



Minutes

175 W Jackson Blvd
Suite 1550
Chicago, IL 60604

312 913 3200
rtachicago.org

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

The Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority met on Thursday, October 17, 2024, pursuant to notice. Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. He then recited the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call – [watch video](#)

Board members present (13): Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Lewis, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

Board members absent (1): Melvin

Approval of minutes from the meetings held on September 12, 2024 – [watch video](#)

No questions or comments from RTA Board members.

Director Retondo moved, and Director Fuentes seconded that the minutes from the public meeting held on September 12, 2024, be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

13 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Lewis, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

1 Absent: Melvin

Public Comment – [watch video](#)

There were no public comments submitted for this meeting.

Executive Director’s Report – [watch video](#)

Executive Director Leanne Redden provided information on the budget process and public hearings and a legislative update.

Presentation and discussion of the 2025 RTA Agency Budget – [watch video](#)

Kevin Bueso, Chief Financial Officer, and Nora Bhuiya, Principal Analyst, Budget & Financial Analysis, presented the agency's proposed budget for 2025 and highlighted next year's work plan priorities.

Directors Gorman, Lewis, and Yonan asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Transit is the Answer update – [watch video](#)

Hersh Singh, Principal Analyst, Data Services and Analytics, Sarah Rubino, Principal Analyst, Budget and Treasury, Rob Nash, Director, Government Affairs, and Leanne Redden presented an update that includes transit data and performance results, a legislative update which included a peer update, lessons learned from a past transit financial crisis, the urgency for action, and an updated legislative agenda.

Directors Coulson, Sager, Lewis, Gorman, Sager, Ross, Carey, Gathing, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard asked questions or provided comments following the presentation.

Resolution setting the 2025 RTA Board meeting schedule – [watch video](#)

Director Carey moved, and Director Sager seconded that the proposed ordinances be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

13 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Lewis, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

1 Absent: Melvin

Contracts/Expenditure Items – [watch video](#)

Director Lewis moved, and Director Gorman seconded the adoption of the following ordinances, as well as the approval of Board travel expenditures as submitted:

Ordinances authorizing the reappointment of two Pension Trustees

Ordinance authorizing a contract for media purchasing and strategy

Approval of travel expense reimbursement

The motion carried on the following leave for a roll call vote:

13 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Lewis, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

1 Absent: Melvin

New Business – [watch video](#)

Chairman Dillard announced the next RTA Board of Directors meeting is Friday, November 22, at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT – [watch video](#)

There being no further business to come before the public session of the Board, Chairman Dillard asked RTA General Counsel Allison Noback to cite the exceptions for the closed session. Ms. Noback cited IOMA Section 2(c)(21) and 2(c)(32) as the exceptions.

Director Carey then moved, and Director Yonan seconded that the meeting move into Executive Session and adjourn from there.

The motion carried on the following voice vote:

13 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Lewis, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

Director Fuentes moved and Director Retondo seconded that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried on the following voice vote:

13 Ayes: Carey, Coulson, Fuentes, Gathing, Gorman, Groven, Lewis, Pang, Retondo, Ross, Sager, Yonan, and Chairman Dillard

The Board meeting ended at 10:42 a.m.

Joey-Lin Silberhorn

Joey-Lin Silberhorn
Secretary of the Authority