Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: September 17, 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, Travis Gonyou, Julie Grand, Georgia Valentine
Members Absent: Susan Pollay (Excused), Praveena Ramaswami (Excused),

Chairwoman Mozak called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Approve Agenda

No additions or changes noted to the agenda.

Mr. Barr motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Allemang.

No discussion on the motion.

All in favor of approving the agenda:

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

The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

1.2 Public Comment

Mr. Dirk Mayhew requested the agency consider offering free fare for Election Day in November. He has spoken with several organizations within the community to fundraise for passes to distribute and has asked the agency to join in the efforts.

*** Mr. Gonyou joined the meeting at 6:03pm*

1.3 General Announcements

Chairwoman Mozak placed a request for Audit Task Force members as the group will need to be assembled by mid-October. She also reminded the Board to provide any input on the policy manual mock-up to Mr. Carpenter. She and Ms. Valentine shared their recent attendance at the APTA Transit Board conference in Detroit.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Board Meeting Minutes: August 20, 2026

2.2 Committee Meeting Summaries

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

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
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to accept the Consent Agenda passed unanimously.

3. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE

3.1 OLTF

Mr. Chang shared that he is working to coordinate meetings with newly elected local officials along with putting together an outreach strategy to share with the Board.

4. POLICY MONITORING

4.1 Budget Discussion & Approval

Mr. Carpenter noted that there is a two-step process for the annual budget approval – first the Board accepts the Financial Planning & Budgeting monitoring report, followed by a vote to adopt the annual budget.

4.1.1 Monitoring 2.4 (Budgeting)

Ms. Reed presented the monitoring report for Financial Planning & Budgeting (Policy 2.4) with a notation that all policies were compliant and there had been no additional comments from Board members on the monitoring report survey. The Finance Committee reviewed the monitoring report and recommends that the Board accept the report as (A) a reasonable interpretation.

Ms. Grand motioned to accept the Financial Planning & Budgeting (Policy 2.4) monitoring report as (A) a reasonable interpretation, seconded by Ms. Valentine.

There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of accepting the Financial Planning & Budgeting (Policy 2.4) monitoring report as (A) a reasonable interpretation:

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

The motion to accept the Financial Planning & Budgeting (policy 2.4) monitoring report as (A), a reasonable interpretation, passed unanimously.

4.1.2 FY2027 Budget Presentation & Approval

Ms. Reed presented the final FY2027 Operating and Capital Budget recommendation (Board packet, pg. 210) with $78.2M for operations and $46.6 in capital investment. The budget is balanced with full services maintained, strong income growth, no fare changes, cost pressures managed, funding for the union contract, and funding for capital projects.

Mr. Allemang motioned to adopt the FY2027 Operating & Capital Budget Resolution as presented, seconded by Mr. Miller.

There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of adopting the FY2027 Operating & Capital Budget Resolution as presented:

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

The motion to adopt the FY2027 Operating & Capital Budget Resolution as presented passed unanimously.

4.2 Labor Negotiations

4.2.1 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
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes

Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The Board unanimously voted to go into closed session at 6:18pm.

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

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

The Board unanimously voted to move out of closed session at 6:30pm.

4.2.2 Monitoring 2.3.6 – 2.3.8 (Labor Negotiations)

Mr. Carpenter noted that there is a two-step process for approving a labor contract – first the Board accepts the Policy 2.3.6-2.3.8 (Labor Negotiations) monitoring report, followed by a vote to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

The Finance Committee reviewed the monitoring report and recommends that the Board accept the report as (A) a reasonable interpretation.

Mr. Allemang motioned to accept Policy 2.3.6 – 2.3.8 (Labor Negotiations) monitoring report as (A) a reasonable interpretation, seconded by Mr. Barr.

There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of accepting accept Policy 2.3.6 – 2.3.8 (Labor Negotiations) monitoring report as (A) a reasonable interpretation:

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

The motion to accept Policy 2.3.6 – 2.3.8 (Labor Negotiations) monitoring report as (A), a reasonable interpretation, passed unanimously.

4.2.3 Collective Bargaining Agreement Approval

Chairwoman Mozak asked for someone to move approve the Tentative Agreement Resolution signing of the contract between AAATA and TWU Local 171.

Mr. Gonyou motioned to approve the TA Resolution, seconded by Ms. Grand.

There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of approving the TA Resolution:

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

The motion to approve the TA Resolution passed unanimously.

4.3 Policy Language Discussion

Board members briefly discussed modifying the monitoring schedule for policies 2.3.6 – 2.3.8 to align with the negotiation schedule and agreed the monitoring schedule should be updated.

Ms. Grand put forth a motion to update the monitoring schedule so policies 2.3.6 – 2.3.8 are monitored concurrent with labor negotiations, seconded by Ms. Valentine.

There was no discussion on the motion.

All in favor of updating the monitoring schedule so policies 2.3.6 – 2.3.8 are monitored concurrent with labor negotiations:

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

The motion to update the monitoring schedule so policies 2.3.6 – 2.3.8 are monitored concurrent with labor negotiations was accepted unanimously.

5. OPERATIONAL UPDATES

5.1 FY26 Q3 Service Report

Mr. Brooks presented the FY26 Q3 Service Report to the Board. He reported strong performance for the quarter – fixed route services were down 4% over the year as service was impacted with 17 detours across 13 routes along with the temporary BTC relocation, on time performance remained at 80%. There was a 40% increase to FlexRide and 17% trip denials and MV maintained a 97% trip fulfillment rate. He also included comparable performance with other agencies. He fielded questions from Board members related to complaint trends, trip denials, ridership declines and requests for multi-year quarterly ridership recording.

*** Ms. Grand left the meeting at 6:51pm*

5.2 Legislative Updates

Mr. Pfeifer shared updates on federal surface transportation legislation which will provide funding and policy priorities over the next 5 years and the continuing budget resolution to keep funding at the same level through December 11th. At the state level, Infrastructure Projects Authority Fund award results will be released within the next few weeks.

5.3 CEO Report

There was no additional discussion on the monthly CEO report.

6. EMERGENT ITEMS

6.1 Officer Elections (FY27 – Starts October)

In accordance with Article II, Section 2 of the Bylaws:

Nominations for each Board Officer position shall be made from the floor. Offices will be filled one at a time by roll call vote. Officers shall be elected in September and take office October 1 for a one-year term.

Chairwoman Mozak opened the floor for nomination for Board Secretary for FY 2027

Mr. Chang nominated Ms. Ramaswami

(Ms. Ramaswami, while not in attendance, had indicated she would accept a nomination for Board Secretary for FY 2027)

All in favor of nominating Ms. Ramaswami for Board Secretary:

Roll call vote (Yes/No response):

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

All in favor, none opposed.

Chairwoman Mozak opened the floor for nomination for Board Treasurer for FY 2027

Mr. Miller nominated Mr. Allemang.

Mr. Allemang accepted the nomination for Board Treasurer for FY 2027

All in favor of nominating Mr. Allemang for Board Treasurer:

Roll call vote (Yes/No response):

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes

Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

All in favor, none opposed.

Chairwoman Mozak opened the floor for nomination for Board Chair for FY 2027

Mr. Allemang nominated Ms. Mozak.

Ms. Mozak accepted the nomination for Board Chair for FY 2027

All in favor of nominating Ms. Mozak for Board Chair:

Roll call vote (Yes/No response):

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

All in favor, none opposed.

7. CLOSING ITEMS

7.1 Action Item Recap

- Chairwoman Mozak will send an email seeking volunteers for the Audit Task Force before their first meeting in November
- Board members are reminded to send policy manual mock-up input to Mr. Carpenter
- FY27 Operating and Capital Budget was adopted
- Both monitoring reports were accepted as “A”
- TA was approved
- Board policy manual monitoring schedule will be updated for 2.3.6 – 2.3.8 to be monitored concurrent with union negotiations

7.2 Topics for Next Meeting

Compensation & Benefits (2.3)
Construction (2.10)
Millage Recommendation (November)

7.3 Public Comment

No public commenters.

7.4 Adjournment

Ms. Valentine motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Gonyou.

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
Mr. Travis Gonyou: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Georgia Valentine: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

Chairwoman Mozak adjourned the meeting at 7:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah Holt

Resolution 2/2026

APPROVAL OF FY2027 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
ANN ARBOR AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority (AAATA) Board of Directors (Board) is required by the Michigan Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act of 1968 to adopt a balanced operating budget on or before September 30 for its next fiscal year, which begins on October 1, and

WHEREAS, AAATA staff have developed a FY2027 Operating and Capital Budget that furthers Board Ends Policies within Executive Limitations and provides multi-year context, and

WHEREAS, the AAATA is required to develop a fiscally constrained four-year program of projects for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to be submitted to the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study (WATS) to be eligible for federal funds, and

WHEREAS, the AAATA is required to submit the capital program for FY2027 to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as part of the annual application for FY2027 federal funding, and

WHEREAS, the AAATA is required to submit the capital program and operating budget for FY2027 to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) as part of the annual application for FY2027 state funding, which is amended by this resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby approves the FY2027 Operating and Capital Budget as its general appropriations act with total expenditures as follows:

- **$78,226,909** for operations, and
- **$46,605,326** for capital investment.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority Board of Directors hereby adopts the capital projects listed herein as updates to the FY2026-FY2029 Transportation Improvement Program, of which FY2027 and beyond are subject to amendment in future years.

Kathleen M. Mozak, Chair	Jesse Miller, Secretary
9/17/26	9/17/26
Date	Date

Resolution 3/2026

SIGNING OF CONTRACT BETWEEN
ANN ARBOR AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
AND
TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 171

WHEREAS, the collective bargaining agreement ("labor contract") between the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority ("TheRide") and the Transport Workers Union, Local 171 ("TWU 171") expired on March 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the TheRide and the TWU 171 successfully negotiated a tentative agreement for a new four-year labor contract effective from September 17, 2026 through June 30, 2030, and

WHEREAS, the TWU 171 members ratified this TA on August 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, per Board policy 3.2.11, the Board of Directors must approve any collective bargaining agreements.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the AAATA Board of Directors approves and accepts the tentative labor contract (attached), and authorizes the Chair of the Board, the Board Secretary, and Chief Executive Officer to sign the agreement with the TWU 171.

Kathleen M. Mozak
Kathleen M. Mozak, Chair

9/17/26
Date

Jesse Miller
Jesse Miller, Secretary

9/17/26
Date