
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, July 16, 2026, pursuant to notice. Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. He then recited the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call – [watch video](#)

Board members present (12): Coulson, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac (remote; arrived in person later in the meeting), Mondero (remote), Retondo (remote), Ross, Ryan, Sanoica, Walker, and Chairman Dillard

4 Absent: Alvarez, Carey, Lewis, and Sager

Approval of minutes from the meeting held June 1, 2026 – [watch video](#)

There were no questions or comments from RTA Board members.

Director Groven moved, and Director Jenkins seconded that the minutes from the public meeting held on June 1, 2026, be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

12 Ayes: Coulson, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Mondero, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sanoica, Walker, and Chairman Dillard

4 Absent: Alvarez, Carey, Lewis, and Sager

Public Comment – [watch video](#)

The Secretary emailed the Board a comment from John Paul Jones that was received.

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

Executive Director Leanne Redden provided a legislative update.

Monthly Financials – [watch video](#)

Sarah Rubino, Principal Analyst, Budget and Treasury, presented the regional financial results from May 2026.

Regional service planning – [watch video](#)

Peter Kersten, Division Manager, Regional Planning, and consultants from TYLin, presented an informational update on the evaluation of regional transit service coordination in preparation for NITA's responsibilities.

Directors Ross, Gorman, Groven, Kotarac, and Maulik Vaishnav, Chief Transition Officer, asked questions or provided comments.

2026 Community planning projects – [watch video](#)

Michael Horsting, Manager, Local Programs, presented the ten projects selected for the 2026 Community Planning program and provided a brief background on the program.

Directors Jenkins and Kotarac asked questions or provided comments.

Approval of the formation of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Transition to the Northern Illinois Transit Authority (NITA) – [watch video](#)

Director Ross motioned, and Director Gorman seconded that the ordinance be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

11 Ayes: Coulson, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Mondero, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sanoica, and Chairman Dillard

5 Absent: Alvarez, Carey, Lewis, Sager, Walker

Appointment of an Acting Trustee to the Pension Trustees – [watch video](#)

Director Kotarac motioned, and Director Jenkins seconded that the ordinance be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

11 Ayes: Coulson, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Mondero, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sanoica, and Chairman Dillard

5 Absent: Alvarez, Carey, Lewis, Sager, Walker

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

Director Ryan motioned, and Director Kotarac seconded that the ordinance be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

11 Ayes: Coulson, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Mondero, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sanoica, and Chairman Dillard

5 Absent: Alvarez, Carey, Lewis, Sager, Walker

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New Business – [watch video](#)

Directors Coulson, Gorman, Ross, Kotarac had comments.

Chairman Dillard announced the next RTA Board of Directors meeting is Thursday, August 20, 2026, 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:

11 Ayes: Coulson, Gorman, Groven, Jenkins, Kotarac, Mondero, Retondo, Ross, Ryan, Sanoica, and Chairman Dillard

5 Absent: Alvarez, Carey, Lewis, Sager, Walker

The Board meeting ended at 10:23 a.m.

Joey-Lin Silberhorn

Joey-Lin Silberhorn
Secretary of the Authority