



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD)

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 – 3:00 p.m.

Illinois Terminal, North Banquet Room, 4th floor – 45 East University Avenue, Champaign

Approved | Recording available at youtube.com/@RideMTD

Attendance

Board of Trustees

Present

Dick Barnes – Chair

Laura Bleill

Mark Brown

Phil Fiscella

George Friedman

Alan Nudo – Vice Chair

Absent

Sharif Ullah

Advisory Board

Present

Absent

Grayson Hodson

Jamie Singson

MTD Staff

Karl Gnadt (Managing Director), Amy Snyder (Deputy Managing Director), Katie Good (Executive Assistant and Clerk), Ashlee McLaughlin (External Affairs Director), Michelle Wright (Finance Director), Ryan Blackman (Technology Services Director), Jay Rank (Operations Director), Drew Bargmann (Customer Service Director), and Alyx Parker (MTD Corporate Counsel)

Others Present

None

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Barnes called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present (6) – Barnes, Bleill, Brown, Fiscella, Friedman, Nudo

Absent (1) – Ullah

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. Friedman. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

4. Audience Participation

None

5. Approval of Minutes

A. Board Meeting (Open Session) – January 28, 2026

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve the open session minutes of the January 28, 2026, MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Mr. Friedman. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

B. Board Meeting (Closed Session) – January 28, 2026

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve the closed session minutes of the January 28, 2026, MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Ms. Bleill. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

6. Communications

None

7. Reports

A. Managing Director

Mr. Gnadt reviewed statistics for January 2026. January 2026 ridership was up 0.80% compared to January 2025. Year to date ridership for FY2026 was up 4.56% compared to FY2025. Mr. Gnadt noted annual ridership is increasing at a healthy rate.

January 2026 operating revenue was 1.20% above January 2025. Year-to-date operating revenue was 0.10% above FY2025. Monthly operating expenses were up 1.7% from FY2025. Year-to-date operating expenses were up 2.5% from FY2025. January 2026 operating revenue was \$1,378,238 above budget and operating expenses were \$2,909,515 below budget.

Mr. Gnadt noted that MTD has begun the process of accepting Medicaid trips for the rural C-CARTS service. Newer software implemented by the C-CARTS department can bill Medicaid trips automatically, making

this an easy adjustment for C-CARTS staff. Mr. Gnadt also noted the data communications upgrade for fleet vehicles has begun, with installation underway in the pilot vehicle.

B. Committees of the Whole – Chair and Vice-Chair Assignments

Mr. Barnes assigned the following committee positions:

Administration – Nudo (Chair); Friedman (Vice-Chair)

Facilities – Fiscella (Chair); Ullah (Vice-Chair)

Service Delivery – Bleill (Chair); Brown (Vice-Chair)

8. Action Items

A. Ordinance 2026-4 – Annexing Certain Territory – Thompson-Hallbeck Tracts

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve Ordinance 2026 -4; seconded by Ms. Bleill.

Roll Call:

Aye (6)– Bleill, Brown, Fiscella, Friedman, Nudo, Barnes

Nay (0)

Abstain (0)

The MOTION CARRIED

B. 2026-2028 Leasing Services Agreement

Mr. Gnadt was joined by Ashlee McLaughlin, External Affairs Director. Mr. Gnadt provided an overview of the leasing process and the advantages it allows regarding use of certain funding sources. Mr. Gnadt also noted this agreement satisfies the requirement for MTD to competitively procure leases.

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve the 2026-2028 Leasing Services Agreement; seconded by Ms. Bleill.

Roll Call:

Aye (6)– Bleill, Brown, Fiscella, Friedman, Nudo, Barnes

Nay (0)

Abstain (0)

The MOTION CARRIED

C. Architectural and Engineering Services for 108 East Water Street in Urbana

Mr. Gnadt was joined by Ashlee McLaughlin, External Affairs Director. Mr. Gnadt provided an overview of the Architectural and Engineering Services topic for 108 East Water Street in Urbana and noted that staff would like to hold off on contracting with a design team for the time being. Mr. Gnadt noted this would allow the Urbana Historic Preservation Commission to more actively participate in the process as requested by the Commission. This topic will be brought back to the Board at a later date.

D. Approval of Cooperative Purchasing Agreement and Bus Purchase Order

Mr. Gnadt was joined by Ashlee McLaughlin, External Affairs Director. Ms. McLaughlin noted this purchase agreement is through the Washington State Contract with New Flyer.

MOTION by Ms. Bleill to approve the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement and Bus Purchase Order; seconded by Mr. Friedman.

Roll Call:

Aye (6)– Bleill, Brown, Fiscella, Friedman, Nudo, Barnes

Nay (0)

Abstain (0)

The MOTION CARRIED

9. Next Meeting

Annexation Public Hearing - Tuesday March 17, 2026 – Copper Creek Church – 2202 Curtis Rd, Champaign

Regular Board of Trustees Meeting – Wednesday, March 25, 2026 – 3:00 p.m. - at Illinois Terminal, 45 E University Ave, Champaign.

10. Adjournment

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to adjourn into closed session to consider salary schedules for one or more classes of employees and discuss the potential purchase or lease of real property followed by adjournment, seconded by Mr. Friedman.

Roll Call:

Aye (6)– Bleill, Brown, Fiscella, Friedman, Nudo, Barnes

Nay (0)

Abstain (0)

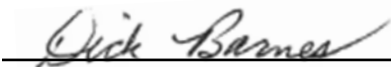
The MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Barnes adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m.



Clerk

Approved: 03/25/26



Board of Trustees, Chair