

REPRESENTATIVE POLICY BOARD

FINANCE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 13, 2023

MEETING TRANSCRIPTION

Tim: Welcome tonight to the RPB Finance Committee meeting, regular meeting of February 13th, 2023. We're doing this by Teams remotely. We now look at the safety moment, which is American Heart Month. For all of us with hearts, we're lucky we still are here. And for those that fail, we got to watch out for that, for us and for others. And that's what the message is all about. And with that, I'll now move along to the approval of the minutes for January 9th, 2023. Can we have a motion?

Charles: I'm moving. This is Charles.

Tim: Thank you, Charles. Second.

Jay: I'll second, Mr. Charles.

Tim: Thank you, Jay. Any discussion as the minutes as presented? Okay. Seeing no discussion, I'll call for vote on the matter. All those in favor? Acceptance.

Committee: Aye.

Tim: Motion carries unanimously. That's terrific. Okay, we now move to the first item on our agenda, which is the Authority member compensation. This is sort of an annual topic of discussion and we're at that point in time. So there's been a couple of presentations. Basically, what we've done and then there's what we've been doing the last few years is the CPI sort of thing. If I'm not correct, I believe that's what we've been more or less progressing along. So we'll start that conversation. I don't know if anyone wants to, anyone has strong opinions on it. If we're looking at the CPI, we know clearly there's been more inflation. So I guess that's probably the topic of our consideration here. Probably mostly. But with that, I don't know, Larry, if you come in on this or if this is strictly, you guys are mute on this and we just have a round table discussion on it, which I'm fine with. But in general, we need to have that conversation.

Larry: Yeah, we have in the past, well, two things. One, Rochelle and I have participated when asked.

Tim: Right.

Larry: But secondly, I'd like to suggest that this part of the meeting be held in executive session.

Tim: That's a good idea.

Larry: Because it concerns personal personnel matters.

Tim: Correct.

Larry: That is permissible as long as one of the items in which we can go into executive session, number one. And number two, it's permissible if two-thirds of the committee votes in favor of it.

Tim: I think that's good guidance and reminding. I think I would ask that we go into executive session and in fact do so with members only of Finance. Mario, I'd invite you in as well, and then we can come out of executive session if we have any questions for Larry or if we feel we need to bring them into executive session. That's probably fair and reasonable. Does that sound reasonable, Jeff? We would also include you.

Jeff: Sounds fine to me.

Tim: Okay, good. We'd like to keep things.

Charles: I'll make the motion, Mr. Chairman, we go into executive session.

Tim: Thank you, sir. I'll take a second on that.

Jay: I'll second it, Charles.

Tim: Okay. All those in favor?

Committee: Aye.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION FROM 5:03 P.M. TO 5:40 P.M.]

Tim: Okay, we're out. That means we're just going to alert those that were asked to leave to join us if they would like, and we can discuss hybrid meetings.

Jennifer: I'll give them a call.

Mario: Very well. Do you need a motion to table?

Tim: No, there's no motion.

Mario: You're just going to put it on the agenda?

Tim: Absolutely. There's no action to be taken in an executive session.

Mario: No, but to table the item.

Tim: No, it's not a tabled item. It was a discussion. So it'll be on the agenda next time.

Charles: It'll be on the agenda?

Tim: Yes, absolutely. That's where it has to fall. I would ask on the agenda that we actually indicate an executive session as a little hyphen item so everyone knows and is reminded. I see Michelle.

We have the discussion of hybrid meetings, which sort of began with our last meeting, and I know it's been discussed among other groups and basically, what we wanted to review among members is how we feel about hybrid meetings and do we want them to continue, and I guess we want to further that discussion so we can let everyone know what we're doing. Is that correct, Mario? Is that how you recall the conversation? You're muted.

Mario: I apologize. Does the Finance Committee wish to meet in person? Does you wish to meet only virtually, or do you wish to have the in-person option with the virtual option for people who can't make it to the meeting? So I think those are kind of the three choices.

Tim: Right. So does the group have any feelings, any issues that they know they're going to be confronting as I do?

Charles: I like the hybrid option.

Tim: Okay.

Charles: I'm going to try to make as many personal ones, but here the example of is myself facing some surgery and I like the option of being able to Zoom at this point.

Tim: Right. Anyone else have a, I think we should hear from everyone on this that's here. What do you think, Jay? How do you feel about the hybrid in person or one way or the other?

Jay: I'm really in a situation where I think it would be up to the individual, and they'd have the option doing in presence or virtual.

Tim: Right. So hybrid.

Jay: Hybrid.

Tim: I know for me, I too am having surgery in March and I just won't be able to make it for probably a month worth of stuff. It's not a month worth of disability, but it's knee surgery. For me, hybrid's going to be the only way it's going to work.

Jay: I want to ask Mario, do we have a consensus that he could respond to from the other committee members as to the direction they're going in?

Mario: I believe most everyone's going to go with a hybrid option, so being able to meet in person and then be able to dial in, if you will, which we're also going to continue for the full RPB, which I think gives management and certainly the Authority members the opportunity to not all be in the room at the same time.

Jay: Okay. Thank you.

Tim: Basically as a declaration, it's not so much as a motion, it's just what we more or less think, is that correct, Mario? You'd be satisfied that's for the full RPB, correct? That the Finance wants to more or less or do you want us to say that that's what we want to do, and do you think we should give a date or just leave it until we revisit that?

Mario: I think it's really up to the chair to meet with Jennifer and make sure that if there's any nuts and bolts that you need to work out to say "Okay, it'll be the March meeting or it'll be the April meeting." Because March isn't going to work out for whatever reason then.

Tim: Well, I think I could-

Mario: It's important to have the discussion as a group. I think that's-

Tim: Well, given that, I think it's reasonable for me to declare as chair anyway for now, that the March and the April meeting will definitely have to be hybrid meetings. Based on where I know I'm going to be.

Mario: And I think you can continue those indefinitely.

Tim: As we go. Okay. That's fair. I know we had our EXCOM meeting and we talked about all of this. I just wasn't sure how it cut it out.

Charles: Let me ask a question, hypothetically. We're going to have a hybrid meeting and what happened to, I mean we're going to have to alert Jennifer, whether or not there's going to be anybody there in person, in preparations for that meeting live have to be made. Does it make sense if only one person is doing it to continue it hybrid or just make that one meeting virtual? Is that how do you handle that, Jennifer? If you were to find out that, for instance, our March meeting, we only had one person that wanted to be live. I mean that to me doesn't necessarily make sense. How would that be handled then?

Jennifer: Well, I could either do an email and find out who's going to come, or I could just assume somebody's going to show up and just do a hybrid meeting.

Tim: And then if it's virtual, it's virtual.

Jennifer: Yes.

Tim: Okay.

- Charles: Maybe we could alert that one person that it was only going to be them and did they just want to do it virtual rather than go through the process of opening the building for that one person?
- Tim: Right.
- Mario: One suggestion, Tim.
- Tim: Yes. Go ahead.
- Mario: If you and Charles are both going to be out of commission for traveling and getting together with people for the next couple of months, do you want to just remain virtual until May?
- Tim: I think, Mario, that's the way to go myself. I was going to be saying that in my estimation that would be at a reasonable approach for the next two months.
- Mario: Yes. I'm concerned that you'll find out only one person shows up and then-
- Tim: Exactly.
- Mario: Jennifer's set everything up and gone through that trouble and we don't want to abuse-
- Tim: No, and I agree.
- Mario: Jennifer's good nature.
- Tim: Exactly. And I think under the circumstances, since we kind of know the next two periods that have been discussed, I just think it's reasonable to just schedule them as virtual meetings, and then at our April meeting, which is virtual, we discuss June and get it over with. Or May. Whatever it is, it's May. Right?
- Charles: By then we'll have experience-
- Tim: We will.
- Charles: With hybrid RPB and we'll know that if the mechanics are working. So I think that's a great idea.
- Tim: That's a plan. Good. The next thing is the Authority meeting attendance, and the reason this is, it's back up primarily because we did have, April was open as I recall, and I had volunteered for March, but then was scheduled for surgery in March and I can't attend so I took over the vacant April meeting. So we need somebody who can possibly cover the Authority meeting of March 23rd, which last meeting I had volunteered for, as I said, so. That's why this is back up there, if anyone can fill in.

- Charles: I'm doing February. I mean, depending how everything evolves, I mean if nobody else is going to do it and I could still do it with Zoom, just have to see how it breaks, unless somebody else can step up at this point.
- Tim: Okay. I remember I was in a similar situation last year. I ended up in the same boat with the two meetings because we couldn't get the coverage, but Tom may be able to. I really don't know. He's not here. So maybe we can put that out in the form of an email. Could you work out that Jennifer?
- Jennifer: Yes. I'll send that out tomorrow.
- Tim: Yes, just as the specific request for that meeting to see if March could basically be covered and if not, Charles can sort of fill in or I don't know what we do after that. I know I can't.
- Charles: I'll know better tomorrow time-wise and all that.
- Tim: Okay. End of the week is fine to send that out. We still got time. Good.
- Charles: I'm doing this week.
- Tim: And you're doing, yes. You're onboard for that one already, right?
- Charles: Right.
- Tim: Okay, so now we go quickly into new business. Anyone got any new business? I don't. Okay. Nothing like a no new business. Okay, so with that I'll call for a motion to adjourn.
- Charles: So move.
- Tim: Thank you sir. Second? Thank you Jay. So with that, all in favor.