

**BI-STATE DEVELOPMENT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
(Virtual Meeting)  
OPEN SESSION – NOTES  
September 24, 2021**

**Board Members in Attendance via Zoom**

**Missouri**

Rose Windmiller, Chair  
Vernal Brown, Secretary – Absent  
Fred Pestello – Absent  
Nate Johnson  
Sam Gladney

**Illinois**

Justin Zimmerman, Vice Chair  
Herbert Simmons, Treasurer – Absent  
Irma Golliday – Absent  
Terry Beach  
Derrick Cox – Absent

**Staff in Attendance via Zoom**

Taulby Roach, President and Chief Executive Officer  
Barbara Enneking, General Counsel and Deputy Secretary  
Myra Bennett, Manager of Board Administration  
Jessica Mefford-Miller, Executive Director Metro Transit  
Jerry Valley

**Others in Attendance**

ASL Interpreter  
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Jim Wallis, Chestnut Health Systems

1. **Open Session Call to Order**  
**8:32 a.m.** Chair Windmiller called the Open Session of the Bi-State Development Agency, Board of Commissioners Meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.
  
2. **Roll Call**  
**8:32 a.m.** Roll call was taken, as noted above. Myra Bennett, Manager of Board Administration, noted that a quorum was not present. Chair Windmiller noted that unfortunately, there is not a quorum present, due in part to some last minute personal issues for some of the Board members. She noted that business cannot be conducted today, in which votes would be taken; therefore, she will turn the meeting over to President and CEO, Taulby Roach, for comments. Chair Windmiller stated that the Board meeting will be rescheduled, as soon as possible.

President and CEO, Taulby Roach, apologized to the Board of Commissioners, staff, and public that the meeting is not able to be held, due to last minute cancellations. He stated that we do, double check on participation; however, as in this case, emergencies do happen.

Mr. Roach stated that e-mails have been distributed to the Commissioners and to the employees, regarding the recent deaths of two of the organization's valuable, long term team members, due to COVID-19: Steven Coleman and Jay Statler. He stated that these were long-time, dedicated employees. He noted that these deaths bring the death total for the organization to four. Mr. Roach noted that the new cases of COVID-19 continue to grow within the community and the organization. He reported that August 2021 was the third highest month to date for confirmed positive COVID-19 cases within the team, and the number of cases to date in September are alarming. Mr. Roach stated that the continued proliferation of COVID-19 across the U.S. is dominated by the Delta variant. He asked that the Board and staff join him in expressing thoughts and prayers to the families that have been affected by this. Mr. Roach noted that the leadership team has met regarding President Biden's pending Executive Orders, and their potential impact on the organization. He stated that, at this time, he is uncertain of the specific requirements and timing of such a mandate, but the organization is exploring the possible impacts. He stated that additional discussion regarding these matters will be held during the next Executive Session. He stated that he wanted to take a moment to acknowledge the realities of these issues, publicly. Mr. Roach stated that COVID-19 continues to devastate not only our ridership, but our employees, and the organization is doing everything it can to make these adjustments. He stated that he appreciates the Board's continued support in attempting to deal with this devastating pandemic. Mr. Roach stated that he would like to thank the employees who continue to show up and continue to do the work that they need to do, in order to move St. Louis. He stated that he is very proud to lead this organization and represent those employees who continue to do a great job. Mr. Roach asked the Board of Commissioners and the public to hold a moment of respect for Mr. Steven Coleman and Mr. Jay Statler, long-term employees, who were serving the public and doing their job at Metro Transit, who have unfortunately passed, due to COVID-19.

Chair Windmiller expressed condolences to the families, friends and co-workers of Mr. Coleman and Mr. Statler, on behalf of herself and the Bi-State Development Board of Commissioners. She stated that this is a devastating virus, and has affected so many people, especially frontline workers like those at Bi-State. Chair Windmiller stated that she extends condolences to the families, and hopes that they know that we are thinking of them, in this time of sorrow.

### 3. **Adjournment**

**8:38 a.m.** Being no other business, Chair Windmiller asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Gladney made a motion to adjourn, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman.

  
Deputy Secretary to the Board of Commissioners  
Bi-State Development