



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

MINUTES – Approved

DATE: Wednesday, October 25, 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
Maria McMullen	
Vincent Wu	

MTD Staff: Karl Gnadt (Managing Director), Amy Snyder (Chief of Staff), Michelle Wright (Finance Director), Jay Rank (Operations Director), Ashlee McLaughlin (External Affairs Director), Jacinda Crawmer (Human Resources Director), Brendan Sennett (Safety and Training Director), Alyx Parker (Legal Counsel), Beth Brunk (Clerk)

Others Present:

MINUTES

1. Call to Order  
 Chair Diel called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
  
2. Roll Call  
 Present (6) – Barnes, Chaplan, Diel, Fiscella, Hannon, Nudo  
 Absent (1) – Delgado  
  
 The clerk declared that a quorum was present.
  
3. Approval of Agenda  
  
 MOTION by Mr. Hannon to approve the agenda as distributed; seconded by Mr. Fiscella. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.
  
4. Audience Participation  
 None
  
5. Approval of Minutes  
 A. Board Meeting (Open Session) – September 27, 2023

MOTION by Mr. Hannon to approve the open session minutes of the September 27, 2023, MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Ms. Chaplan. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

6. Communications

Vincent Wu, the Illinois Student Council (ISC) Environmental Sustainability Committee Coordinator, will be a part of the MTD Board as a University of Illinois advisory member. He is a first-year graduate student in MFA for Responsible Innovation with an interest in sustainable design.

7. Reports

A. Managing Director

Mr. Gnadt reviewed the statistics for September 2023. MTD reached a milestone this month when ridership increased to over one million rides since the pandemic. The national Lifetime Channel TV show *Military Makeover*, hosted by Montel Williams, filmed a segment at the District highlighting organizations that hire and support veterans in their workforce. Mr. Nudo would like to see additional information in the Budget Analysis Report comparing actual/actual last year's numbers.

The Department of Energy awarded approximately \$1 billion in grant money to the Midwest Alliance for Clean Hydrogen Hub (Mach H2) consisting of projects in Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan. Mr. Gnadt is hopeful that this money will spur additional producers of green hydrogen that will bring down the price of hydrogen.

8. Action Items

A. Resolution No. 2023-5 Determining the Amount of Money Necessary to be Raised by the Tax Levy

Annually, MTD complies with taxation laws by Board approval of an estimated tax levy resolution. Mr. Gnadt noted that the proposed amount of money to be raised by the tax levy, \$12,465,671, is a 13.08% increase from last year. With this amount, the District will be able to capture newly assessed value from properties coming on the tax rolls including Carle and OSF properties if they become non-tax exempt. This court case for hospital real estate tax exemption status is still pending. If the court case is unresolved, the rate that will be used is the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which was 5.0% last year.

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve an amendment to Resolution No. 2023-5 to cap the tax levy at 6% instead of 13.08%.

The MOTION FAILED for lack of a second.

MOTION by Mr. Hannon to adopt Resolution No. 2023-5 determining \$12,465,671 to be the amount of money necessary to be raised by the tax levy for revenue year 2023 payable in 2024; seconded by Ms. Chaplan.

Roll Call:

Aye (5) – Barnes, Chaplan, Diel, Hannon, Nudo

Nay (1) – Fiscella

The MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Nudo suggested that if MTD ever receives additional tax revenue from the hospital properties, that some of the money could be used to issue free annual passes to qualified low-income families.

B. Adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-2 Authorizing the Issuance of Capital Facilities Notes, Series 2023, and Line of Credit Notes, Taxable Series 2023, to Finance Capital Costs for the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District, in Champaign County, Illinois and Providing the Details of Such Notes, and Related Matters

As discussed at the September 27, 2023 Board meeting, Trustees approved two Prospect Bank lines of credit to finance debt service projects/equipment and supplement general cash flow if needed. MTD's corporate counsel has provided the legal documentation to finalize the lines of credit agreements with this Ordinance. The details of the lines of credit are as follows:

1. \$10,000,000 bank-qualified, tax-exempt line of credit with an initial variable interest rate of 5.83%, adjusted every 30 days to the 30 Day Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) plus 0.53%
2. \$6,000,000 revolving taxable line of credit with an initial variable interest rate of 7.65%, adjusted every 30 days to the 30 Day Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) plus 2.35%

Each line of credit has a 3-year maturity and is collateralized by a UCC filing on all MTD assets.

MOTION by Mr. Barnes to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-2 authorizing the issuance of Capital Facilities Notes, Series 2023, and Line of Credit Notes, Taxable Series 2023, to finance capital costs for the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District in Champaign County, Illinois, and providing the details of such notes, and related matters; seconded by Ms. Chaplan.

Roll Call:

Aye (6) – Barnes, Chaplan, Diel, Fiscella, Hannon, Nudo

The MOTION CARRIED.

**C. Managing Director Spending Authority**

The Managing Director/CEO currently has the authority to approve and execute contracts and expenditures up to \$50,000 or authorize an emergency procurement when necessary. If the contract or purchase is \$50,000 or greater, prior Board approval is required. By increasing the Managing Director's (or designee's) spending authority up to \$100,000, the District can respond quicker to favorable pricing, shorten lead times on the completion of projects, and reduce incidents of retroactive approval for emergency spending.

MOTION by Ms. Chaplan to authorize the Managing Director or designee to approve and execute contracts and expenditures up to \$100,000 or when an emergency procurement is required; seconded by Mr. Barnes. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

**9. Next Meeting**

- A. Public Hearing for MTD's Tax Levy and Regular Board of Trustees Meeting – Wednesday, December 6, 2023 – 3:00 p.m. at Illinois Terminal – 45 East University Avenue, Champaign

**10. Adjournment**

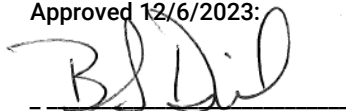
MOTION by Mr. Hannon to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Fiscella. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Diel adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

  
Clerk

Approved 12/6/2023:

  
Board of Trustees Chair