committee to review the proposal in more detail. Approval of the changes will be presented at the July Board meeting.
- E. Financial Statement – Total ridership decreased by 11.3% with a 12.0% decrease in fixed-route and a 3.3% decrease in shared-ride for the month of May. Financially, operating revenues of \$501,291 combined with operating grants of \$1,117,462 for total revenue of \$1,618,753, against expenses of \$1,618,751.