

**METRO RTA
FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
ROBERT K. PFAFF TRANSIT CENTER BOARD ROOM
THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025**

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

Trustees Excused: Dave Prentice and Christine Marshall

Trustees Absent:

METRO Team

Members Present: Dawn Distler, Gert Wilms, Angie Neeley, Tatia Harris, Jarrod Hampshire, Jay Huter, Shawn Metcalf, DeHavilland McCall, Eric Scott, Laura Adkins, Nathan Leppo, Grace Doyle, Quentin Wyatt, Kyle Moeglin, Kyle Stewart, Marshall Preston, Jim Meduri, Brynn Overly-Nguyen, Jason Carl and Leslie Rashid

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bob Konstand called the meeting to order at 9:49 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH MEETING

Mr. Donald Christian made a motion to approve minutes from March.

Mr. John Valle 2nd the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Angie Neeley discussed the FRAQ audit report, emphasizing that board members are encouraged to reach out with questions at any time via email, call, or text, rather than waiting for meetings. She explained that the finance department operates with separation of duties, meaning no single individual handles all aspects of a process. The team follows Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and conducts risk assessments to identify and address potential vulnerabilities to fraud. This includes evaluating whether new policies or procedure changes are needed to mitigate risks.

Ms. Neeley also offered to remain available after the meeting for anyone interested in discussing the FRAQ report further.

Ms. Nicole Squire referenced an SOP requiring additional approval for certain expenditures. Ms. Neeley confirmed that any expenditure over \$1,000 requires approval from Ms. Dawn Distler, and anything over \$100,000 must be approved by the Board.

Discussion Items | Angie Neeley

The updated Dashboard was reviewed, and agenda items were discussed.

Mr. Bob Konstand asked Ms. Angie Neeley about the potential impact of tariffs on sales tax. Ms. Neeley responded that while they are monitoring the situation, there's little they can do. The team stocks up on frequently used items, but larger items are more difficult to predict due to uncertain usage timing, though they remain viable when eventually needed.

Mr. Mark Derrig inquired about limitations on parts sourcing. Ms. Dawn Distler explained that the issue has been discussed, and Mr. Eric Scott is closely monitoring inventory and shelf-life concerns, as some items cannot be used past their expiration.

The team is also coordinating with Glenn Stevens and his group to stock up before tariffs take effect, aiming to reduce potential impacts.

Mr. Konstand inquired whether the "not to exceed" price on the new building project included tariffs or other external expenses. Mr. Hampshire explained that while certain costs are locked in, the contract does include clauses for circumstances beyond the contractor's control. Any costs that exceed the agreed amount would require Board approval. He emphasized the importance of maintaining a fair and reasonable relationship with contractors and noted that the team holds weekly discussions to assess current progress and plan the next steps.

Mr. Donald Christian suggested requesting a tariff contingency update through the Finance Committee. Mr. Konstand noted that Mr. Hampshire had already touched on the issue but emphasized the importance of monitoring it. Mr. Hampshire added that while they are identifying early warning signs, one major challenge has been that some suppliers are only holding prices for 24 hours, creating unpredictability.

Mr. Mark Derrig asked Ms. Gert Wilms about the impact of executive orders and related legal actions. Ms. Wilms explained that the agency is currently benefiting from legal efforts to release federal funds but emphasized the need to stay vigilant and maintain strong relationships with elected officials.

Mr. Christian concluded by noting that even with a favorable judicial decision, there may still be delays in compliance or further legal challenges.

Mr. Gary Spring asked if APTA bulletins are available that track relevant updates and whether they could be shared with the Board. Ms. Gert Wilms responded that APTA's website features a front-page link providing executive updates on new orders, which can be a helpful resource for staying informed.

RESOLUTION FOR CONSIDERATION

OTHER BUSINESS

CALL FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Robert DeJournett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. John Valle 2nd the motion.

Adjourned at 10:04 am.



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

5 / 15 / 25
Date (MM/DD/YYYY)