METRO RTA

Board Of Trustees

PRESIDENT: MR. MARK DERRIG
VICE PRESIDENT: MS. DANA LAGARDE

OCTOBER 27, 2026
9:00AM

METRO RTA
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING AGENDA
MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS BUILDING
348 KENMORE BLVD. MEETING ROOM
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2026
9:00 AM

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

ITEM 2: AUDIENCE PARTICPATION

The METRO RTA Board meets monthly, on the last Tuesday of the month, as stated within Resolution 2016-28, unless otherwise noted. Any individual or representative of a group may take three (3) minutes to address the Board on any given topic on the Board agenda. Individuals are required to appear in person and sign in at least five (5) minutes before the Board meeting begins.

METRO RTA welcomes, values and appreciates the varied opinions and comments from members of the public. To ensure that the meetings are respectful, peaceful and orderly, speakers are reminded to keep their comments respectful and appropriate for METRO RTA business. No personal attacks will be permitted. The President has the authority to rule remarks out of order and remove individuals from the meeting.

ITEM 3: RECOGNITION | Tatia Harris & Nykia Walker

- Mobility Specialist Meagan Greathouse, 20 years of service.

ITEM 4: BOARD MINUTES

*Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from the September meeting (Pages 5-8).

ITEM 5: COMMITTEE REPORTS & RESOLUTIONS

Customer Experience & Service Performance Committee
(Maintenance / Operations / Mobility Solutions)
Chair: John Valle
Vice Chair: Christine Marshall

*Resolution 2026-26: A resolution authorizing METRO Regional Transit Authority to award a Contract for Trash and Recycle Services to Rumpke of Ohio, Inc. (Pages 9 & 10)

Internal & External Engagement Committee
(Employee Engagement Center / Customer Care / PR & Marketing)
Chair: Chuck Rector
Vice Chair: Dana LaGarde

*Resolution 2026-27: A resolution establishing the following monthly meeting dates for the Board of Trustees of the METRO Regional Transit Authority. (Page 11)

*Resolution 2026-28: A resolution authorizing the renewal of a contract with NeoGov for Human Resource Management Services (HRMS) with METRO Regional Transit Authority. (Page 12)

Culture & Planning Committee
(Planning & Community Impact)
Chair: Robert DeJournett
Vice Chair: Dave Prentice

*Resolution 2026-34: A resolution authorizing the filing of application with the Federal Transit Administration and the Ohio Department of Transportation for SFY2028 transportation assistance grants. These grants may include but are not limited to the Urban Transit Grant, the Ohio Transportation Partnership Program, Bus and Bus Facilities and Low or No Emissions Program. (Page 13)

Finance & Technology Committee
(Finance & Technology)
Chair: Bob Konstand
Vice Chair: Nicole Squire

*Resolution 2026-29: A resolution authorizing a one-year extension of the maintenance and support agreement for the Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) and the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems, through Avail Technologies, Inc. (Page 14)

*Resolution 2026-30: A resolution authorizing the Chief Executive Officer/Secretary-Treasurer to purchase Network SAN storage devices and all necessary supporting equipment for the upgrade of METRO's current end-of-life storage infrastructure, in the amount of $756,102.54 from STORM7 Labs. (Page 15)

*Resolution 2026-31: A resolution authorizing the award of a contract for the general legal services to Roeztel & Andress. (Page 16)

*Resolution 2026-32: A resolution authorizing the award of a contract for labor and employment legal services to Ross Brittain & Schonberg with McMahon Berger. (Page 17)

*Resolution 2026-33: A resolution authorizing the purchase of specialized legal services from Kevin M. Sheys LLC to assist in the sale and transfer of rights for the Akron Secondary, Freedom Secondary and the Sandyville rail corridors currently owned by METRO RTA. (Page 18)

Development & Protection Committee
(Safety & Training)
Chair: Renee Greene
Vice Chair: Dana LaGarde

ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS

ITEM 7: OFFICER'S REPORTS

- Board President
- Chief Executive Officer

ITEM 8: EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ORC 121.22(G)(1) To consider the employment, promotion, and compensation of public employees.

ITEM 9: CALL FOR ADJOURNMENT

*Denotes items requiring Board approval

Next Scheduled Meeting – November 24th, 2026

METRO RTA
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
348 KENMORE BLVD.
TRAINING ROOM
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2026
9:00 AM

DRAFT

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

Trustees Excused:

Trustees Absent:

Roetzel & Andress: Karen Adinolfi

METRO Team Members Present: Dawn Distler**,** Angie Neeley, Tatia Harris, Gert Wilms, Kayla Kinkead, Jarrod Hampshire, Eric Scott, Quentin Wyatt, Jamie Saylor, DeHavilland McCall, Laura Adkins, Shannon Moore, Melissa Barna, Molly Becker, Grace Doyle, Kyle Moeglin, Alja Austin, Jessie Dent, Shawn Metcalf, Regina Mills, Lane Evans and Brynn Overly-Nguyen

CALL TO ORDER

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

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

RECOGNITION:

Kenneth Roberts: Retirement
DeHavilland McCall: 35 Years of Service

AUGUST BOARD MINUTES:

Mr. John Valle made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 25th meeting,

Mr. David Prentice 2nd the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved, as corrected.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & RESOLUTIONS

CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE & SERVICE PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE REPORT
Chair: John Valle
Vice Chair: Christine Marshall

The Committee met on August 20th and KPIs were reviewed.

There were no resolutions.

INTERNAL & EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT
Chair: Chuck Rector
Vice Chair: Dana LaGarde

The Committee met on August 20th and KPIs were reviewed.

There were no resolutions.

CULTURE & PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT
Chair: Robert DeJournett
Vice Chair: Dave Prentice

The Committee met on August 20th and KPI's were reviewed.

There were no resolutions.

FINANCE & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE REPORT
Chair: Bob Konstand
Vice Chair: Nicole Squire

The Committee met on August 20th and the dashboard was reviewed.

There was no resolution.

PROTECTION & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT
Chair: Renee Greene
Vice Chair: Dana LaGarde

The Committee met on August 20th and KPIs were reviewed.

There were no resolutions.

OTHER BUSINESS

OFFICERS' REPORTS

DRAFT

Board President:
There was no report at this time.

Chief Executive Officer:
Ms. Dawn Distler noted that METRO has had a very productive month. The Maintenance Department successfully moved into the new Maintenance and Operation Facility on September 23rd and is excited to be in the new building. Mr. Eric Scott prepared the Maintenance Department breakfast to celebrate the opening. Ms. Distler also highlighted several important and exciting upcoming events for METRO, including METRO's Bus Roadeo on October 24th at the new CDL Training Pad. She encouraged Board members to sign up to serve as judges and welcomed Board members and their families to attend and tour the new facility that day. The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Maintenance and Operations Facility will take place on October 29th. METRO is also hoping to have Swiftly installed at the MAOF by November 1st so that Operators can transition into the new facility. Lastly, METRO will host its first-ever State of METRO event on November 5th with House 330. Ms. Distler welcomed and encouraged all Board members to attend. Ms. Distler also congratulated Ms. DeHavilland McCall on her hard work at METRO, noting that it is very well deserved & appreciated.

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).

A roll call was made to enter Executive Session.

Mr. Robert DeJournett made a motion to come out of Executive Session, Ms. Dana LaGarde 2nd the motion.

A roll call was made to exit Executive Session.

RESOLUTION 2026-25:

A Resolution approving a successor Collective Bargaining Agreement with The Transport Workers Union Local 1.

Mr. Bob Konstand made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Dave Prentice 2nd the motion. All present voted "aye". The resolution was unanimously approved.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY:

K-9 Scout and her handler, Officer Jack Knox, were officially sworn in.

DRAFT

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. John Valle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 am. Mr. David Prentice 2nd the motion.

The next Board Meeting scheduled is October 27th, 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: October 27, 2026

MARK DERRIG,	**DAWN DISTLER,**
PRESIDENT	**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/**
	SECRETARY-TREASURER

DRAFT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:
CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE PERFORMANCE

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-26

A resolution authorizing METRO Regional Transit Authority to award a contract for Trash and Recycle Services to **Rumpke of Ohio, INC**.

WHEREAS, advertisements for proposals were twice duly advertised on July 23, 2026, and July 30, 2026 in the Akron Beacon Journal, as well as the procurement page on yourmetrobus.org, and opengov.com; and

WHEREAS, proposals were received September 7th, 2026, and evaluated by a committee of METRO team members; and

WHEREAS, the following firms provided a proposal:

Vendor	**Republic Services of Ohio Hauling, LLC**	**Rumpke of Ohio, INC**	**Waste Management of Ohio LLC**
Year	**Price**	**Price**	**Price**
1	$26,603.52	$27,341.76	$28,415.60
2	$28,731.80	$27,943.92	$29,441.19
3	$31,030.35	$28,563.84	$30,5018.06
4 (option)	$33,513.77	$29,202.60	$31,648.78
5 (option)	$36,193.80	$29,859.12	$32,836.03
Total	$156,072.20	$142,911.20	$152,859.70

; and

WHEREAS, METRO recommends **Rumpke of Ohio, INC** as having the best overall proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of METRO Regional Transit Authority that:

1. The Chief Executive Officer/Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to execute a contract with **Rumpke of Ohio, INC** for Trash and Recycle Services for the initial three (3) year contract and authorization for up to two (2) option years in an amount not to exceed $142,911.20.

2. All formal actions of this Board of Trustees related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

DATE ADOPTED: October 27th, 2026

MARK DERRIG,	**DAWN DISTLER**
PRESIDENT	**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/**
	SECRETARY-TREASURER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:
INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

RESOLUTION 2026-27

A resolution establishing the following monthly meeting dates for the Board of Trustees of the METRO Regional Transit Authority.

WHEREAS, Section 3.1 of the Authority's Rules and Regulations requires that the hour and day of each regular meeting be established:

Tuesday, January 26, 2027 – 9:00 AM
Tuesday, February 23, 2027 - 9:00 AM
Tuesday, March 30, 2027 – 9:00 AM
Tuesday, April 27, 2027 – 9:00 AM
Tuesday, May 25, 2027 – 9:00 AM
Tuesday, June 29, 2027 – 9:00 AM
Tuesday, July 27, 2027 – 9:00 AM
Tuesday, August 31, 2027 – 9:00 AM
Tuesday, September 21, 2027 - 9:00 AM
Tuesday, October 26, 2027 – 9:00 AM
Tuesday, November 30, 2027 – 9:00 AM
Tuesday, December 28, 2027 – 9:00 AM

WHEREAS, said Board Meetings will be held at 348 Kenmore Blvd. Akron, OH. 44301 unless otherwise noted by the Board of Trustees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of METRO Regional Transit Authority that:

1. These dates are established as the meeting schedule for year 2027.

2. All formal actions of this Board of Trustees related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

DATE ADOPTED: October 27, 2026

MARK DERRIG,
PRESIDENT

DAWN DISTLER,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:
INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

RESOLUTION NO. **2026-28**

A resolution authorizing the renewal of a contract with NeoGov for the Human Resource Management Services (HRMS) with METRO Regional Transit Authority.

WHEREAS, such services are needed for the conducting of general Human Resources services; and

WHEREAS, this partnership will continue the necessary services of Recruitment, Applicant Tracking, Onboarding, Performance Management, and Training (on-line compliance and other); and

WHEREAS, the term of this agreement will be one (1) year commencing on 11/4/2026 and ending on 11/3/2027 not to exceed $108,826.06.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of METRO Regional Transit Authority that:

1. The Chief Executive Officer/Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to execute said contract.

2. A contract be awarded for one (1) year (November 4, 2026, through November 3, 2027) in an amount not to exceed $108,826.06.

3. All formal actions of this Board of Trustees related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

DATE ADOPTED: October 27, 2026

MARK DERRIG,
PRESIDENT

DAWN DISTLER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:
CULTURE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION 2026-34

A resolution authorizing the filing of application with the Federal Transit Administration and the Ohio Department of Transportation for SFY2028 transportation assistance grants. These grants may include but are not limited to the Urban Transit Grant, the Ohio Transportation Partnership Program, Bus and Bus Facilities and Low or No Emissions Program.

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio through its SFY2028 program has made funds available to assist public transportation in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, METRO RTA is the transit operator for Summit County, Ohio, and

WHEREAS, METRO RTA presently provides transit service and observes all federal and state rules regarding these programs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of METRO Regional Transit Authority that:

1. The Chief Executive Officer is hereby authorized to file applications and execute contracts for the aforementioned grants programs.
2. All formal actions of this Board of Trustees related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

DATE ADOPTED: October 27, 2026

MARK DERRIG,
PRESIDENT

DAWN DISTLER,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:
FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

RESOLUTION 2026-29

A resolution authorizing a one-year extension of the maintenance and support agreement for the Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) and the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems, through Avail Technologies, Inc.,

WHEREAS, METRO has a contract for maintenance and support services with Avail Technologies, Inc. through October 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, METRO went out for an RFP for these services and is currently in the implementation phase; and

WHEREAS, METRO would like to purchase a one-year maintenance and support agreement with Avail.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of METRO Regional Transit Authority that:

1. The purchase of support and maintenance services for AVL/ERP systems from Avail Technologies, Inc. in the amount of $ 272,986.05 for one year.

2. The Chief Executive Officer/Secretary-Treasurer is authorized to execute said purchase.

3. All formal actions of this Board of Trustees related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

DATE ADOPTED: October 27, 2026

MARK DERRIG,
PRESIDENT

DAWN DISTLER,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER

METRO COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:
FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

RESOLUTION 2026-30

A resolution authorizing the Chief Executive Officer/Secretary-Treasurer to purchase Network SAN storage devices and all necessary supporting equipment for the upgrade of METRO's current end-of-life storage infrastructure, in the amount of $756,102.54 from STORM7 Labs.

WHEREAS, METRO requires the procurement of new Network SAN storage devices to replace existing end-of-life equipment and ensure the continued reliability, security, and performance of METRO's data storage environment; and

WHEREAS, the upgraded infrastructure will include a secondary SAN device to enable one-to-one offsite replication for disaster recovery and data protection, ensuring that in the event of a disaster METRO would experience limited to no loss of data; and

WHEREAS, this new replication capability will allow METRO to bring currently subcontracted off -site replication in-house, reducing long-term operational costs and improving control over METRO's data management; and

WHEREAS, the purchase will be made through STORM7 under the Ohio State Contract STS 534515, ensuring compliance with all state procurement requirements and providing competitive pricing; and

WHEREAS, METRO will pursue grant funding to help reduce the total cost of the purchase.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of METRO Regional Transit Authority that:

1. The Chief Executive Officer is hereby authorized to purchase of the Network SAN storage devices and associated equipment from STORM7 in the amount of $756,102.54, utilizing available funding; and

2. All formal actions of this Board of Trustees related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

DATE ADOPTED: October 27th, 2026

MARK DERRIG,
PRESIDENT

DAWN DISTLER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:
FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

RESOLUTION 2026-31

A resolution authorizing the award of a contract for general legal services to Roetzel & Andress.

WHEREAS, legal notices were advertised Akron Beacon Journal, METRO RTA website, Akron Legal News, and Opengov.com; and

WHEREAS, METRO RTA will enter into a three (3) year contract, with two (2) one-year options, for legal services under a fixed hourly rate; and

WHEREAS, such bids were due on September 17, 2026, with the following bids received.

Roetzel & Andress, LPA	$300 hourly
Bricker Graydon Wyatt LLP	$350 hourly
Dinsmore & Shohl LLP	$400 hourly

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the METRO Regional Transit Authority that:

1. A contract for general legal services will be awarded to Roetzel & Andress.

2. The CEO/Secretary Treasurer is authorized to execute all documents related to this resolution.

3. All formal actions of this Board of Trustees related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

DATE ADOPTED: October 27, 2026

MARK DERRIG,
PRESIDENT

DAWN DISTLER,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:
FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

RESOLUTION 2026-32

A resolution authorizing the award of a contract for labor and employment legal services to Ross Brittain & Schonberg with McMahon Berger.

WHEREAS, legal notices were advertised Akron Beacon Journal, METRO RTA website, Akron Legal News, and Opengov.com; and

WHEREAS, METRO RTA will enter into a three (3) year contract, with two (2) one-year options, for legal services under a fixed hourly rate; and

WHEREAS, such bids were due on September 17, 2026, with the following bids received:

Hourly rate per contract year	(26-29)	(29-30)	(30-31)
Kastner Westman & Wilkins	$285	$290	$295 hourly
Roetzel & Andress	$300	$300	$300 hourly
Bricker Graydon Wyatt	$425	$425	$425 hourly
Ross Brittain & Schonberg With McMahon Berger	$320	$345	$370 hourly

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the METRO Regional Transit Authority that:

1. A contract for labor and employment services legal services will be awarded to Ross Brittain & Schonberg with McMahon Berger.

2. The CEO/Secretary Treasurer is authorized to execute all documents related to this resolution.

3. All formal actions of this Board of Trustees related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

DATE ADOPTED: October 27, 2026

MARK DERRIG,
PRESIDENT

DAWN DISTLER,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:
FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

RESOLUTION 2026-33

A resolution authorizing the purchase of specialized legal services from Kevin M. Sheys LLC to assist in the sale and transfer of rights for the Akron Secondary, Freedom Secondary and the Sandyville rail corridors currently owned by METRO RTA.

WHEREAS, there is a need for specialized legal services beyond the skill set of METRO'S existing legal contracts; and

WHEREAS, Kevin M. Sheys LLC specializes in federal rail regulatory law; and

WHEREAS, METRO requests to enter into an agreement with Kevin M. Sheys LLC for legal services at an hourly government rate of $1,120.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the METRO Regional Transit Authority that:

1. The Board hereby authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to enter into an agreement for specialized legal services with Kevin M. Sheys LLC not to exceed the budgeted amount of $100,000.

2. All formal actions of this Board of Trustees related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

DATE ADOPTED: October 27, 2026

MARK DERRIG,
PRESIDENT

DAWN DISTLER,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER