



# Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD) Board of Trustees Meeting

MINUTES – Approved

DATE: Wednesday, February 22, 2023  
 TIME: 3:00 p.m.  
 PLACE: Illinois Terminal, 45 East University Avenue, Champaign, IL

The video of this meeting can be found at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/CUMTD>

Trustees:

Present	Absent
Dick Barnes	
Margaret Chaplan (Vice-Chair)	
Tomas Delgado	
Bradley Diel (Chair)	
Phil Fiscella	
Bruce Hannon	
	Alan Nudo

Advisory Board:

Present	Absent
	Marty Paulins
	Briana Barr

MTD Staff: Karl Gnadt (Managing Director), Michelle Wright (Finance Director), Ashlee McLaughlin (External Affairs Director), Jay Rank (Operations Director), Jacinda Crawmer (Human Resources Director), Josh Berbaum (Maintenance & Facilities Director), Brendan Sennett (Safety & Training Director), Beth Brunk (Clerk)

Others Present: Natalie Pritchard (Martin Hood, LLC)

## MINUTES

1. Call to Order  
 Chair Diel called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
  
2. Roll Call  
 Present (6) –Barnes, Chaplan, Delgado, Diel, Fiscella, Hannon  
 Absent (1) - Nudo  
  
 A quorum was declared present.
  
3. Approval of Agenda  
  
 MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve the agenda as distributed; seconded by Ms. Chaplan. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.
  
4. Audience Participation  
 None
  
5. Approval of Minutes  
 A. Board Meeting (Open Session) – January 25, 2023

MOTION by Ms. Chaplan to approve the open session minutes of the January 25, 2023 MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Mr. Fiscella. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

B. Board Meeting (Closed Session) – January 25, 2023

MOTION by Mr. Barnes to approve the closed session minutes of the January 25, 2023 MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Ms. Chaplan. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

6. Communications  
None

7. FY2022 MTD Audit Presentation by Martin Hood, LLC

Ms. Wright explained some different reporting requirements with GASB 87 and GASB 96. Natalie Pritchard, Audit Supervisor for Martin Hood LLC, summarized MTD's fiscal year 2022 audit beginning 7/1/2021 and ending 6/30/2022. Ms. Pritchard stated that the auditors issued a clean, unmodified opinion on the District's note disclosures and financial statements. This means that the note disclosures and financial statements are in proper form according to generally accepted accounting principles for governmental entities and supported by MTD's underlying accounting records and third-party confirmations. The final audit can be found on MTD's web page: <https://mtd.org/inside/public-info/documents/document-categories/financial/> - Fiscal Year 2022 – Audit Report.

Mr. Diel accepted the FY2022 MTD Audit by Martin Hood, LLC, and it will be placed on file.

8. Reports

A. Managing Director

Mr. Gnadt commented that it is a pleasure to work with Martin Hood especially when facing the challenges with the GASB changes. As Mr. Gnadt reviewed the January statistics, he noted that the pandemic has skewed the 5-year ridership averages. FY2023 Operating Expenses are almost \$4M under budget due to providing 80% of service – the budget numbers were based on 100% service. With the passage of the Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act in June 2022, all non-municipal taxing authorities must form a committee to study the efficiency and management of the unit of local government and report the findings to the Champaign County Board. The Committee will consist of all Board Trustees, the CEO, and two residents in the District's boundaries who will be appointed to the Committee by the Board Chair. Mr. Diel commented that the two community positions are voluntary and will not be compensated. Mr. Gnadt intends to hire a consultant to help guide this process.

B. Board Committees of the Whole

Mr. Diel kept the Committees of the Whole assignments the same as last year:

Administration – Nudo (Chair); Barnes (Vice-Chair)  
Facilities – Fiscella (Chair); Hannon (Vice-Chair)  
Service Delivery – Delgado (Chair); Chaplan (Vice-Chair)

9. Action Items

A. Experience Credit for Wage Scale Placement

Currently, new hourly employees are placed at the first step of their corresponding wage scale for their position, regardless of their previous work experience. On the employee's work anniversary, he/she will move up the scale one step or 5%. It takes hourly employees between 5-8 years to progress to the top rate of their wage scale. With this proposal, prior relevant work experience could allow the employee to move up the wage scale up to two steps depending on how closely their previous job duties align with their current MTD position. The two-year cap on this work experience option would cost the District approximately \$357,100 for new and existing employees. Ms. Crawmer believes that this initiative will help with recruitment and retention of employees.

MOTION by Ms. Chaplan to approve a budget amendment to implement a new hiring practice that allows wage scale increases for relevant prior work experience for new and current hourly employees with a cap of two years of experience credit; seconded by Mr. Barnes.

Roll Call:  
Aye (5) – Barnes, Chaplan, Diel, Fiscella, Hannon  
Nay (1) – Delgado

MOTION CARRIED

**10. Next Meeting**

- A. Regular Board of Trustees Meeting – Wednesday, March 29, 2023 – 3:00 p.m. at Illinois Terminal  
– 45 East University Avenue, Champaign

**11. Adjournment**

MOTION by Mr. Hannon to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Chaplan. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Diel adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Submitted by:

  
Clerk

Approved 3/29/2023:

  
Board of Trustees Chair