Regional Transportation Authority

**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, November 20, 2025, pursuant to notice. Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m. He then recited the pledge of allegiance.

**Roll call – watch video**

**Board members present (14):** Alvarez, Carey, Coulson, Groven, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Retondo, Ross (remote), Ryan, Sager, Walker, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

**2 Absent:** Gorman and Jenkins

**Approval of minutes from the meetings held on October 23 and November 6, 2025 – watch video**

There were no questions or comments from RTA Board members.

Director Yonan moved, and Director Lewis seconded that the minutes from the public meeting held on October 23 and November 6, 2025, be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

**14 Ayes:** Alvarez, Carey, Coulson, Groven, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Retondo, Ross (remote), Ryan, Sager, Walker, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

**2 Absent:** Gorman and Jenkins

**Executive Director's Report – watch video**

Executive Director Leanne Redden provided a short overview of the 2026 budgets and the launch of the Access to Transit call for projects.

**Presentation and discussion of the proposed 2026 budgets of Pace, Metra, and CTA**

**Pace – watch video**

Melinda Metzger, Executive Director, and Maggie Schilling, Chief Financial Officer, presented the proposed Pace 2026 Budget.

Directors Carey, Lewis, Groven, Sager, Mondero, Gorman, Yonan, Walker, Ryan, Kotarac, Jenkins, Lewis, and Chairman Dillard asked questions or provided comments.

**Metra – watch video**

Jim Derwinski, CEO and Executive Director, presented the proposed 2026 Metra Budget. Janice Thomas, Chief of Staff/Deputy Executive Director, External Affairs, and John Morris, Chief Financial Officer answered questions.

Directors Coulson, Retondo, Jenkins, Sager, Mondero, Ross, Ryan, Walker, Kotarac, Yonan, Carey, Gorman, Lewis, and Chairman Dillard asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

**CTA – watch video**

Nora Leerhsen, Acting President, and Tom McKone, Chief Financial Officer, presented the proposed 2026 CTA Budget.

Directors Coulson, Sager, Lewis, Kotarac, Yonan, Mondero, Ryan, Groven, and Chairman Dillard asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

**Public Comment – watch video**

Three people provided public comment.

**Presentation and discussion of the proposed 2026 RTA Agency Budget – watch video**

Kevin Bueso, Chief Financial Officer, and Jill Leary, Chief of Staff, presented the proposed 2026 RTA Agency Budget.

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

**Approval of travel expense reimbursement – watch video**

Director Carey motioned, and Director Retondo seconded that the expenses be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

**15 Ayes:** Carey, Coulson, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sager, Walker, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

**1 Absent:** Alvarez

**New Business – watch video**

Chairman Dillard announced the next RTA Board of Directors meeting is Thursday, December 18, at 9:00 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT – watch video**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors Meeting, Director Kotarac moved and Director Ryan seconded that the meeting adjourn.

The motion carried on the following voice vote:

**15 Ayes:** Carey, Coulson, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sager, Walker, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

The Board meeting ended at 2:35 p.m.

*Joey-Lin Silberhorn*

Joey-Lin Silberhorn
Secretary of the Authority