



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

## MINUTES – APPROVED

DATE: Wednesday, March 27, 2024  
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	
Tomas Delgado	
Phil Fiscella	
George Friedman	
Alan Nudo	
Sharif Ullah	

### Advisory Board:

Present	Absent
	Jamie Singson
Christopher Walton	
	Vincent Wu

### MTD Staff:

Karl Gnadt (Managing Director), Amy Snyder (Deputy Managing Director), Michelle Wright (Finance Director), Brendan Sennett (Safety and Training Director), Jacinda Crawmer (Human Resources Director), Josh Berbaum (Maintenance and Facilities Director), Jay Rank (Operations Director), and Brittany Meeker (Clerk)

### Others Present:

Jayne DeLuce (Vice-Chair Willard Advisory Board), Tim Bannon (Executive Director of Willard Airport), Carly McCrory-McKay (Executive Director of Economic Development Corporation and Chair of the Airport Advisory Board), Jack Penning (Managing Partner of Volaire Aviation), and Zach Xavier (UIUC Journalism Student)

## MINUTES

### 1. Call to Order

Chair Barnes called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

Present (6) – Barnes, Delgado, Fiscella, Friedman, Nudo, Ullah

Absent (0)

The clerk declared that a quorum was present.

### 3. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION** by Mr. Fiscella to approve the agenda as distributed; seconded by Mr. Ullah. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED.**

### 4. Audience Participation

There was no audience participation.

## 5. Approval of Minutes

### A. Board Meeting (Open Session) – February 28, 2024

**MOTION** by Mr. Fiscella to approve the open session minutes of the February 28, 2024, MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Mr. Friedman. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

## 6. Communications

None

## 7. Presentation on the Willard Airport Minimum Revenue Guarantee Request

Carly McCrory-McKay, Executive Director of the Economic Development Corporation and Chair of the Willard Airport Advisory Board, Tim Bannon, Executive Director of the Willard Airport, and Jack Penning, Managing Partner of Volaire Aviation, presented on the Willard Airport Minimum Revenue Guarantee Request. Ms. McCrory-McKay explained that the Willard team is seeking community support for a minimum revenue guarantee, which they believe will attract and retain leisure travel airlines as well as increase local tourism. Mr. Bannon went on to explain that there will be a \$350,000 marketing budget as incentive to attract a leisure travel carrier. Additionally, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is putting up \$500,000 in support of the minimum revenue guarantee. Mr. Penning stated Willard Airport is at a good position for growth and the minimum revenue guarantee is required for success. Additionally, Mr. Penning held that 84% of revenue guaranteed routes persist. The Board will vote to determine if it should make a contribution at the next Board Meeting.

Chairman Barnes asked for a motion to take a recess at 3:49 p.m. **MOTION** by Mr. Fiscella; seconded by Mr. Friedman. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting reconvened at 4:17 p.m.

## 8. Reports

### A. Managing Director

Mr. Gnadl reviewed the statistics for February 2024. The February 2024 Ridership was up 18.8% from February 2024. Overall, Ridership was up 13.42% for the year-to-date compared to FY2023. Additionally, February 2024 operating revenue was 16.60% above February 2023 and year-to-date revenue was 20.60% above FY2023. Monthly operating expenses for February 2024 have increased 15.80% and year-to-date expenses were up 12.50%.

Mr. Gnadl also announced that Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District was recognized by the League of American Bicyclists with a Silver-level Bicycle Friendly Business (BFB) award.

### B. Report on Comparative financial Statements Discussion

At the January 31, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting, the Managing Director agreed that Staff would poll other local government entities and accounting experts such as MTD's Audit Firm, Baker Tilly, and Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) to determine if monthly financial statements should include an adjustment for inflation. Based on the results of the poll, reporting actual cost for current year and prior year revenues and expenses in monthly financial statements is required to conform with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Board agreed staff continue to follow GAAP and not include adjustments for inflation in monthly financial statements.

## 9. Action Items

### A. Update and Approval of MTD2071 Quality and Environmental Policy

The MTD2071 Quality and Environmental Policy is reviewed every four years or when there is a new Board Chair.

**MOTION** by Mr. Fiscella to approve the MTD2071 Quality and Environmental Policy, seconded by Mr. Friedman. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

**10. Next Meeting**

- A. Decennial Committee of Local Government Efficiencies Meeting – Wednesday, April 24, 2024 – 3:00 p.m. – at Illinois Terminal, 45 East University, Champaign
- B. Regular Board of Trustees Meeting – Wednesday, April 24, 2024– 3:00 p.m. immediately following the Decennial Committee Meeting – at Illinois Terminal, 45 East University, Champaign

**11. Adjournment**


**MOTION** by Mr. Fiscella to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Ullah.

Mr. Barnes adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Submitted by:

  
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Clerk

Approved: 4/24/24

  
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Board of Trustees Chair