



# Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD)

Wednesday, August 26, 2026 – 3:00 pm

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

**Approved** | Recording available at [youtube.com/@RideMTD](https://youtube.com/@RideMTD)

## Attendance

### Board of Trustees

#### Present

Dick Barnes – Chair  
Laura Bleill  
Mark Brown  
Phil Fiscella  
George Friedman  
Sharif Ullah

#### Absent

Alan Nudo – Vice Chair

### Advisory Board

#### Present

Jamie Singson  
Cade Whitt

#### Absent

Caitlin Kelly

### MTD Staff

Karl Gnad (Managing Director), Amy Snyder (Deputy Managing Director), Katie Good (Executive Assistant and Clerk), Michelle Wright (Finance Director), Josh Berbaum (Maintenance & Facilities Director), Ashlee McLaughlin (External Affairs Director), Ryan Blackman (Technology Services Director), Jay Rank (Operations Director), Brendan Sennett (Safety & Training Director), Jacinda Crawmer (Human Resources Director), and Alyx Parker (MTD Corporate Counsel)

### Others Present

Stephanie Brown, Jonas Ozier, Sean Widener, Brian Kessler, Merlin Maley, Mike McShea, Anne Rahm

# Minutes

## 1. Call to Order

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

## 2. Roll Call

Present (5)-Brown, Fiscella, Friedman, Ullah, Barnes

Absent (2)- Bleill, Nudo

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.

The MOTION CARRIED.

## 4. Public Hearing on the Consolidated Vehicle Procurement Program

Mr. Barnes asked for public input on the Consolidated Vehicle Procurement Program Grant application project for which financial assistance is being sought from the Illinois Department of Transportation for the procurement of up to seven medium duty paratransit vans for ADA services. Beginning August 20, 2026, the Notice of Public Hearing was made available on MTD's website. The Notice of Public Hearing was published in The News-Gazette on August 19, 2026. Mr. Barnes opened the floor for public comment. As there were no comments, Mr. Barnes closed the Public Hearing.

## 5. Audience Participation

None

## 6. Approval of Minutes

### A. Board Meeting (Open Session) – July 29, 2026

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve the open session minutes of the July 29, 2026, MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Mr. Friedman. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

### B. Board Meeting (Closed Session) – July 29, 2026

MOTION by Mr. Friedman to approve the closed session minutes of the July 29, 2026, MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Mr. Fiscella. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

## 7. Communications

None

## 8. Reports

### A. Managing Director

Mr. Gnadt reviewed statistics for July 2026 noting that July is the first month of the fiscal year making the monthly and year to date figures identical. July 2026 ridership was up 1.72% from July 2025.

July 2026 operating revenue was 3.1% below July 2025. Monthly operating expenses were up 9.9% from FY2026. July 2026 operating revenue was \$179,017 below budget and operating expenses were \$753,956 below budget.

## 9. Action Items

### A. Resolution 2026-12 – Consolidated Vehicle Procurement Program Grant Application

Mr. Gnadt was joined by Ashlee McLaughlin, External Affairs Director. Mr. Gnadt provided an overview on the Consolidated Vehicle Procurement Program and how the funding works.

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve Resolution 2026-12; seconded by Mr. Brown.

Roll Call:

Aye (5)–Brown, Fiscella, Friedman, Ullah, Barnes

Nay (0)

Abstain (0)

The MOTION CARRIED

### B. Illinois Terminal Expansion Project-Architecture and Engineering Contract

Mr. Gnadt was joined by Ashlee McLaughlin, External Affairs Director. Mr. Gnadt provided information about the multi-year planning process for the Illinois Terminal Expansion Project, including changes in development partners and construction costs. Ms. McLaughlin noted the Federal Transit Administration is in favor of MTD moving forward with this contract so that awarded grant funds may be utilized. Ms. McLaughlin also highlighted that 44% of the contract work is designated for local subcontractors.

Ms. Bleill joined the meeting at 3:12 pm.

MOTION by Mr. Friedman to approve the Illinois Terminal Expansion Project – Architecture and Engineering Contract, including the additional five percent contingency recommended by Staff, seconded by Mr. Fiscella.

Roll Call:

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

Nay (0)

Abstain (0)

The MOTION CARRIED

## 10. Next Meeting

Regular Board of Trustees Meeting– Wednesday, September 30, 2026– 3:00 pm – at Illinois Terminal, 45 East University Avenue, Champaign.

## 11. Adjournment

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to adjourn into closed session to discuss the potential sale or lease of real property followed by adjournment, seconded by Mr. Ullah.

Mr. Barnes adjourned the meeting at 3:29 pm.



Clerk

Approved: 09/30/26



Board of Trustees, Chair