



Minutes

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

The Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority met on Thursday, December 14, 2023, pursuant to notice. Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. He then recited the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call – [watch video](#)

Board members present (14): Andalcio, Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

Board members absent (1): Melvin

Approval of minutes from the meeting held on November 16, 2023 – [watch video](#)

No questions or comments from RTA Board members.

Director Holt moved, and Director Groven seconded that the minutes from the public meeting held on November 16, 2023, be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

14 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

1 Absent: Melvin

Public Comment – [watch video](#)

Bruce Mainzer and Ryan Sinwelski provided public comment.

Executive Director's Report – [watch video](#)

Executive Director Leanne Redden provided a legislative update and an overview of the 2024 Budget process and activities.

Director Gorman and Chairman Dillard asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Update on the activities of the RTA Transit Access Citizens' Advisory Board – [watch video](#)

Jackie Forbes, Chairperson of the RTA Citizens' Advisory Board, provided an update on the work of the Board.

Director Gorman asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Presentation of the Semi-Annual Project Management Oversight report – [watch video](#)

AJ Nazem, Project Engineer, presented the semi-annual Project Management Oversight (PMO) report. The RTA PMO program performs project oversight for Service Board capital development efforts.

Directors Melvin, Lewis, Sager, Gorman and Andalcio asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Transit is the Answer update – [watch video](#)

Peter Kersten, Program Manager, Strategic Planning, Sarah Rubino, Principal Analyst, Treasury and Budget, Rob Nash, Director, Government Affairs, Tina Fassett Smith, Director, Communications, and Melissa Meyer, Manager, Communications, provided an update on legislative activities, financial information, and the public communications campaign.

Directors Gathing, Lewis, Gorman, Carey, and Andalcio, asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Resolutions certifying financial results – third quarter 2023 – [watch video](#)

Director Ross moved, and Director Groven seconded that the proposed ordinances be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

15 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

Ordinance adopting an amendment of the 2023-2027 Capital Program – [watch video](#)

Tara O'Malley, Principal Analyst, Capital Programs presented an ordinance that incorporates changes in 2023-2027 Capital Program projects and funding for CTA, Metra, and Pace.

Director Melvin moved, and Director Andalcio seconded that the proposed ordinances be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

15 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

Ordinance adopting the 2024 Budgets, 2025-20265 Financial Plans, and 2024-2028 Capital Programs of the Service Boards and Authority – [watch video](#)

Doug Anderson, Manager, Budget and Business Analysis, Brian Lowenberg, Manager, Capital Programs, and Allison Noback, General Counsel, presented an ordinance adopting the 2024 Operating Budgets, 2025-2026 Financial Plans, and 2024-2028 Capital Programs of the Service Boards and the Authority, including the RTA Agency.

Directors Coulson, Sager, Lewis, Melvin, Ross, and Chairman Dillard asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Director Sager moved, and Director Carey seconded that the Service Board and the Authority have their budget voted on separately. The motion carried on the following voice vote:

15 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

Ordinance adopting the 2024 Budget, 2025-20265 Financial Plan, and 2024-2028 Capital Program of the CTA – [watch video](#)

Director Sager moved, and Director Pang seconded that the ordinance for CTA be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

15 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

Ordinance adopting the 2024 Budget, 2025-20265 Financial Plan, and 2024-2028 Capital Program of the Metra – [watch video](#)

Director Holt moved, and Director Ross seconded that the ordinance for Metra be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

14 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

1 Nay - Coulson

Ordinance adopting the 2024 Budget, 2025-20265 Financial Plan, and 2024-2028 Capital Program of the Pace – [watch video](#)

Director Carey moved, and Director Gorman seconded that the ordinance for Pace be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

15 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

Ordinance adopting the 2024 Budget, 2025-20265 Financial Plan, and 2024-2028 Capital Program of the RTA – [watch video](#)

Director Sager moved, and Director Lewis seconded that the ordinance for the Authority be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

15 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

Ordinance adopting the 2024 Budgets, 2025-20265 Financial Plans, and 2024-2028 Capital Programs of the Service Boards and Authority – [watch video](#)

Director Fuentes moved, and Director Groven seconded that the ordinance for the Service Board and the Authority be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

14 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

1 Nay - Coulson

Contracts/Expenditure Items – [watch video](#)

Director Andalcio moved, and Director Holt seconded the adoption of the following ordinances, as well as the approval of Board travel expenditures as submitted:

Ordinance appointing the RTA Ethics Officer

Ordinance authorizing Intergovernmental Agreements with Cook County and Metra for Access Pilot

Approval of travel expenses reimbursement(s)

The motion carried on the following leave for a roll call vote:

15 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

New Business – [watch video](#)

Director Ross provided a comment.

Chairman Dillard announced the next RTA Board of Directors meeting is Thursday, February 15, at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT – [watch video](#)

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There being no further business to come before the public session of the Board, Chairman Dillard asked RTA General Counsel Allison Noback to cite the exceptions for the closed session. Ms. Noback cited IOMA Section 2(c)(21) as the exception.

Director Fuentes then moved, and Director Melvin seconded that the meeting move into Executive Session and adjourn from there.

The motion carried on the following voice vote:

15 Ayes: Andalcio, Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, and Chairman Dillard

The Board meeting ended at 11:20 a.m.

Joey-Lin Silberhorn

Joey-Lin Silberhorn
Secretary of the Authority