Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: August 20, 2026 - 6:00pm – 8:30pm

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

Members Present: Kathleen Mozak (Chair), Simi Barr, Rich Chang, Travis Gonyou, Julie Grand, Susan Pollay, Praveena Ramaswami
Members Absent: Mike Allemang (Excused), Jesse Miller (Excused), Georgia Valentine (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. Chang motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Grand.

No discussion on the motion.

All in favor of approving the agenda:

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Praveena Ramaswami: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

1.2 Public Comment

No public commenters.

1.3 General Announcements

No general announcements.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Board Meeting Minutes: July 16, 2026

2.2 Committee Meeting Summaries

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

No discussion on the motion.

All in favor of accepting the Consent Agenda:

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Praveena Ramaswami: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to accept the Consent Agenda passed unanimously.

3. EMERGENT ITEMS

3.1 Draft Budget Presentation

Chairwoman Mozak stated that in accordance with Budget Hearings of Local Government Act, local units are required to hold a public hearing on proposed budget.

Ms. Pollay motioned to suspend the regular board meeting and move into the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Barr.

There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of suspending the board meeting to move into the public hearing:

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Praveena Ramaswami: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

There was a brief sidebar procedural discussion on the order of the public comment, and it was determined that it should be after the draft presentation. Board members agreed to vote to close out public comment and then vote to reopen it, after the draft budget presentation.

Chairwoman Mozak then requested a motion to close the public hearing and resume the regular board meeting for the draft budget presentation.

Ms. Grand motioned to close the public hearing and resume the regular board meeting, seconded by Mr. Gonyou.

There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of closing the public hearing and resuming the regular board meeting:

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes

Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Praveena Ramaswami: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to close the public hearing and resume the regular board meeting passed unanimously.

Ms. Reed presented the FY2027 draft balanced budget (Board packet, pg. 96) with $78.8M in Revenues and $78.1M in Expenses. Budget highlights include slight continued growth in ridership, stable state funding and increased property tax revenues, offsetting cost pressures. She provided an overview of the Capital Budget, which is fully funded to cover state of good repair, value added and expansion projects such as the YTC Project. She also outlined risks and opportunities, including state operating assistance, fuel price volatility, labor negotiations and federal funding reauthorizations.

She fielded questions from Board members which included impacts on fleet maintenance costs and fundings sources for capital projects.

The final budget will be presented at the September Board meeting for Board approval.

3.1.1 Public Hearing RE: Budget

Chairwoman Mozak stated that in accordance with Budget Hearings of Local Government Act, local units are required to hold a public hearing on proposed budget.

Ms. Ramaswami motioned to suspend the regular board meeting and move into the public hearing, seconded by Ms. Pollay.

There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of suspending the board meeting to move into the public hearing:

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Praveena Ramaswami: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to suspend the regular board meeting to move into the public hearing passed unanimously.

No public commenters.

Chairwoman Mozak requested a motion to close the public hearing and resume the regular board meeting.

Mr. Barr motioned to close the public hearing and resume the regular board meeting, seconded by. Ms. Pollay.

There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of closing the public hearing and resuming the regular board meeting:

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Praveena Ramaswami: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to close the public hearing and resume the regular board meeting passed unanimously.

3.2 Closed Session (Pursuant to 8(c), 8(d) of OMA)

Chairwoman Mozak took a roll call vote to go into Closed Session pursuant to 8(c) and 8(d) 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. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Praveena Ramaswami: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The Board unanimously voted to go into closed session at 7:15pm.

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

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Praveena Ramaswami: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The Board unanimously voted to move out of closed session at 8:39pm.

4. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE

4.1 OLTF

Mr. Chang shared that he is currently in the process of developing ownership linkage approach for board members to use while engaging with the community.

5. MONITORING / DEVELOPMENT

No monitoring / development discussion.

6. POLICY

6.1 Policy Manual Mock-Up

Mr. Carpenter introduced a draft version of the Board policy manual which is aimed at making the manual more user-friendly for new board members. The Governance Committee has provided initial feedback, and Board members are invited to provide further comments to the CEO. Any final changes to the policy manual will be Board approved before they are implemented.

6.2 Policy Language Discussion (if needed)

No policy language discussed.

7. BOARD EDUCATION / DISCUSSION

No Board education discussed.

8. OPERATIONAL UPDATES

8.1 FY26 Q3 Financial Report

Ms. Reed provided a brief summary of the FY26 Q3 Financial Report, highlighting the organization is on budget, revenues are currently stronger than budgeted and expenses are slightly under budget. The operating reserve balance is above target with no major changes being made to the investment strategy. The Finance Committee received and reviewed the report with no additional input.

8.2 Legislative Updates

Mr. Pfeifer shared legislative updates, noting the primary election results and upcoming changes to city leadership. He noted that on the federal side, a continuing resolution for the budget has not been passed and he has no reauthorization updates.

8.3 CEO Report

Mr. Carpenter shared updates from the annual MPTA conference that had taken place a few days prior to the Board meeting. An important highlight is the recent progress towards merging the two state transit associations which will strengthen the transit industry with a more unified messaging to legislators.

9. CLOSING ITEMS

9.1 Action Item Recap

- Review policy manual mock-up – feedback to be sent to Mr. Carpenter

9.2 Topics for Next Meeting

Budget Approval (September)
FY26Q3 Service Report
Financial Planning & Budgeting (2.4)
Officer Elections
Millage Recommendation (October)
OLTF: Task Force or Committee

9.3 Public Comment

No public commenters.

9.4 Adjournment

Mr. Chang motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Ramaswami. There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of adjourning the meeting:

Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Ms. Praveena Ramaswami: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

Chairwoman Mozak adjourned the meeting at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah Holt