



2817 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA 70119

New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Board of Commissioners

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

10:00 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 Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 10:00 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

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Colin, Commissioner Daniels, Commissioner Guidry, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner Sams and Commissioner Walton

Commissioner Absent: Commissioner Moore

3. Consideration of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Guidry moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2025. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

4. Reports

A. RTA Chairman's Report

Commissioner Neal thanked the public for attending the meeting and the Board had great Committee Meetings. He stated that the RTA was working on getting real-time arrival times at the different bus shelter locations.

B. Operations & Administration Committee Chairman's Report

None.

C. Finance Committee Chairman's Report

None.

D. RTA General Counsel's Report

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to add the following New Business to the agenda:

Davis vs Baptiste Pollack vs RTA Prospective Litigation

The motion was approved unanimously.

E. RTA Chief Executive Officer's Report

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

Report Highlights:

Employees of the Month for May were recognized.

New RTA Hire

Seandra Allen-Buchanan was introduced as the new Chief Human Resources Officer

Ratification of the Bus and Bus Facility Grant Application

To be ratified at the July Board meeting, the grant will be used to purchase 8 diesel buses and to update the RTA facilities and put air conditioning in the maintenance garages. The local match would come from the cash flow of the 5-Year Capital Improvement Program. Total project cost is \$34M, federal portion is \$27.2M and the local match is \$6.8M.

Bus Wash Facility Repairs

The bus wash facility will be getting updated and staff will only be able to wash the outside of 4 vehicles a day. The inside of the buses will be maintained as usual. Commissioner Guidry commented that repairs to the facility should not interfere with the pullout of the buses.

House Bill 588

This was a clean up bill focused on language around the Advisory Committee that was created through previous legislation. The Bill is on the Governor's Desk for signature and the RTA did not receive any additional funding this session. Commissioner Daniels thanked the Legislators that assisted with the RTA's legislations.

Ferry Pilot Program

At the August 2025 Board meeting, the CEO will present ridership data.

F. Chief Transit Officer's Report

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

Report Highlights

Operations

The Chief Transit Officer stated that they are still operating a bus bridge on Route 105 and a bus bridge, bridges the gap for the service. A run cut is eliminating a particular trip. The Extra Board consists of 11 operators for streetcars and 20 and these 20 operators are not sufficient enough to manage the bus service.

On-Time Performance (OTP)

Commissioner Daniels commented that On-Time Performance numbers do not match what the riders are experiencing. The CEO stated that staff were working on putting real life practicality to the schedule to make sure that the customer experience is better. As a policy Board it is their responsibility to get the correct information to service the public.

The Board requested an update on the Paratransit On-Time Performance. The Chief Transit Officer stated that the timeline to hire a Director of Paratransit is within the next 3 weeks. He stated that there is a person on staff that examines the data submitted by Paratransit and points out the inconsistency of the data.

RTA Rider

The CTO informed the Board of operator issues with a regular bus rider who is unhoused. He stated that operators recognize that transportation is a lifeline for some riders and do strive to go beyond the call of duty.

G. RTA Chief Financial Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Financial Officer's Report was given and can be found in the

PowerPoint Presentation for the Board Meeting.

The CEO stated that there will be changes in international travel that may affect sales tax and Commissioner Colin asked staff to monitor that very closely.

The Chief Financial Officer reported that there is a National Fuel Index that staff use for diesel prices and staff look at this information monthly.

[April 2025 Financials]

[25-075](#)

Enactment No: N/A

5. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda. Resolution No. 25-032 was adopted unanimously.

adopted

Award Contract for Climate Adaptive Transit Shelter Design

[25-055](#)

Commissioner Guidry stated that all the necessary procurement documents were not in the packet. The CEO stated that this was an RFQ and the law prevents staff from awarding a contract based on fees.

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to adopt the Award for Climate Adaptive Transit Shelter Design. Resolution No. 25-032 was adopted unanimously.

adopted

Enactment No: 25-032

Fare Collection System Upgrade Consultant

[25-067](#)

Commissioner Guidry stated that he has concerns with this procurement regarding the Fare Collection System Upgrade Consultant and why no one from Safety and Scheduling was on the evaluation team for this project. He stated that the current farebox system has all the necessary features that the RTA needs but are currently not being used.

The CEO stated that all the necessary departments have been part of the selection committee to assist the consultant with the modernization of the farebox system.

Commissioner Neal stated that these were all contract awards and would like to proceed with these awards. These awards are for services not for a particular product.

Commissioner Colin stated that when the Commissioner receives information from a third party this information should be brought to staff so they can respond

accordingly.

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to adopt the Fare Collection System Upgrade Consultant. Resolution No. 25-033 was adopted unanimously.

adopted

Enactment No: 25-033

CY 2024 Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire

[25-069](#)

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to adopt CY 2024 Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. Resolution 25-034 was adopted unanimously.

adopted

Enactment No: 25-034

6. Authorizations

Award Contract for Streetcar System Modernization Master Plan

[25-054](#)

Commissioner Walton moved and Commissioner Colon seconded to adopt the award of a contract for the Streetcar System Modernization Master Plan. Resolution No. 25-035 was adopted unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 25-035

Cooperative Endeavor Agreement Between the Louisiana Department of Treasury and the Regional Transit Authority for reimbursement of 2024 drydock costs for the Thomas Jefferson ferry

[25-079](#)

Commissioner Walton thanked the entire New Orleans Delegation for their work in Baton Rouge.

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to adopt the CEA Between the Louisiana Department of Treasury and the RTA for reimbursement of 2024 Drydock Costs for the Thomas Jefferson Ferry. Resolution No. 25-036 was adopted unanimously.

adopted

Enactment No: 25-036

7. New Business (UNANIMOUS VOTE REQUIRED TO CONSIDER)

None.

8. Audience Questions and Comments

Ms. Jasmine started a YouTube Channel to record the Operators behaviors toward her and she would like to talk to our Community Engagement Officer to voice her concerns.

Commissioner Daniels requested a report from staff on how they are connecting with the public regarding their complaints and commendations.

9. Executive Session (2/3RDS VOTE TO Consider)

Meeting went into Recess

Meeting Reconvened
approved

[06.24.25 Board Meeting PowerPoint Presentation]

[25-087](#)

10. Adjournment

adjourned