



2817 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA 70119

New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Board of Commissioners

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 28, 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, October 28, 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 Moore and Commissioner Sams

Commissioner Absent: Commissioner Walton

3. Consideration of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Colin moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of September 23, 2025. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

[09.23.25 Board Meeting Minutes]

[25-145](#)

4. Reports

A. RTA Chairman's Report

Commissioner Neal stated that the Board held the second part of the Board Retreat on October 10, 2025, and the Board was very supportive of the team, and the Board was invested in Transit and Ridership has surpassed the pre-COVID numbers and ridership is very solid, and RTA is one of the few transit agencies with great numbers

Commissioner Neal stated that at the October RAC meeting there was a large presence from the Hearing-Impaired Community, and they stated their concerns with the transit system to the committee.

B. Operations & Administration Committee Chairman's Report

None

C. Finance Committee Chairman's Report

None

D. RTA General Counsel's Report

General Counsel added the following to Executive Session under New Business:

Anna Soloman vs. RTA, et al., CDC 2016-09793 Division "M"

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 - CEO:

Employees of the Month for October were recognized.

Paratransit

The CEO stated that the team had a meeting with Jefferson Parish to understand how they calculate their On-Time Performance and it is much different from RTA. Jefferson Parish On-Time Performance was based on schedule trips that was late only, and on-time and the RTA used to use this formula and now On-Time Performance is calculated in-window On-Time Performance only which is in line with the FTA guidelines.

Regarding the 22 issues that were outlined in the RPC Paratransit Study, the RTA has completed 17 and initiated 7 and has not completed one, which is the outsourcing of Paratransit.

Staff were reviewing the three-quarters of a mile boundary for Paratransit and RTA was going to enforce this rule and operate within these boundaries and if the RTA operates/out those boundaries the RTA would charge a premium fare for those trips.

Commissioner Neal stated that Paratransit would be discussed in detail at the Operations and Administration meeting in November.

New Links

The CEO stated that the Planning Department was holding meetings with the operators regarding New Links and the findings will be presented at the November Meetings.

Budget

The CEO stated that staff are scheduled to go before the City Council on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, to present the RTA's Budget.

Ferry

LabMar collects the Data for the Ferry and forwards the information to the RTA.

St. Charles Track Work

Commissioner Guidry inquired about the track work repairs needed on the St. Charles Streetcar Line on Harmony and Lee Circle and extra trippers will be needed for the ADA St. Charles Streetcar for the Halloween Weekend.

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:

Pull-Outs

The CEO stated that she will investigate industry standards regarding late pull-outs.

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.

Report Highlights -Finance:

Capital Expenditures

The Chief Financial Officer stated that regarding Capital Expenditures, as the projects progress money is paid out and accrued the RTA has approximately \$6.5M of Capital Expenditures. Currently with the Government Shut-Down the RTA has not had any issues with reimbursements. The RTA pays for the contractors first and waits for reimbursements from the Federal Government.

Budget

Staff will present the RTA's budget to the City Council on Wednesday, October 29, 2025. The City's projection for Sales Tax revenue will be down by 17%, which has a \$14M direct impact on the RTA's budget.

The 2025 Budget was \$124M of total Operating Revenue and the 2026 Budget will be \$109M which is \$14M less. The RTA needs to come up with a new Fare Structure during 2026 to make up for lost revenue. The Operating Expense Line-Item staff was going to hold on to \$139M for FY2025 and to do this some budget cuts are going to have to happen. The Government Operating Assistance/Preventative Maintenance Line-Item staff were going to stretch this budget as much as possible. There is \$1.8M in State Parish Transportation Funds Line Item that is included in the budget. There is a \$5M maritime deficit which is ongoing. Staff need to know the amount of Cash Flow needed for local match for the Capital Improvement Projects.

The 2025 Budget will have a \$16M deficit. The RTA has a very healthy reserve and was always below budget on expenditure and the extra money was put in the reserve account and staff were working on how to reduce the reliance on the Reserve Account going forward.

Commissioner Neal stated that more information regarding the Budget will be present at the Finance Committee Meeting on November 13, 2025.

Commissioner Sams requested that staff present different scenarios to the Board regarding the 2026 Budget.

Commissioner Moore requested that if the RTA need to do any layoffs, please let the employees know before the layoffs take effect.

Commissioner Colin commended the CFO and her staff for doing a great job on the 2026 Budget.

Commissioner Daniels thanked the team for limiting the spending when the RTA had extra Federal Funding.

[August 2025 Financials]

[25-137](#)

Approval of the Consent Agenda

approved the Consent Agenda

5. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda. Resolution No. 25-058 was approved unanimously.

Contract Award to Mansfield Oil Company for Diesel Fuel and Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF)

[25-116](#)

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to adopt the Contract Award to Mansfield Oil Company for Diesel Fuel and Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF). Resolution No. 25-059 was adopted unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 25-059

Contract Award to Gerry Lane Chevrolet for the Purchase of Transit Police Vehicles

[25-120](#)

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to adopt the Contract Award to Gerry Lane Chevrolet for the Purchase of Transit Police Vehicles. Resolution No. 25-060 was adopted unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 25-060

Renewal of Clever Warranty and Maintenance Agreement

[25-132](#)

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to adopt the Renewal of Clever Warranty and Maintenance Agreement. Resolution No. 25-061 was adopted unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 25-061

Contract Award to IV Waste, LLC for Non-Hazardous Waste Disposal Services

[25-134](#)

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to adopt the Contract Award to IV Waste, LLC for Non-Hazardous Waste Disposal Services. Resolution No. 25-062 was adopted unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 25-062

6. Authorizations

CY 2024 Financial Audit, Single Audit & Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures Acceptance

[25-104](#)

The audit was presented on September 30, 2025. It was a clean audit with an unmodified opinion.

The following was addressed in the 2024 Audit

2024-001 - Material Weakness: Material Adjustments (partially resolved from 2023)

2024-002 - Significant Deficiency: Internal Control Over Self-Insurance Case

Reserves and Structured Settlements (partially resolved from 2023)

2024-003 - Compliance: Timely Submission of Audit Report to Legislative Auditor

There was no finding with the Single Audit, which is over \$43M in grant funding.

The full audit will be presented at the Finance Meeting on November 13, 2025, and at the Full Board Meeting on November 18, 2025.

Commissioner Sams moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to adopt the CY 2024 Financial Audit, Single Audit and Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures Acceptance. Resolution No. 25-063 was adopted unanimously.

adopted

Enactment No: 25-063

7. New Business (UNANIMOUS VOTE REQUIRED TO CONSIDER)

General Counsel added the following:

Anna Soloman vs. RTA, et al., CDC 2016-09793 Division "M"

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to add the item to the agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. Audience Questions and Comments

Courtney Jackson - Ride New Orleans - Asked If there are any negative impacts to the riding public with the 2026 Budget, please let the rider know in advance.

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

Commissioner Sams moved and Commissioner Guidry seconded to go into Executive Session to discuss:

- Ethan Tolliver vs. Michael Hardy, CDC 2022-05495
- Brandon Gillam vs. Regional Transit Authority, et al., CDC No.: 2022-01410, Division "B"
- Claudius Miler v. Regional Transit Authority 2020-5551

• Anna Soloman Vs. Regional Transit Authority, et al, CDC No. 2016-09793, Division "M"
Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to approve the recommendation of General Counsel. The motion was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Colin moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to come out of Executive Session.

adopted

- Ethan Tolliver vs. Michael Hardy, CDC 2022-05495

Commissioner Sams moved and Commissioner Moore seconded to approve the recommendation of General Counsel. The motion was approved unanimously.

- Brandon Gillam vs. Regional Transit Authority, et al., CDC No.: 2022-01410, Division "B"

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Moore seconded to approve the recommendation of General Counsel. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

- Claudius Miler v. Regional Transit Authority 2020-5551

Commissioner Sams moved and Commissioner Guidry seconded to approve the recommendation of General Counsel. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

10. Adjournment

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to adjourn the Board of Commissioners Meeting of October 28, 2025. The meeting was adjourned unanimously.

adjourned