

**BI-STATE DEVELOPMENT
SECURITY SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
January 8, 2020**

Sub-Committee Members

Missouri

Rose Windmiller, Co-Chair – Present
Vernal Brown – Absent
Fred Pestello – Absent

Illinois

Herbert Simmons, Co-Chair – Present
Derrick Cox – Present
Irma Golliday – Participated via phone (8:33 am)

Other Commissioners

Constance Gully – Absent
Aliah Holman – Absent

Michael Buehlhorn – Participated via phone
Justin Zimmerman – Absent

Staff in Attendance

Taulby Roach, President and Chief Executive Officer
Barbara Enneking, General Counsel and Deputy Secretary
Myra Bennett, Manager of Board Administration
Brenda Deertz, Administrator/Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
Stephen Berry, General Manager - Public Safety, Central Facility - Public Safety
Kevin Scott, Director - Public Safety, Central Facility - Public Safety
Vernon Summers, Manager - Contract Security, Central Facility - Public Safety
Jessica Mefford-Miller, Executive Director Metro Transit
Jim Cali, Chief Audit Executive
Kent Swagler, Director of Corporate Compliance and Ethics
Patti Beck, Director of Communications
Angie Staicoff, Senior Internal Auditor
Larry Jackson, Executive Vice President Administration
Sally Bender, Internal Auditor/PT
Ted Zimmerman, Vice President Marketing & Communication
Lasilvia Franklin, Financial Analyst and Administrator
Kathy Brittin, Director of Risk and Absence Management
Jerry Vallely, External Communications Manager

Others in Attendance

Ken Sharkey, St. Clair County Transit District
Mary Harp, AT&T
Brian Kelly, KMOX
Marcy Meystrik, East-West Gateway
Jim Wild, East-West Gateway

1. **Open Session Call to Order**
8:30 a.m. Chair Windmiller called the Open Session of the Bi-State Development Agency, Security Sub-Committee Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. **Roll Call**
8:30 a.m. Roll call was taken, as noted above.
3. **Public Comment**
8:30 a.m. Chair Windmiller noted that no speaker cards were presented for today's meeting.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the October 29, 2019 Security Sub-Committee, Open Meeting**
8:31 a.m. The minutes of the October 29, 2019 Security Sub-Committee, Open Meeting were provided in the Committee packet. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Cox and seconded by Commissioner Simmons. **The motion passed unanimously.**
5. **Approval of the Minutes of the November 18, 2019 Security Sub-Committee, Open Meeting**
8:32 a.m. The minutes of the November 18, 2019 Security Sub-Committee, Open Meeting were provided in the Committee packet. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Simmons and seconded by Commissioner Cox. **The motion passed unanimously.**
6. **Contract Security – Update**
8:32 a.m. President and Chief Executive Officer, Taulby Roach, noted that Stephen Berry, General Manager-Public Safety, Kevin Scott, Director-Public Safety, and Vernon Summers, Manager-Contract Security, are in attendance at today's meeting to answer any questions that the Committee may have. Mr. Roach noted that staff is requesting that the implementation of the new contract for third party security with G4S, be moved from the original date of February 2020 to April 2020. A memo was distributed by Mr. Berry, outlining details of the new contract.

(Commissioner Golliday joined the meeting via phone at approximately 8:33 a.m., and the Commissioners attending via phone requested that the memo be sent to them electronically. Administrative Assistant to the CEO, Brenda Deertz e-mailed the information to the Commissioners.)

Commissioner Windmiller asked why staff is requesting a change in the implementation date. Mr. Summers noted that staff is requesting a delay in the implementation date of the contract, due to the fact that the new contract is a complex deployment that is transit specific, and the size of the workforce requires extensive logistical planning, and staff does not feel that a 60 day period allows enough time for this type of professional transition. In addition, with the holidays, there was difficulty in getting all of the needed paperwork in order. Mr. Berry noted there is significant need for logistical planning, with a new unarmed force coming in, and an armed services going out. There will be a decrease from approximately 180 guards to 105 guards, however, there will be an increase in the number of Police Officers, through the use of secondary contracts. In addition, the organization is undergoing a change to a "high visibility" uniform, and training to increase customer service.

Mr. Roach stated that Metro feels that the change to an increased number of certified Police Officers, will provide a higher level of quality with regard to security, and these secondary officers will not have "static posts", as has been the practice in the past.

Mr. Roach noted that two of our contracts for police services were approved by the Board of Commissioners in November, and included contracts with St. Louis County and St. Clair County. He noted that Metro is now in receipt of a third contract from St. Louis City. He noted that changes are being made, per the recommendations in the WSP report, and Metro is showing momentum in implementing changes in how they do business.

Commissioner Cox asked the status of approval of the WSP report? Commissioner Windmiller noted that the current item under discussion is “contract security”, and that item should be addressed separately.

Commissioner Buehlhorn stated that he is disappointed in the delay in implementation of the contract. Commissioner Simmons asked if Metro is having to pay “double” in the interim for contract security. It was noted that Metro is not. Commissioner Windmiller asked if there have been changes to the contract. Larry Jackson, Vice President of Administration, noted that there have been no substantive changes to the contract. Commissioner Windmiller asked if everyone will be onboard by April 1st. Mr. Jackson stated that Metro will be formalizing the change this week, and will be giving notice to proceed with the April 1st implementation date. He noted that, in the interim, the contract with Securitas has been extended through March 31st. Commissioner Simmons asked if there is any chance that the April date will not be met. Mr. Jackson stated that he feels the new implementation date is doable. Commissioner Simmons stated that it is important to ensure that everyone is able to “hit the ground running”; however, it is important that they meet the April 1st implementation date. Mr. Roach stated that the delay is to ensure that proper, quality personnel are in place, and everyone will be working aggressively in meeting that date.

Commissioner Cox asked when the Board would be discussing approval of the WSP plan. President and CEO Roach stated that a full presentation was given at the previous security meeting, and the plan has been presented to all of Bi-State’s partners. He noted that there is one aspect of the plan that may need to be discussed in a future Executive Session meeting; however, 25-30% of the plan has been implemented. Commissioner Cox stated that he was under the impression that the Security Sub-Committee would have a vote on the final plan, to recommend the plan to the Board of Commissioners for a final vote on the plan. Mr. Roach stated that it would be up to the Board of Commissioners, if they wish to have a vote to endorse the plan at the February meeting. He noted that a signing ceremony will be planned with our partners, to symbolize that this is a “joint plan”. Commissioner Cox stated that there are certain issues of the plan that he would like to address and provide input. Commissioner Windmiller stated that Commissioner Cox should let staff know of his concerns, and this issue will be discussed at the Security Sub-Committee meeting in February.

7. Status of Secondary Officers – Update

9:03 a.m. Mr. Scott addressed the Committee regarding the status of hiring of secondary Police Officers for Metro security. It was noted that, in the past, the salary rate had not been competitive; however, a new concept has been developed, with an increase in salaries, in order to bolster the program. It was noted that the new program will take effect in St. Clair County on January 20th. Interviews will be held this coming Saturday, for St. Louis City and County Officers. He noted that the increase in the number of Officers will increase visibility, and this armed level of support will act as support for the contracted security. Commissioner Cox noted that the G4S contract states that the officers will be unarmed. Mr. Scott noted that the “contract

security” will be unarmed; however, the secondary officers, as well as our Police partners in St. Louis City, St. Louis County and St. Clair County will serve as an armed support base of professional law enforcement. Commissioner Cox stated that he does not feel that there was enough discussion regarding this issue, and does not feel that was appropriate. Commissioner Windmiller stated that she feels that these decisions are best left to Metro staff and the law enforcement professionals. President and CEO Roach stated that he is disappointed if the Commissioner feels as though he was “by-passed”; however, he thinks that moving to ensure that those who are armed have been specifically trained in law enforcement is appropriate. He noted that Metro has developed a “layered” security team, trained in de-escalation procedures, accompanied by a more professional police presence. Discussion held regarding the number of Police that will be on task force. Mr. Roach noted that Metro is vulnerable, if we do not ensure that all security is fully trained in de-escalation technics, and he noted that the secondary officers are going to be utilized in a very specific deployment approach.

Commissioner Buehlhorn noted that Metro has worked for many years to try to get all three Police Departments working on the same page, and he does not want to jeopardize that effort. He stated that one of the requests by law enforcement over the years is that our private security officers not be armed.

Mr. Scott noted that the goal is to add an additional 25 officers, through secondary employment, in addition to the 60-70 member, existing task force. Commissioner Cox stated that he keeps hearing people say that they do not ride the system, because they do not feel safe. Mr. Scott noted that Metro must articulate that we have officers with sound training in place. Commissioner Simmons stated that he agrees with Commissioner Cox on some of his statements; however, simply adding “bodies” to payroll does not fix the problems, if the officers are not being properly deployed.

Commissioner Windmiller noted that many transit agencies were involved in the WSP process, and many of them used fewer armed security, than does Metro. Mr. Berry stated that this is correct, and many times this will depend on the fluidity of the system, and the degree of professionalism involved.

President and CEO Roach stated that the primary issue is the perception issue. He noted that crime incidents have decreased to a very low level. Metro security is trying to be more visible, to break those perception issues.

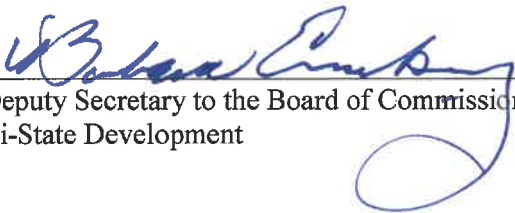
8. Motion to move Executive Session

9:27 a.m. Chair Windmiller noted that the only items on the Executive Session agenda are approval of previous minutes. She stated that, if no discussion or corrections are needed, an Executive Session would not necessarily be needed. The Committee agreed that an Executive Session was not needed.

Chair Windmiller asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 29, 2019 and November 18, 2019 Security Sub-Committee, Executive Session Meeting, as presented, as a closed record. The motion was made by Commissioner Simmons and was seconded by Commissioner Cox. Unanimous vote in favor taken. **Motion passed.**

10. Adjournment

9:27 a.m. Chair Windmiller asked if there was any further business; being none, Commissioner Cox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Simmons. Unanimous vote in favor taken. Motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:27 a.m.



Deputy Secretary to the Board of Commissioners
Bi-State Development