



The COMET Service Committee Meeting minutes are prepared and presented in summary form. Audio recordings of the meetings are on file at The COMET and are part of the approved minutes. If you would like to hear the recording from the meeting, please contact Paige Jernigan at [pjernigan@thecometsc.gov](mailto:pjernigan@thecometsc.gov).

Per SC Code of Laws, Title 30, Chapter 4, Section 30-4-80 - All public bodies shall notify persons or organizations, local news media, or such other news media as may request notification of the times, dates, places, and agenda of all public meetings, whether scheduled, rescheduled, or called, and the efforts made to comply with this requirement must be noted in the minutes of the meetings. The COMET complied with the notification of this meeting on Friday, September 4, 2020 at 3:15 p.m.

Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority  
Service Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, September 9, 2020-12:00 P.M.  
3613 Lucius Road, Columbia, SC 29201 – Conference Room A

Members Present:

Ron Anderson\*  
John V. Furgess, Sr.\*  
Derrick Huggins\* (joined at 12:03 P.M.)  
Skip Jenkins\*  
Lil Mood, Chair\*  
Geraldine Robinson\*

Guests Present:

Katherine Cason, DPA/Grant Assistant, Lexington County  
Jerry Francis, Guest  
Corey Gagnon, General Manager, RATP Dev  
Ben Limmer, Lead Transition Manager, RATP Dev\*  
Robert Stephens, RATP Dev\*

Absent Committee Members:

Carolyn Gleaton  
Al Koon

*\*indicates participation by phone*

The COMET Staff Present

John Andoh, Executive Director/CEO  
Leroy DesChamps, Director of Administration Operations/COO  
Tanisha Gibbons, Interim Customer Experience & Contract Compliance Specialist  
Eric Harris, Planning & Development Specialist  
Paige Jernigan, Administrative & Customer Service Specialist

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Ms. Mood called the meeting to order at 12:01 P.M.  
A quorum was present at the opening of the meeting.



2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ms. Mood amended the agenda by requesting that Item 3 on the agenda be replaced with: Open to the Public.

Motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Ms. Mood to adopt the Agenda as amended.

Approve: Anderson\*, Furgess\*, Mood\*

Absent: Gleaton, Huggins

Motion passed

3. INTRODUCTIONS AND IDEAS - Ms. Mood requested to make this item: Open for Public Comments - No public comments.

4. MINUTES FROM AUGUST 12, 2020 MEETING

Motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Ms. Mood to adopt the minutes from the August 12, 2020 meeting.

Approve: Anderson\*, Furgess\*, Mood\*

Absent: Gleaton, Huggins

Motion passed

*Mr. Huggins joined the meeting at 12:03 P.M.*

5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

A. RATP Dev IT Manager Request

Mr. Anderson asked Staff/Legal Counsel for clarification on the accepting/rejecting a candidate. It was clarified based on the language in the packet on Page 9:

1. Approval of a Candidate

- a) The Board of Directors of the Authority (the "Board") intends to exercise its right to approve the qualification of a Candidate prior to the Candidate's employment by the Contractor.
- b) The Director shall present information regarding Candidates to the Service Standards Committee (the "Committee"). The Committee may direct the Director to perform due diligence as the Committee sees necessary. The Board may also request an interview with any Candidate.
- c) The Committee shall report its recommendations to the Board regarding any Candidate.
- d) Any such Candidate must be acceptable to the Board as evidenced by a majority vote of the Board.



Motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Ms. Mood to approve Ms. Graziano as the Information Technology Specialist.

Approve: Anderson\*, Furgess\*, Huggins\*, Mood\*

Absent: Gleaton

Motion passed

**B. Autumn 2020 Service Changes.**

Ms. Mood summarized the intended purpose of these proposed changes. She continued to explain that the data presented to the Service Committee needs review and adjustment due to not meeting the Board approved performance standards, by having low ridership and high subsidy costs.

Ms. Mood further stated that staff presented the need to reduce transit service by 17,000 vehicle service hours to prevent the use of reserves due to a projected \$1 million deficit based on a \$60.12 per vehicle hour (fuel + contractor variable rate). She explained that this is the rate paid to RATP Dev and our fuel vendors.

Ms. Mood did state that staff has recommended that the Service Committee review the service levels after the State of Emergency, which is consistent with Board direction to determine if more service should be added back to the transit system. She further added that the next step would be to take a recommendation to the Board of reasonable changes for a Public Hearing after Board approval.

Mr. Furgess requested to make a motion? to table these changes until the Board has had an opportunity to look at it. Ms. Mood explained that the Committee will look first and then it would be taken to the Board for discussion and then to a Public Hearing. She referred the committee to the spreadsheet sent by Mr. Andoh to group the proposed changes for the Board to review.

Motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Ms. Mood to recommend to the Board of Directors to authorize a public hearing for route and schedule changes that exceed 25% in this packet.

Mr. Huggins expressed concern of the ongoing investigation and felt the committee should not move forward on any types of changes at this point. He suggested tabling this item until we are informed of the outcome of the investigation.

Discussion ensued regarding proposed route changes.

Ayes: Anderson\*, Mood\*

Nays: Furgess\*, Huggins\*

Absent: Gleaton





**Motion fails**

It was discussed that once the investigation results have been given a preliminary report stating that the investigation does not have any route specifications or problems related to the investigation. Mr. Huggins specified that he would like to receive some preliminary indications before we move forward.

Ms. Mood concluded that at the next Board meeting, she would explain that the Service Committee did not move to approve these recommendations. Mr. Anderson agreed and suggested stating that the motion was made, and it failed due to a tie.

**6. Adjourn**

**Motion:**

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded Mr. Huggins to adjourn.

**Approve:** Anderson\*, Furgess\*, Huggins\*, Mood\*

**Absent:** Gleaton

**Motion passed**

*The meeting adjourned at 12:19 P.M.*

CENTRAL MIDLANDS REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Adopted this Oct., 2020, Agenda Item \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by:

Paige Jernigan, Administrative & Customer Service Specialist

Approved by:

Allison Terracio, Secretary

