



Minutes

Greater Dayton RTA Board of Trustees
Public Board Meeting

April 7, 2026

- Trustees: Sharon D. White, President
Belinda Matthews-Stenson, Vice President
Ashton S. Dupler
John A. Lumpkin, Jr.
Grady L. Mullins
Thomas Weckesser
David P. Williamson
- Excused: Al Fullenkamp
Nikol Miller
- Staff: Bob Ruzinsky, Chief Executive Officer
Daron Brown, Chief Maintenance Officer
Roland Caldwell, Chief Transportation Officer
Christopher Conard, Coolidge Wall, Co. LPA
Cathy Garner, Senior Executive Administrative Assistant
Brandon Policicchio, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mary K. Stanforth, Chief Financial Officer
Robert Stevens, Chief Labor Officer
- Others: Interested citizens (see attached sheet)

Call Meeting to Order

Ms. White called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was present and proper notice of the meeting had been given.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. White led attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken:

Mr. Dupler	Yes	Mr. Mullins	Yes
Mr. Fullenkamp	Excused	Mr. Weckesser	Yes
Mr. Lumpkin	Yes	Ms. White	Yes
Ms. Matthews-Stenson	Yes	Mr. Williamson	Yes
Ms. Miller	Excused		

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. White stated Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority (RTA) By-Laws require Board Trustees approval of today’s Board Meeting Agenda. The Agenda was mailed in advance, and Ms. White asked if there are any changes to the Agenda?

Upon hearing no requests or changes, Ms. White DECLARED APPROVAL of today’s Board Meeting Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 3, 2026 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Ms. White asked if anyone requests a reading of the minutes or are there changes to the minutes?

Upon hearing no requests or changes, Ms. White DECLARED APPROVAL of the March 3, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes.

FINANCE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT (DAVID P. WILLIAMSON)

Mr. Williamson stated the Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees met on March 17th, and as a result, the Finance/Personnel Committee is recommending three (3) Action Items for the Board’s consideration.

ACTION ITEM #2 – GRAPHICS MATERIALS

Mr. Williamson stated the purpose of this action item is to award a three (3) year contract to provide RTA with Graphics Materials. Products included under this contract are the vinyl and laminate materials required for the signage on transit buses, trucks, vehicles and facilities.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Williamson and SECONDED by Ms. Matthews-Stenson to APPROVE a three-year contract AWARD to Laird Plastics for a grand total of \$333,730 for Graphics Materials.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #3 – SECOND FLOOR REINFORCEMENT – 901 S. LUDLOW STREET

Mr. Williamson stated the purpose of this action item is to award a contract for the reinforcement of steel beams underneath the second floor at 901 S. Ludlow Street, also known as the “Coke Building”.

The goal of this project is to enhance the building’s structural integrity, ensuring the second-floor space remains safe and reliable for use. Work will include welding steel beams beneath the second floor and making necessary modifications to the steel framing.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Williamson and SECONDED by Mr. Weckesser to APPROVE the AWARD of the second-floor reinforcement contract to Belgray Inc., for a total amount of \$131,614, plus a 20% contingency of \$26,323 for a grand total of \$157,937.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #4 – FARE MEDIA

Mr. Williamson stated the purpose of this action item is to award a contract with Masabi LLC for the purchase of fare media used in the RTA’s Justride fare collection system. This contract will provide the Agency with smart cards and limited-use tickets necessary to support ongoing customer access to RTA’s fixed-route and demand-response services.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Williamson and SECONDED by Mr. Lumpkin to APPROVE a three-year contract AWARD to Masabi LLC for Fare Media totaling \$515,434 with a one-year option of \$189,272, for a grand total of \$704,706.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

Other items to mention:

December 2025 and January 2026 Financial Reports, as well as Small Purchases Information, have been included in today's Board package.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (BELINDA MATTHEWS-STENSON)

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated the Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees held a meeting on March 17th. There are no Action Items to bring forth, however, there are informational items to share.

At the meeting, Mr. Policicchio provided a summary document of recent activities going on in the Customer and Business Development Department. Activities included RTA's community support for March Madness by operating a free shuttle between Carillon Park and UD Arena for the First Four games. Hiring also remains a priority, with more than 40 new employees on-boarded in the first two months of this year. County-wide hiring billboards are currently running, and a hiring event is scheduled for April 14. In addition, RTA recognized its operators during Transit Driver Appreciation Week in mid-March.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Ruzinsky shared a brief clip of an RTA commercial highlighting bus service provided for the NCAA First Four men's basketball tournament, which was recently held at the University of Dayton Arena. The event generated many positive comments, with particular praise for the excellent service RTA provided.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Marion C. Perry – 5140 Altrim Road – Dayton, Ohio 45417. Ms. Perry stated that she would like to see more bus routes or increased frequency to help residents get to work, school, healthcare, and other essential services more easily.

Ms. White asked Mr. Policicchio to meet with Ms. Perry to fully understand her concerns.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. White stated there is a request to go into Executive Session.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Williamson and SECONDED by Mr. Dupler to RECESS into Executive Session to discuss the purchase of property and reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions.

Roll call was taken:

Mr. Dupler	Yes	Mr. Mullins	Yes
Mr. Fullenkamp	Excused	Mr. Weckesser	Yes
Mr. Lumpkin	Yes	Ms. White	Yes
Ms. Matthews-Stenson	Yes	Mr. Williamson	Yes
Ms. Miller	Excused		

The meeting recessed at 3:16 p.m.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Dupler and SECONDED by Mr. Lumpkin to RECONVENE into regular session.

Roll call was taken:

Mr. Dupler	Yes	Mr. Mullins	Yes
Mr. Fullenkamp	Excused	Mr. Weckesser	Yes
Mr. Lumpkin	Yes	Ms. White	Yes
Ms. Matthews-Stenson	Yes	Mr. Williamson	Yes
Ms. Miller	Excused		

The meeting was reconvened at 4:15 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS ACTION ITEM #1 - AFSCME LOCAL 101 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

Mr. Lumpkin stated that in late October of 2020, RTA reached an early agreement with AFSCME. The new agreement made significant progress in moving towards a “living wage”. In October of 2021, with the rapidly changing employment landscape, Executive Staff felt that moving up the timeline to reach the \$15 starting rate “living wage” was in order. In addition Staff wanted to have AFSCME adopt the pending changes to the Administrative Staff Employee Leave Policy, as well as some other changes. The overall goal was to reward those who come to

work, and reduce options for those who do not come to work. Under these changes the starting rates of pay ranged from \$15 to \$16.50 for the 3 pay grades. Both the RTA Board and AFSCME members supported these changes and the contract was revised.

In October of 2023 staff and AFSCME quickly negotiated the next three year agreement which adjusted the contract year to allow better budget planning, provided wage increases over the three years totaling \$2.25 per hour, adjusted some position titles, and provided for a \$750 signing bonus. This agreement runs through September of 2026.

Staff has met with AFSCME to come to terms on an early agreement for the next three year contract with the highlights listed below;

- Provide a flat \$1 across the board increase for year one, and provide an increase of .75 cents an hour in both years two and three (as in the past agreements the increases are across the board increases applied to all steps).
- Adds a footwear allowance (\$75 y1, \$80 y2, and \$85 y3) paid twice a year for the Transit Ambassadors, whose job requires them to walk the transit platform most of each workday.
- Provide for a signing bonus of \$150.00 to each employee working under the AFSCME agreement, at the time of this agreement approval by the RTA Board, to show our appreciation for the quick and mutually beneficial changes agreed to by the parties in the AFSCME contracts over the past several years.
- In addition, we have agreed to start the first year wage increase early and provide early an additional footwear allowance to reflect the quick turnaround of the new agreement.

Executive Staff truly appreciates the leadership of our internal AFSCME officers as well as those at Ohio Council 8, Local 101, who worked with RTA to come to agreement on the proposed changes in a short period of time. AFSCME members have voted for the proposed early agreement and we now are seeking Board approval.

MOTION MADE by Ms. White and SECONDED by Mr. Williamson to ACCEPT the negotiated tentative agreement

as presented and that the Chief Executive Officer be AUTHORIZED to do all things necessary to finalize, execute, implement, and administer this agreement.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

NEW BUSINESS ITEM # 2 - AIR CITY GARAGE RENOVATION

Mr. Christopher Conard stated the purpose of this new business item is to approve and authorize the RTA to enter into agreements with the Model Group for the purpose of completing renovations to the structure known as the Air City Garage located at Fourth and S. Jefferson Streets, and in furtherance of the Mainline Centre City Mixed Use Development Project.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Williamson and SECONDED by Mr. Dupler to AUTHORIZE the Chief Executive Officer to enter into any and all agreements necessary on behalf of RTA needed in furtherance and completion of the Air City Garage renovation project.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Dupler shared that he read a comment on Facebook from a customer who believed the RTA was offering free rides over Easter. He noted that the comment made him chuckle, as it reflects a perception from this customer that RTA often provides free rides. Mr. Dupler concluded by expressing appreciation—thank you, RTA.

Ms. White, a founding member who continues to serve on the local organizing committee for The Big Hoopla, expressed her sincere appreciation to RTA for providing transportation. Ms. White emphasized the significant impact that RTA’s support has on the community.

Ms. White also shared that she personally rode the buses on both days and observed firsthand that drivers actively seek out these assignments. She described the drivers as

wonderful and engaging, adding that it coincided with Transit Appreciation Day, which led to passengers and riders joining in cheers to thank the drivers for their service!

In closing, Ms. White expressed her appreciation to Mr. John Lumpkin. She shared that the moment provides an opportunity to publicly, on video, and within the official minutes, thank Mr. Lumpkin for his service as President. Ms. White noted that Mr. Lumpkin is her predecessor on the Board and recognized that Board service is a voluntary public service. She commended him for his high level of integrity and expressed gratitude for his time and dedication! She also acknowledged that his official gavel had been waiting for him and should be presented.

Mr. Lumpkin, in turn, thanked Ms. White, the Board, and staff for their support over the years.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION MADE by Mr. Dupler and SECONDED by Ms. Matthews-Stenson to ADJOURN the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

ATTEST

Sharon D. White
Chair
RTA Board of Trustees

Mary K. Stanforth
Secretary/Treasurer
RTA Board of Trustees

Cg