

**MID MON VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
1300 MCKEAN AVE  
CHARLEROI, PA 15022  
August 28, 2025  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chairman – 5:00 PM
2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG – Chairman
3. ROLL CALL – Treasurer

There being 12 members present at 5:00 PM, there was a quorum.

**Members Present**

Bernie Bandini  
Eleanor Bloom  
Mark Boyle  
Devin DeRienzo  
George Eckert  
Fred Exley  
William Furlong  
John Habel III  
Frank Kennedy  
Cathy Martini  
Scott Nedrow  
Nancy Williamson

**Members Absent:**

Ed Bryner  
Diann Donaldson  
Timothy Herd  
Fred Naccarato  
Rik Pankiewicz

New Eagle, Fallowfield Township, Fayette City & Coal Center (awaiting member appointments).

**Staff Present:**

Ashley Seman  
Nancy Basile  
Aeriel Dochenetz  
Stephanie Lee  
Michael Perry

**Others Present:**

Marc Roncone, MV Transportation  
Blane Black, Solicitor  
Nick Sherman, Washington County  
Commissioner

Before moving forward with the approval of the minutes from the July 24, 2025, Board of Directors' meeting, Chairman Eckert took a moment to acknowledge a special guest, Washington County Commissioner Nick Sherman. On behalf of the Board, Chairman Eckert extended a warm welcome to Commissioner Sherman and expressed sincere gratitude for his attendance and ongoing support of public transit in Washington County.

4. Chairman Eckert inquired if there were additions or corrections to the July 24, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes? Hearing none, Chairman Eckert asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2025, Board Meeting. Mr. Kennedy made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Furlong seconded the motion. Motion carried.
5. PUBLIC FORUM – None.
6. REPORT FROM THE CARRIER – MV Transportation, Inc., Marc Roncone.
  - a. Mr. Roncone reported on Average On-Time Performance for the month of July 2025 as follows: Average On-Time Performance was 94.00% with an average of 95.00% for 2025.
  - b. Mr. Roncone reported on fixed route service for the month of July 2025 as follows: Actual Vehicle Miles were 74,405; Revenue Vehicle miles were 59,472; Actual Vehicle Hours were 4,129; and the Revenue Vehicle Hours were 3,523.
  - c. Mr. Roncone also reported in July there were 6 incidents without injury; 1 incident with injury; 0 accidents without injury; and 1 accident with injury. Mr. Roncone stated that in July there were 0 security issues; 3 valid complaints; and 1 compliment.
  - d. Mr. Roncone also informed the Board that in July there were 5 road calls; 14,881 miles between road failures; 11 major mechanical failures; and 14 other mechanical failures.
  - e. Mr. Roncone provided an update on maintenance performance in July, stating that there were no overdue class preventative maintenances or individual preventative maintenances.
  - f. See **Attachment I.6** for further details, provided in the agenda packet.
7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
  - a. Chairman Eckert highlighted that, unlike many other transit systems in the Commonwealth, the MMVTA is not structured as a county agency. Instead, it was formed through a collaborative agreement among 21 municipalities across the Mon Valley Region. He explained that due to this unique structure, MMVTA receives county funding on a voluntary basis rather than through a formal signatory relationship. As a result, MMVTA's partnerships with both its member municipalities and Washington County are crucial for sustaining and expanding the services it provides. Chairman Eckert further pointed out that all 21 communities served by MMVTA are represented on the Board, with 17 of those communities (81%) located in Washington County. Additionally, 73% of MMVTA's total ridership comes from within the county. These figures, he noted, underscore the vital role public transit plays for the region's residents and workforce.
  - b. Chairman Eckert shared that looking ahead, MMVTA is excited about several initiatives focused on Washington County, including the

development of a new Multi-Modal Hub in Speers Borough, efforts to improve connectivity with Freedom Transit, and the ongoing Mid Mon Moves Route Study, which will shape the future of transit across the Mid Mon Valley. He expressed pride in the work being done and emphasized the importance of collaborating with county leaders. Chairman Eckert also highlighted MMVTA's commitment to strengthening its partnership with Washington County to ensure that transit remains accessible, efficient, and responsive to the needs of the communities served. He concluded by thanking Commissioner Sherman for taking the time to join MMVTA for the evening.

- c. Chairman Eckert reminded the Board that a Renewable Identification Number (RIN) is a credit MMVTA earns by using cleaner, renewable fuel in its CNG vehicles. These credits can be sold, generating revenue as an incentive for using environmentally friendly fuel. He then announced that MMVTA received its first RIN rebate payment from Trillium, totaling \$3,532.49, and that the Authority will continue to receive monthly payments moving forward. Chairman Eckert emphasized that this is a prime example of how MMVTA's investment in CNG is not only beneficial for the environment but also delivers a financial return for the Authority.

## 8. TREASURER'S REPORT

- a. Mr. DeRienzo reported that the Finance Management Committee was sent a finance report to review the bills contained in the agenda packet under **Attachment I.8.a.**
  - i. Mr. DeRienzo reported that the total bills for August amounted to \$475,004.21 in Operating Expenses.
  - ii. Mr. DeRienzo reported that the Capital Expenditures for the month of August were:
    - 1. \$22,778.11 payable to Michael Baker International for Route Study Project (Federal, Local & Capital Funds).
    - 2. \$3,000.00 payable to DC Electric for Farebox Equipment (Federal COVID Funds).
    - 3. \$12,000.00 payable to McGrew Construction for Maintenance Facility Fencing & Cameras (Federal, State & Local Funds).
    - 4. \$800.00 payable to McGrew Construction for Farebox Equipment Wall Prep (Federal COVID Funds).
    - 5. \$51,365.00 payable to Genfare for Farebox Equipment Electrical Validation (Federal COVID Funds).
  - iii. Mr. DeRienzo made a motion to accept August's Finance Report and approve payment of the same. Ms. Martini seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- b. Mr. DeRiezo stated that the Capital Projects list follows the Finance Report and is found in **Attachment I.8.b** of the agenda packet for review.
  - i. Mrs. Lee updated the Board on the current Capital Projects:
    - 1. Mrs. Lee reported that the Genfare farebox installation occurred from August 20, 2025 to August 23, 2025, and mentioned that Verizon is still in the process of setting up the internet connection.
    - 2. Mrs. Lee provided an update on the Maintenance Facility Security Fence & Gate Project, noting that we are still awaiting the delivery of special-order items for the access control system and gate operators.
    - 3. Mrs. Lee updated the Board on the System-Wide Study, reporting that on August 27, 2025, the first SAG meeting for the Mid Mon Moves project, MMVTA's fixed-route study was held. The meeting covered project goals, identified rider needs such as improved access and more weekend service, and outlined next steps including rider interviews and a fall survey. Additionally, the Mid Mon Moves website is now live and has been added to both the MMVTA website and Facebook page.
    - 4. Mrs. Lee provided an update on the Donora Bus Yard Paving Project stating that the evaluation committee consisting of Mrs. Seman, Ms. Basile, Mr. Mark Weller (VP of Gannett Fleming, recommended by PennDOT), and Mrs. Lee reviewed three bids for the Donora Parking Lot Paving Project. Due to cost considerations, the committee decided to proceed with Option 2, which includes partial pavement of the main area most in need of repair, rather than Option 1, which would cover the full parking lot. The submitted bids were Morgan Excavating for \$176,584.00, Hiles Excavating for \$345,880.00 and El Grande Industries for \$237,836.95.
      - a. Mrs. Lee stated that after careful review, the committee recommends awarding the Donora Bus Yard Paving Project to El Grande Industries as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder meeting all specifications. Mr. Boyle made a motion to award the Donora Bus Yard Paving Project to El Grande Industries. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion carried.
    - 5. Mrs. Lee announced that the work on the sinkhole at the Donora Facility was completed on August 21, 2025. Mrs. Lee stated that Donora Borough inspected the pipes on August 25, 2025, and confirmed they need replacement, impacting the median and area in front of the Maintenance Facility. The trench will be about 100 feet long and 10 feet wide, with work expected to being within two weeks.

## 9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Finance Management – Scott Nedrow, Committee Chair
  - i. Mr. Nedrow updated the Board regarding delays in finalizing this year's State Operating Grant, which may require MMVTA to access the cfsbank Line of Credit, approved by the Board in October 2024. Mr. Nedrow noted that the initial credit line had a limit of \$50,000, but MMVTA intends to request a temporary increase of \$1,000,000 to cover operating expenses. Mr. Nedrow directed the Board to **Attachment I.8.a.i** for review of a resolution authorizing the temporary increase to MMVTA's line of credit.
    - 1. Mr. Nedrow made a motion to approve the Authorizing Resolution for cfsbank, authorizing a temporary increase to MMVTA's revolving Line of Credit up to \$1,000,000 over the existing limit of \$50,000, upon bank analysis and approval, as presented. Ms. Bloom seconded the motion. Motion carried. George Eckert and Ashley Seman are authorized signers.
- b. Human Resources – Cathy Martini, Committee Chair – No report.
- c. Planning & Steering Committee – Timothy Herd, Committee Chair – No report.
- d. Safety & Security – Ed Bryner, Committee Chair – No report.
- e. By-Laws – William Furlong, Committee Chair – No report.

## 10. REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

- a. Executive Director
  - i. Mrs. Seman announced that the bus stop at Gabe's Plaza in Rostraver has been discontinued and all schedules reflecting this change have been distributed across the service area to ensure riders are informed.
  - ii. Mrs. Seman provided an update on the Pennsylvania Budget, noting that MMVTA is still in a "waiting" period regarding transit funding. She explained that after HB 1788 passed in the House, the Senate introduced an amended version, HB 257, but there has been no further movement on the legislation since then. Mrs. Seman informed the Board that HB 1788 would increase transit funding through sales tax and introduce performance accountability, while also supporting road and bridge infrastructure. On the other hand, HB 257 directs gaming tax revenue toward transit and road funds and includes new regulations and safety provisions for transit operations. She also mentioned that both chambers are currently in recess, with the Senate scheduled to return on September 8, 2025, and the House set to reconvene on September 22, 2025, unless called back earlier.

b. Marketing

- i. Mrs. Dochenetz announced that Cal Commuter and Vulcan Flyer began service on August 25, 2025.
- ii. Mrs. Dochenetz shared that MMVTA had the opportunity to participate in the Table Fair during Welcome Week at PennWest University on August 22 and 23, 2025. MMVTA was on-site to provide students and parents with schedule information, distribute promotional items, and address any questions they had.
- iii. Mrs. Dochenetz announced that there will be no bus services and administrative offices will be closed on September 1, 2025, in observation of Labor Day.

c. Operations

- i. Mrs. Lee informed the Board that on August 8, 2025, she and Mrs. Seman attended the Supervisor Luncheon for Southwest Training Services. During the event, Mrs. Seman shared insights about her past and current involvement with the program and praised the exceptional work the intern contributed during their time with MMVTA.
- ii. Mrs. Lee reported that the PPTA hosted its 2025 Statewide Bus Roadeo in Erie from August 9 to August 11, 2025, bringing together top bus operators to showcase their skills through exams, vehicle inspections, and driving courses. She also noted that it was an excellent opportunity for networking. This year's winners in the Fixed Route Division were Rob Proctor from Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority, Joseph Beach from Altoona Transit, and Percy Hagenbuch from Centre Area Transportation Authority. These top performers will now represent Pennsylvania at the National Roadeos.

11. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY – None.

12. OLD BUSINESS – None.

13. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Mrs. Seman presented the newest "Transit Tidbits" video about How to Read a Bus Schedule.
- b. Member Community Updates
  - i. Mr. Furlong noted that Roscoe's preparations for the Veteran's Day Parade are going well.
  - ii. Chairman Eckert noted that the parade scheduled for September 13, 2025, in Monongahela has been postponed.
  - iii. Mon Valley Alliance and Mon Valley Revitalization will be hosting a Town Hall on September 15, 2025, in Monongahela to gather public feedback as the city is added to the Neighborhood Partnership Program.

- c. Mr. Nedrow took a moment to thank Commissioner Sherman for attending the meeting and stressed MMVTA's need for additional local match funding from Washington County. In response, Commissioner Sherman praised MMVTA's business model and agreed that funding public transit and other essential human services is vital for the county's success. He acknowledged that human services are currently facing budget cuts and financial challenges but reaffirmed his commitment as an advocate for these services. Commissioner Sherman assured the Board that he would continue to do everything in his power to ensure that critical services, like public transportation, do not face undue financial strain.

14. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Chairman Eckert asked if there were any further business to discuss? There being none, Chairman Eckert asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Furlong made the motion. Ms. Bloom seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 PM.

**REMINDER:**

THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR:

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025, AT 5:00 PM**

YOUR ATTENDANCE IS APPRECIATED!