
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: May 21, 2026 - 6:00pm – 8:30pm

Location: Ann Arbor District Library (4th Floor) - Virtual via Zoom

Members Present: Kathleen Mozak (Chair), Mike Allemang (Treasurer), Jesse Miller (Secretary), Simi Barr, Rich Chang, Julie Grand, Susan Pollay, Georgia Valentine

Members Absent: Praveena Ramaswami (Excused)

Chairwoman Mozak called the meeting to order at 6:01pm

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Approve Agenda

No additions or changes noted to the agenda.

Mr. Miller motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Chang.

No discussion on the motion.

All in favor of approving the agenda:

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

1.2 Public Comment

Ian Loo – Shared his parents recently had a bad experience with A-Ride services and requested rules for riders should be better communicated to those who are not familiar with the service.

Tim Hull – Spoke about Nixon Road detour challenges and requested better collaboration between the City of Ann Arbor and AAATA given the impacts to riders. He also noted that detour changes and route information do not adequately update online in transit apps and Google map.

Gaurav Kulkarni – Spoke about the need for more stops along State Street and the challenge of online data not updating to reflect detours and road closures that impact stops, etc. He encouraged the organization to continue to promote public transportation as a way for local residents to reduce their carbon footprint.

Jeremy Glover – Spoke in favor of TWU and negotiations for a fair wage for union members.
Craig Kimball – AAATA MCO who spoke in favor of working with TWU to negotiate a fair

contract for the union workers.

Cam Finch – Spoke in support of the TWU as they work toward negotiating a fair contract and also is in support of a free fare program for riders.]

Rev. Sarah Rutherford – Pastor at First Presbyterian Ann Arbor and addressed the need for free bus fare, especially for the unhoused in the community as transportation is a vital necessity for those seeking shelter.

Sarah Bassiouni – Spoke in support of TWU and the need to negotiate a fair contract for workers. She also shared recent challenges with the many detours around the service area and the impacts to travel times.

Tim Burroughs – Spoke in support of TWU and the need to finish contract negotiations as drivers are currently working without a contract.

*** Ms. Julie Grand joined the meeting at 6:05pm*

*** Mr. Mike Allemang joined the meeting at 6:07pm*

1.3 General Announcements

Chairwoman Mozak shared that Ms. Pollay had recently been reappointed for another 5 year term to the Board.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Board Meeting Minutes: April 16, 2026

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: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to accept the Consent Agenda passed unanimously.

3. EMERGENT ITEMS

3.1 Closed Session (Pursuant to 8(c) of OMA)

Chairwoman Mozak took a roll call vote to go into Closed Session pursuant to 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act, the closed session is for strategy connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement.

Vote to go into closed session (Yes/No response):

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The Board unanimously voted to go into closed session at 6:31pm.

Vote to move out of closed session (Yes/No response):

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The Board unanimously voted to move out of closed session at 7:40 pm.

4. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE

4.1 OLTF Committee or Task Force

Chairwoman Mozak noted that the agenda topic had been deferred from the previous meeting, but an issue brief had not been included. Therefore, the topic will be added to the June Board meeting agenda.

5. MONITORING / DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Monitoring: Governance Process Policies (3.5-3.9)

The Board briefly discussed the recent Board self-assessment survey and there was no further input or discussion on the survey results or comments.

6. POLICY

6.1 Policy Language Discussion (if needed)

Chairwoman Mozak discussed the background of prior Board self-assessment survey options and the 2024 decision to pilot changing the response options to yes/no/no instances this monitoring period. After several self-assessment surveys, the Board discussed removing the “no instances this monitoring period” option altogether.

Mr. Chang motioned to remove “no instances this monitoring period” for 3.0 and 4.0 policy surveys, seconded by Mr. Mr. Miller.

No discussion on the motion.

All in favor of removing “no instances this monitoring period” for 3.0 and 4.0 policy surveys:

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to remove “no instances this monitoring period” for 3.0 and 4.0 policy surveys passed unanimously.

After the vote, Mr. Allemang raised the discussion of reviewing policy language wording in policy 3.5.1.1 – Board members agreed, and the Governance Committee will review at their next meeting.

7. BOARD EDUCATION / DISCUSSION

No Board Education / Discussion.

8. OPERATIONAL UPDATES

8.1 BTC Relocation Update

Mr. Yang provided the Board with updates on the BTC Relocation changes that were put into effect as of May 3rd. He answered questions from Board members related to the planned time for the BTC closure and detour impacts for customers.

8.2 FY2027 Business Plan / Budget Timeline

Ms. Reed introduced the Board to the annual budget timeline and shared an overview of the budget process. She noted that budget development is informed by compliances with state and federal regulations, board policies and the FY2027 Business Plan. During the budget process the Board, staff and public have opportunities for engagement and input. Staff will begin introducing budget development updates throughout the summer with a draft budget presented in August and the final budget in September.

8.3 Business Plan Intro

Ms. Kamau shared an overview of the draft FY2027 Corporate Business Plan. She provided information on the prioritization of the new Ends policies and status updates on FY2026 Business Plan projects. Feedback from the Board, staff and public is appreciated and will be incorporated into the June Business Plan draft. She also shared that many of the projects in the draft plan were multi-year projects so new projects were not added.

8.4 FY2026 Q2 Financial Report

Ms. Reed shared the FY2026 Q2 Financial Report with highlights including favorable revenues and expenses due to favorable local property taxes and state operating assistance. The additional favorable revenues are offsetting increased fuel costs which are closely being monitored. Cash flow is sufficient and investments have remained stable.

She fielded several questions related to rising fuel costs and the potential for a budget

amendment should those costs exceed the original budget projections.

8.5 Legislative Updates

Mr. Pfeifer shared positive news related to a federal earmark request in progress and that the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has released their first iteration of the reauthorization plan (Build America 250 Act). Upon review, it is favorable long-term to public transportation. At the state level, the state budget process is in the early stages and MPTA has been working on continued engagement with elected officials promoting state-wide public transportation needs.

8.6 CEO Report

Mr. Carpenter shared that he recently met with Pittsfield Township leadership and also engaged in a productive conversation with local immigrant advocates. He also shared that Scio Township will be maintaining funding for Route 30.

9. CLOSING ITEMS

9.1 Action Item Recap

- Defer OLTF: Committee or Taskforce agenda item (along with issue brief) to June Board meeting
- Governance Committee will review policy 3.5.1.1 and discuss language revisions
- Update future surveys for policies 3.0-4.0 to include only yes / no answers.

9.2 Topics for Next Meeting

Budget Process Updates
Governance Process Policies (3.0-3.4)
Treatment of Staff (2.2)
Asset Protection (2.7)
FY26 Q2 Service Report
Business Plan
Negotiation Update

9.3 Public Comment

No public comment.

9.4 Adjournment

Mr. Chang motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Allemang.

There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of adjourning the meeting:

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes

Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

Chairwoman Mozak adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah Holt