
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, August 21, 2025, pursuant to notice. Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. He then recited the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call – [watch video](#)

Board members present (15): Carey, Coulson, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Lewis, Mondero, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sager, Walker, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

Approval of minutes from the meetings held on July 24, 2025 – [watch video](#)

No questions or comments from RTA Board members.

Director Lewis moved, and Director Groven seconded that the minutes from the public meeting held on July 24, 2025, 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

Public Comment – [watch video](#)

Twenty-one people provided public comment.

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

Executive Director Leanne Redden provided an update on the Ad Hoc Committee on Transit Funding and a federal and local legislative update.

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

Ryan Ruehle, the Chairman of the RTA Citizens' Advisory Board, provided an update on the work of the Board.

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

Melissa Meyer, Manager, Communications, and Heather Mullins, Division Manager, Local Planning and Program Management, provided a recap of the most recent RTA Coalition meeting and previewed the 2025 Transportation Tuesday webinars.

ADA Paratransit Action Plan Update – [watch video](#)

Michael VanDekreke, Director, Mobility Services, and Peter Kersten, Manager, Strategy and Policy, presented on the progress and future steps for the ADA Action Plan that was approved by the RTA Board in June 2025.

Directors Lewis, Mondero, Ross, Kotarac, Sager, Carey, and Chairman Dillard asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Discussion of HB 3438 - the Sustainable Transit for Northern Illinois Act – [watch video](#)

Rob Nash, Director, Government Affairs, presented an update on the draft letter to be potentially sent to the Governor, Legislative Leaders, and members of the Illinois General Assembly.

Directors Walker, Kotarac, Carey, and Chairman Dillard asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Quarterly performance and Resolutions certifying Financial results – Second Quarter 2025 – [watch video](#)

Maulik Vaishnav, Senior Deputy Executive Director, Planning and Capital Programming, and Sarah Rubino, Principal Analyst, Budget and Treasury, presented resolutions certifying the operating financial results of CTA, Metra, Pace Suburban Service, and the Region as a whole, through the second quarter of 2025, and are in substantial accordance with the budget adopted on December 19, 2024. Pace ADA Paratransit was found to be not in substantial accordance with budget.

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

Director Yonan moved, and Director Gorman seconded that the proposed ordinances 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

Ordinance authorizing an amendment to the 2025 Pace ADA Paratransit Funding Amount – [watch video](#)

Doug Anderson, Manager, Budget and Business Analysis, presented a proposed ordinance that amends the 20254 RTA operating funding amount for Pace ADA Paratransit and requires a revised ADA Paratransit budget be submitted by Pace within 30 days.

Ordinance establishing estimates of funding amounts available to the Service Boards for the 2026-2028 Operating Budgets, the required Recovery

Ratios for 2026, and the preliminary 2026-2030 Capital Program funding amounts – [watch video](#)

Kevin Bueso, Chief Financial Officer, and Mr. Vaishnav presented a proposed ordinance sets the 2026-2028 operating funding amounts and required 2026 recovery ratios for CTA, Metra, Pace Suburban Service, and ADA Paratransit. This ordinance also provides each Service Board with preliminary estimates of funds available for the development of the 2026-2030 Capital Program.

Directors Groven, Mondero, Sager, Kotarac, Jenkins, Gorman, Yonan, Ross, Carey, Ryan, Executive Director Redden, Mr. Vaishnav, and Chairman Dillard asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Director Mondero moved, and Director Kotarac seconded, voting on items 7b and 7c as one item.

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

Director Carey moved, and Director Kotarac seconded that the combined, proposed ordinances 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

Approval of Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program Awards – [watch video](#)

Ms. Mullins presented on a proposed ordinance that authorizes the approval of the FY2024-FY2025 Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program of Projects, which includes 16 projects that support the goals of the Human Services Transportation Plan.

Director Lewis asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Director Groven moved, and Director Walker seconded that the proposed ordinances 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

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

Director Carey moved, and Director Lewis seconded that the proposed ordinances be approved as submitted.

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

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

1 Absent: Retondo

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New Business – [watch video](#)

Chairman Dillard announced the next RTA Board of Directors meeting is Thursday, September 11, at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT – [watch video](#)

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors Meeting, Director Groven 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 1:35 p.m.

Joey-Lin Silberhorn

Joey-Lin Silberhorn
Secretary of the Authority