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# **Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

***November 12, 2002***

**Approved by Board 02/11/2003**

## Targeted Accessibility Fund of New York

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**Board Members Present:** Bill Salvatore (Chairperson), Patricia Knapp (Vice Chairperson), Barbara Bouton (Secretary/Treasurer), Charles Brennan, Juliana Janson, John Black, and Robert Barry.

**Others Present:** John Flack (TAF Administrator), Lou Piazza (TAF Manager), Jim Williams (TAF Analyst), Susan Zimmerman (Verizon), and Bill Darcy (TAF Consultant).

- I. Bill Salvatore called the meeting to order at 10:00AM and took role call. He asked the Board to review the 8/13/2002 Board meeting minutes. A few changes were noted and made. A motion was then made by Patricia Knapp to adopt the 8/13/2002 minutes with the noted changes. John Black seconded the motion and the Board then unanimously approved it.
- II. Lou Piazza was asked to present the TAF status report. In July, TAF received 305 reports from TAF participants resulting in the issuance of 210 invoices/statements and 11 settlements summaries (4 settlements due to overpayments). In August TAF received 311 reports from TAF participants resulting in the issuance of 214 invoices/statements and 10 settlement summaries (2 settlements due to overpayments). In September TAF received 304 reports from TAF resulting in the issuance of 207 invoices/statements and 16 settlements summaries (7 settlements due to overpayments).

Patricia Knapp requested an annual revenue comparison be provided to the Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Charlie Brennan made a motion to adopt and approve the TAF Status Reports as presented; it was seconded by John Black and approved unanimously by the Board.

- III. Lou Piazza provided a TAF Administrative Expense Report for the months of July 2002-September 2002. He explained that Barbara Bouton (Treasurer) reviewed a more detailed financial summary. Barbara reported that everything looked in order and that she was satisfied. Patricia Knapp asked for expense trend comparisons be presented at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Charlie Brennan made a motion to adopt and approve the TAF Administrative Expense Summary as presented. This was seconded by John Black and unanimously approved by the Board.

Lou Piazza presented information for the investment of the TAF Reserve in a government securities backed money market account. Lou said that the account must be open with 50K increments and that interest is paid at the end of the month. The current interest paid is 1.75% and is not time bound. The Board asked Lou to obtain more specific information, emphasizing the documents assigning TAF's interests in the government securities.

- IV. John Flack gave the Board, at Bill Salvatore's request, an informal presentation on the proceeding in Case 02-C-0595. This proceeding is examining a need for a funding mechanism, which could be used for access rate reform. The case examines the function of the Access Pool and the need and funding level of a new funding mechanism called the Rate

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Affordability Fund (RAF). The RAF has the potential of being a TAF responsibility, however that decision would be determined by the PSC.

- V. Lou Piazza informed the Board that the PSC in the October 23<sup>rd</sup> session approved TAF for incorporation and sent a letter paraphrasing the consent ruling. The Board reviewed the PSC letter of approval and would like to have Keith Roland, Esq. request a clarification letter from the PSC. Lou will inform Keith, of the request, however Keith will be moving forward with the incorporation process.
- VI. Lou Piazza provided a status of the TRS issue as related to TAF. Lou told the Board when the incorporation is implemented the next step is for TAF to send a letter to NYSTA and the PSC accepting the transfer of the TRS oversight responsibility. Lou also told the Board that he facilitated a meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup> with the Relay Ad Hoc Committee to review and discuss a draft copy of a RFP, which will be sent to the PSC once approved by the committee. The committee is planning to implement the proposed timeline, which was discussed at a prior Board meeting. Lou added that he would keep the Board informed of this ongoing process.
- VII. Lou Piazza presented the Board with the tentative Board meeting schedule for 2003. Bill Salvatore asked if it would be possible to change the November 2003 date to allow for Veteran's Day. The meeting has been changed from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- VIII. The next regular scheduled Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> 2003 in Albany.
- IX. There being no further business, Bill Salvatore made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Patricia Knapp seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.