



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 19, 2024, 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 (15): Carey, Coulson, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

Approval of minutes from the meetings held on November 22, 2024 – [watch video](#)

No questions or comments from RTA Board members.

Director Carey moved, and Director Groven seconded that the minutes from the public meeting held on September 12, 2024, be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

15 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

1 Absent: Jenkins

Public Comment – [watch video](#)

There was one in-person public comment from Michael Archey and one remote comment from Amy Rynell from Active Transportation Alliance.

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

Executive Director Leanne Redden provided a brief budget update, announced the next Coalition meeting on February 11, 2025 and a legislative update.

Director Lewis 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.

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

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

Directors Yonan, Mondero, Coulson, Kotarac, and Lewis asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Ordinance authorizing the amendment of the 2024-2028 Capital Program – [watch video](#)

Tara O'Malley, Principal Analyst, Capital Programs, presented an amendment to the 2024-2028 Capital Program and incorporates changes in projects and funding for CTA, Metra, and Pace.

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

15 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Pang, Retondo, Ryan, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

1 Absent: Ross

Resolutions certifying Financial results – Third Quarter 2024 – [watch video](#)

Bill Lachman, Division Manager, Budget & Treasury, presented resolutions certifying the operating financial results of CTA, Metra, Pace Suburban Service, ADA Paratransit, and the Region as a whole, through the third quarter of 2024, are in substantial accordance with the budget adopted on December 14, 2023.

Director Gathing asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

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

16 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

Ordinance certifying Substantial Accordance with Illinois Public Act 103-0281 – [watch video](#)

Maulik Vaishnav presented an ordinance that certifies that CTA, Metra, and Pace are in substantial accordance with the requirements of Illinois Public Act 103-0281.

Directors Mondero, Kotarac, and Sager asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Director Sager moved, and Director Retondo seconded, adding amended language to the ordinance.

Director Sager moved, and Director Jenkins seconded, that the proposed ordinances be approved as submitted including the amended language. The motion carried on the following leave for a roll call vote:

16 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

Ordinance adopting the 2025 Budgets, 2026-2027 Financial Plans, and 2025-2029 Capital Programs of the Service Boards and Authority and Appropriating Funds for the 2025 Budgets – [watch video](#)

Doug Anderson, Manager, Budget and Business Analysis, Brian Lowenberg, Manager, Capital Programs, and Allison Noback, General Counsel, presented an ordinance adopting the 2025 Operating Budgets, 2026-2027 Financial Plans, and 2025-2029 Capital Programs of the Service Boards and the Authority, including the RTA Agency.

Directors Sager, Coulson, Kotarac, Carey, Ross, Mondero, and Gorman asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

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

15 Ayes: Carey, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

1 Nay: Coulson

Approval of travel expense reimbursement – [watch video](#)

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

16 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

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

Heather Mullins, Division Manager, Local Planning and Program Management, and Maulik Vaishnav, Senior Deputy Executive Director, Planning and Capital Programming, and Robert Nash, Director, Government Affairs, presented updates on the station activations pilot program, information on the German Transit model, and legislate updates.

Directors Carey, Mondero, Yonan, Lewis, Kotarac, Gathing, and Kotarac asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Resolution honoring Board Members – [watch video](#)

Director Carey moved, and Director Gorman seconded that the proposed ordinance honoring former RTA Board Members be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following leave for roll call vote:

16 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

New Business – [watch video](#)

Chairman Dillard announced the next RTA Board of Directors meeting is Thursday, January 16 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT – [watch video](#)

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors Meeting, Director Yonan moved and Director Groven seconded that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried on the following voice vote:

16 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

The Board meeting ended at 12:00 p.m.

Joey-Lin Silberhorn

Joey-Lin Silberhorn
Secretary of the Authority