

**METRO RTA
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
ROBERT K. PFAFF TRANSIT CENTER BOARD ROOM
TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026
9:00 AM**

Trustees' Present: Mark Derrig, Dana LaGarde, Renee Greene, Christine Marshall, Donald Christian, Gary Spring, Robert DeJournett, Nicole Squire Chuck Rector and John Valle

Trustees Excused: Dave Prentice & Bob Konstand

Trustees Absent:

Roetzel & Andress: Karen Adinolfi

METRO Team

Members Present: Dawn Distler, Angie Neeley, Tatia Harris, Gert Wilms, Jay Hunter, Jarrod Hampshire, Eric Scott, Quentin Wyatt, Jamie Saylor, DeHavilland McCall, Laura Adkins, Shannon Moore, Melissa Barna, Grace Doyle, Kyle Moeglin, Alja Austin, Lane Evans, Brynn Overly-Nguyen and Leslie Rashid

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mark Derrig called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

RECOGNITION:

Sonja Kyser: 20 Years of Safe Driving
David Faith: 20 Years of Safe Driving

JUNE BOARD MINUTES:

Ms. Renee Greene made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 30th meeting.

Ms. Dana LaGarde 2nd the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & RESOLUTIONS

CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE & SERVICE PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: John Valle

Vice Chair: Christine Marshall

The Committee met on July 16th and KPIs were reviewed.

There were two resolutions.

RESOLUTION 2026-19:

A resolution authorizing the award of a contract for Procurement and Installation of four (4) CNG Dispensers for METRO's fueling station.

The resolution was discussed.

Mr. John Valle made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Christine Marshall 2nd the motion. All present voted "aye". The resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 2026-20:

A resolution authorizing the award of a contract for the purchase of Twenty (20), 40 ft. CNG buses from Gillig, LLC.

The resolution was discussed.

Mr. John Valle made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Robert DeJournett 2nd the motion. All present voted "aye". The resolution was approved.

INTERNAL & EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Chuck Rector

Vice Chair: Dana LaGarde

The Committee met on July 16th and KPIs were reviewed.

There were no resolutions.

CULTURE & PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Robert DeJournett

Vice Chair: Dave Prentice

The Committee met on July 16th and KPI's were reviewed.

There were two resolutions.

RESOLUTION 2026-21:

A resolution authorizing the award of a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) services contract.

The resolution was discussed.

Mr. Robert DeJournett made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. John Valle 2nd the motion. All present voted “aye”. The resolution was approved.

RESOLUTION 2026-22:

A resolution authorizing the award of a contract to provide bus shelters and solar lighting systems.

The resolution was discussed.

Mr. Robert DeJournett made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Donald Christian 2nd the motion. All present voted “aye”. The resolution was approved.

FINANCE & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice Chair Nicole Squire reporting on behalf of Chair Bob Konstand

The Committee met on July 16th and the dashboard was reviewed.

There was one resolution.

RESOLUTION 2026-18:

A resolution authorizing the final payment of \$6,725,000 to fully satisfy the \$12,725,000 debt owed to the Federal Transit Administration for the Akron Secondary, Freedom Secondary and Sandyville rail corridors.

The resolution was discussed.

Ms. Nicole Squire made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. John Valle 2nd the motion. All present voted “aye”. The resolution was approved.

PROTECTION & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice Chair Dana LaGarde reporting on behalf of Chair Renee Greene

The Committee met on July 16th and KPIs were reviewed.

There were no resolutions.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Donald Christian

Vice Chair: Gary Spring

The Committee met on July 16th, to review a proposed Virtual Meeting Policy. The policy remains under consideration by the Board, and no formal action will be taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Board President:

There was no report at this time.

Chief Executive Officer:

Ms. Dawn Distler clarified the potential transfer of retired compressed natural gas (CNG) buses for the use during the 2028 Summer Olympics. While no agreement has been finalized with LA METRO, the buses that were planned for disposal may instead be repurposed to support Olympic transit operations.

Ms. Distler reported on attending an invitation-only CEO Roundtable hosted by COMTO in Washington, D.C., where transit leaders discussed national industry issues, including ridership and service quality as performance measures. The CEO highlighted METRO's strong customer service, safety, and operational performance and shared the organization's accomplishments with transit leaders from across the country.

Ms. Distler provided an update on labor negotiations, reporting that management is awaiting a response to its most recent proposal and has not received additional bargaining dates despite continued outreach. The CEO reaffirmed management's commitment to negotiating in good faith, treating employees fairly and respectfully, and working toward a fair and reasonable agreement that serves employees, riders, and the community. Ms. Distler also stated that public allegations regarding management and the bargaining process were without merit and emphasized that management would continue the negotiations in a professional manner. It was further reported that there was no new information requiring an executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Coded Section 121.22(G)(1) Public meeting exceptions allow for an Executive Session to consider the employment and compensation of public employee(s) or official(s).

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Dana LaGarde made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 am.

The next Board Meeting scheduled is August 25th, 2026.

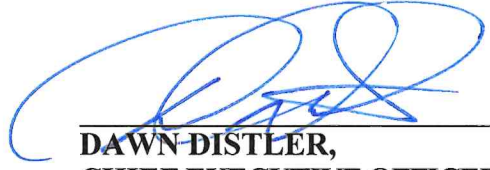
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Pursuant to Section III, Article 3.2 of the Rules & Regulations of the METRO Regional Transit Authority, METRO has complied with the Notice and Notification to the public and news media.

DATE APPROVED: August 25th, 2026



**MARK DERRIG,
PRESIDENT**



**DAWN DISTLER,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER**