



2817 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA 70119

New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, December 11, 2025

11:00 AM

RTA Board Room

The New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA) hereby declares that, in accordance with La. R.S. 42:17.1 (A)(2)(a)-(c), a meeting will be held in person on Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. Meetings start at the scheduled time, but may be delayed until a quorum of the Commissioners is present. The agency's website will stream the in-person meeting live, and wearing masks in the boardroom is optional.

Written comments on any matter included on the agenda will be accepted in the following ways: 1) Submission of a Speaker Card on meeting day; 2) Electronically by email sent to: rtaboard@rtaforward.org prior to the meeting; or 3) By U.S. Mail send to 2817 Canal Street, Attention: Office of Board Affairs, New Orleans, LA 70119.

This meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. To help assure availability, modifications or accommodations linked to a disability must be requested 72 hours before the meeting or hearing. Please direct requests for public meeting accommodations to the Office of Board Affairs, 2817 Canal Street, NOLA 70119, or call 504-827-8341 or by email (rtaboard@rtaforward.org).

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call

Commissioner Present: Commissioner Moore and Commissioner Walton

Commissioner Absent: Commissioner Colin

Other Commissioner Present: Commissioner Neal

Present: Art Walton and Mariah Moore

Absent: Louis Colin

3. Consideration of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to approve the Finance Committee Meeting of November 13, 2025. The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Chairperson Walton and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairperson Walton and Commissioner Moore

Absent: Commissioner Colin

[Finance Committee Meeting - November 13, 2025]

[25-167](#)

4. Committee Chairman's Report

None.

5. Chief Executive Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Executive Officer's Report was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Finance Committee Meeting.

News Stories

Various Publications did stories on the groundbreaking of the Algiers Terminal and the Bus Rapid Transit Project.

Battery Electric Charger

Work has begun on the Pilot Battery Electric Charger Program at the Canal Street Facility.

Conversion of ADA Streetcar

Riverfront Streetcar #458 was put into service during the month of December. This was an red streetcar that was converted to an ADA Streetcar. Staff were bringing to the Board at the January Meeting an award to purchase new software for Paratransit.

6. Chief Financial Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Financial Officer's Report was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Finance Committee Meeting.

The CFO stated that staff were doing a lot of work to generate more revenue and get more money set aside for Transportation. Staff were also looking into charging premium fares for certain types of transportation. The RTA has a very Healthy Reserve Account that can be used for times like these. Staff were looking at every potential option to create ways to receive more revenue.

The CEO stated that staff decided to put a freeze on hiring instead of cutting service to the riders.

[October 2025 Financials]

[25-172](#)

7. CY 2026 Operating & Capital Budget Report

A motion was made by Chairperson Walton, seconded by Commissioner Moore and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairperson Walton and Commissioner Moore

Absent: Commissioner Colin

RTA CY2026 Operating and Capital Budget

25-158

The CY 2026 Operating and Capital Budget was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Finance Committee Meeting.

The CFO stated that the RTA will need \$15Million from the Reserve Fund to balance the budget.

Operating Expenditures

Total Operating Expenses- \$142.2 Million

871 Full Time Equivalents (occupied and vacant)

Casualty and Liability insurance and claims reserves increase

TMSEL Retirement costs- \$1.3 Million

Maritime deficit of \$5.5M after applying the State Subsidy of \$5.1M

The CFO stated that staff do not have definitive numbers on the decrease in ridership, but the assumptions were based on historical data.

Commissioner Walton moved and Commissioner Moore seconded to approve the RTA CY2026 Operating and Capital Budget. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. DBE Report

The DBE Report was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Finance Committee Meeting.

The RTA's DBE Outreach Program is very beneficial to the DBE/SBE Community.

9. Chief Planning and Capital Project Officer's Report

The Chief Planning and Capital Project Officer's Report was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Finance Committee Meeting.

The Federal Government Money that the RTA receives from FTA is a use or loss situation. If the RTA does not use the money for Capital Projects, the money must be given back to the

FTA.

10. Authorizations

A. Reconsiderations:

Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the City of New Orleans and The New Orleans Regional Transit Authority for Supporting Unhoused Individuals

[25-016](#)

Commissioner Moore wanted to make sure that this agreement was not a way to criminalize the unhoused.

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to approve the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the City of New Orleans and the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority for Supporting Unhoused Individuals. The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Chairperson Walton and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairperson Walton and Commissioner Moore

Absent: Commissioner Colin

Enactment No: 25-072

Fare Policy Amendment No.1 (GEN 11)

[25-142](#)

The Commissioners preferred Option B, which was Transit Equity Day. The RTA will observe one day of fare-free transit in recognition of Civil Rights Pioneers each year. Staff recommend Option A - Election Days are normally held on a Saturday and the CEO can declare another free-day for voting.

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to approve Fare Policy Amendment No. 1 that will include Option B for the Transit Equity Day and Option A for Election Days in the resolution (GEN 11). The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Chairperson Walton and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairperson Walton and Commissioner Moore

Absent: Commissioner Colin

Enactment No: 25-077

B. Procurements:

Renewal of Excess Workers' Compensation Insurance for

[25-159](#)

RTA Employees [2025-2027]

This policy is a 39% increase from last year.

Commissioner Walton moved and Commissioner Moore seconded to approve the Renewal of Excess Workers' Compensation Insurance for RTA Employees (2025-2027). The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Chairperson Walton, seconded by Commissioner Moore and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairperson Walton and Commissioner Moore

Absent: Commissioner Colin

Enactment No: 25-074

C. Amendments:

Contract Extension #1 for General Counsel Services with Wright Gray Harris, LLC

[25-156](#)

Commissioner Walton moved and Commissioner Moore seconded to approve the Contract Extension #1 General Counsel Services with Wright Gray Harris, LLC. The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Chairperson Walton, seconded by Commissioner Moore and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairperson Walton and Commissioner Moore

Absent: Commissioner Colin

Enactment No: 25-073

D. Ratifications:

Ratification: Grant Application Submission for FY26 Section 5339 (Bus and Bus Facilities)

[25-162](#)

This grant does have some limits, it is from FY26 Section 5339. This money is used to purchase non-revenue vehicles.

Commissioner Walton moved and Commissioner Moore seconded to approve the Ratification of Grant Application Submission for FY26 Section 5339 (Bus and Bus Facilities). The motion was approved unanimously.

Enactment No: 25-079

11. New Business

None

12. Audience Questions & Comments

Jim Goodwin - He was inquiring about the Down Stream Maintenance facility located by the Chalmette Ferry.

Valerie Jefferson - Stated that the smaller bus that the RTA were going to purchase could be used downtown. The CFO stated that the smaller buses will be used in different neighborhoods.

13. Adjournment

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting of December 11, 2025. The meeting was adjourned unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Chairperson Walton and adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairperson Walton and Commissioner Moore

Absent: Commissioner Colin

[Finance Committee Slides 12.11.25]

25-179