

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: March 20, 2025 - 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Location: Ann Arbor District Library (4th Floor)

Members Present: Kathleen Mozak (Chair), Chris Allen, Simi Barr, Rich Chang, Julie Grand, Susan Pollay, Kyra Sims, Georgia Valentine

Members Attending Virtually – Mike Allemang (Treasurer), Jesse Miller (Secretary)

Chairwoman Mozak called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Agenda Item
1. OPENING ITEMS
1.1 Approve Agenda <p>No additions or changes noted to the agenda.</p> <p>Ms. Pollay motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Barr.</p> <p>No discussion on the motion.</p> <p>All in favor of approving the agenda:</p> <p>Mr. Mike Allemang (Virtual): Yes Mr. Chris Allen: Yes Mr. Simi Barr: Yes Mr. Rich Chang: Yes Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes</p> <p>The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously</p>
1.2 Public Comment <p>No Public Commenters.</p>
1.3 General Announcements <p>Chairwoman Mozak introduced Ms. Georgia Valentine who was recently appointed as a Board member representing Ypsilanti Township. She shared that March 18th was Transit Employee Appreciation Day and thanked employees in the transit industry for their support and commitment to the communities they serve.</p> <p>Chairwoman Mozak brought to the attention of the Board that two members were participating virtually but only one would be able to vote virtually. She briefly outlined that Mr. Allemang is allowed ADA accommodation under the OMA as a virtual voting participant. However, Mr. Miller does receive the accommodation, therefore he will be a non-voting participant.</p>

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Board Meeting Minutes February 20, 2025

2.2 Committee Meeting Summaries

Mr. Chang motioned to accept the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Barr.

No discussion on the motion.

All in favor of accepting the Consent Agenda:

Mr. Mike Allemang (Virtual): Yes

Mr. Chris Allen: Yes

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes

Mr. Rich Chang: Yes

Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes

Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes

Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to accept the Consent Agenda passed unanimously.

*** Ms. Grand and Ms. Sims joined the meeting at 6:33pm.*

3. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE

3.1 Ownership Linkage Task Force Updates

Mr. Chang provided updates on the recent meeting with the Mayor and City Manager of Ypsilanti and the planned upcoming meeting with the Mayor of Ann Arbor. These meetings are part of establishing regularly scheduled ownership linkage discussions.

4. MONITORING

4.1 Financial Conditions & Activities (2.5)

Ms. Reed shared an overview of the Financial Conditions & Activities monitoring report which was submitted as fully compliant. She noted Board members had submitted positive survey results and had no additional comments on the monitoring report. The Finance Committee reviewed the monitoring report and recommended the Board accept the report as (A).

Mr. Allen motioned to accept the Financial Conditions & Activities (2.5) monitoring report as (A) *a reasonable interpretation for all policy items and that the evidence demonstrates compliance with the interpretations*, seconded by Ms. Grand.

No discussion on the motion.

All in favor of accepting Financial Conditions & Activities (2.5) monitoring report as (A):

Mr. Mike Allemang (Virtual): Yes

Mr. Chris Allen: Yes

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes

Mr. Rich Chang: Yes

Ms. Julie Grand: Yes

Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes

Ms. Kyra Sims: Yes

Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes

Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to accept the Financial Conditions (2.5) monitoring report as (A) passed unanimously.

4.2 Cash & Investments (2.6)

Ms. Reed shared an overview of the Cash & Investments monitoring report which was submitted as fully compliant. Board survey responses were all favorable with no additional comments for discussion. The Finance Committee reviewed the monitoring report and recommended the Board accept the report as (A).

Mr. Allemang complimented Ms. Reed and staff for the thoroughness of the data within the report. He noted that while the data is reviewed within the yearly monitoring report, it is also provided within the quarterly financial reporters.

Mr. Allen motioned to accept the Cash & Investments (2.6) monitoring report as (A) *a reasonable interpretation for all policy items and that the evidence demonstrates compliance with the interpretations*, seconded by Ms. Sims.

No discussion on the motion.

All in favor of accepting Cash & Investments (2.6) monitoring report as (A):

Mr. Mike Allemang (Virtual): Yes
Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Kyra Sims: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to accept the Cash & Investments (2.6) monitoring report as (A) passed unanimously.

4.3 Global Executive Limitations (2.0)

Mr. Carpenter provided an overview of the Global Executive Limitations monitoring report and shared that the report included a considerable change in the interpretations and data provided. The Service Committee reviewed the monitoring report and recommended the Board accept the report as (A).

Mr. Barr recommended to accept the Global Executive Limitations (2.0) monitoring report as (A) *reasonable interpretation for all policy items and that the evidence demonstrates compliance with the interpretations*, seconded by Ms. Pollay.

No discussion on the motion.

All in favor of accepting Global Executive Limitations (2.0) monitoring report as (A):

Mr. Mike Allemang (Virtual): Yes
Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Kyra Sims: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to accept the Global Executive Limitations (2.0) monitoring report as (A) passed unanimously.

5. POLICY DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Policy Language Discussion (if needed)

No policy language discussion.

6. BOARD EDUCATION / DISCUSSION

6.1 Ridership & Coverage

Mr. Yang provided a presentation of ridership vs. coverage and its importance for future planning. He outlined the pros and cons of prioritizing ridership vs. coverage and the impact of frequency, along with Board discussion on challenges and opportunities of balancing ridership and coverage goals. Board members engaged in a robust discussion on the impact and opportunities for transit services and transit hubs with new local developments.

7. OPERATIONAL UPDATES

7.1 FY25 Q1 Service Report

Mr. Brooks presented the Q1 Service Report – highlights included improvements in boardings, on-time performance and a decrease in complaints. He also shared the challenges in meeting flex ride service demands over the holidays. Board members discussed the data provided within the report and the importance of understanding industry standards when setting internal goals. Mr. Brooks will be looking at available data for benchmarking and comparing ridership trends with other agencies.

7.2 Low-No Update

Ms. Reed shared that the grant application for the Low-No Grant award has officially been submitted to the FTA – it will go through FTA Region 5 and then to Washington, DC in a process that takes several weeks. The USDOT has provided some clarification on how Executive Orders will be applied to the grant and potential adjustments may be needed if the application does not comply. The application included hydrogen and hybrid buses and there is a possibility the hydrogen buses may not meet the criteria, which will require an amendment to the grant.

Board members discussed what input may be needed from the Board and Mr. Carpenter will review the Board's original decision from October 2023 to determine voting language used.

The FTA review could take months, and the Board will be updated as information is received.

7.3 Legislative Updates

Mr. Pfeifer provided a recap of the March 12th Michigan Transit Legislative Day in Lansing that he attended with Mr. Carpenter and Chairwoman Mozak. They were able to meet with local legislators to discuss transit funding and priorities. He also provided an update on early state budget negotiations.

7.4 CEO Report

Mr. Carpenter provided a brief overview of the CEO report with Board members asking for more details related to bus lanes and bus rapid transit updates mentioned within the report.

8. EMERGENT ITEMS

9. CLOSING ITEMS

9.1 Action Item Recap

- All three monitoring reports were approved and will be added to the website
- Mr. Brooks will be reviewing / adding fixed route benchmarks and industry standard benchmarks to the Service Report metrics
- Staff will be reviewing the Board's decision from October 2023 regarding the Low-No grant approval.

9.2 Topics for Next Meeting

Communication & Support to the Board (2.9)

Environmental Sustainability (2.11)

Transit Funding Part I

Future:

Determining Reasonableness

9.3 Closed Session (Pursuant to Sec.8(d) MI OMA)

Chairwoman Mozak took a roll call vote to go into Closed Session for strategy connected to real estate projects and information on the Collective Bargaining process overview pursuant to Section 8(d) of the Open Meetings Act.

Roll call vote to enter Closed Session:

Mr. Mike Allemang (Virtual): Yes

Mr. Chris Allen: Yes

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes

Mr. Rich Chang: Yes

Ms. Julie Grand: Yes

Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes

Ms. Kyra Sims: Yes

Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes

Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The Board voted unanimously to go into Closed Session at 8:29 pm.

The Board voted unanimously to move out of closed session at 9:59pm.

Mr. Mike Allemang (Virtual): Yes
Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Kyra Sims: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

9.4 Public Comment

No public Commenters.

9.5 Adjournment

Ms. Sims motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Chang.

There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of adjourning the meeting:

Mr. Mike Allemang (Virtual): Yes
Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Kyra Sims: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.

Chairwoman Mozak adjourned the meeting at 10:00pm

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah Holt

