

**MID MON VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
1300 MCKEAN AVE  
CHARLEROI, PA 15022  
February 26, 2026  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

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

There being 14 members present at 5:00 PM, there was a quorum.

**Members Present:**

Bernie Bandini  
Ed Bryner  
Devin DeRienzo  
Diann Donaldson  
George Eckert  
Fred Exley  
William Furlong  
John Habel III  
Frank Kennedy  
Cathy Martini  
Fred Naccarato  
Scott Nedrow  
Rik Pankiewicz  
Nancy Williamson

**Members Absent:**

Mark Boyle  
Timothy Herd

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

**Staff Present:**

Ashley Seman  
Nancy Basile  
Aerial Dochenetz  
Stephanie Lee  
Michael Perry

**Others Present:**

4. Chairman Eckert inquired if there were additions or corrections to the January 22, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes? Hearing none, Chairman Eckert asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2026, Board Meeting. Mr. Pankiewicz made the motion to approve the minutes. Mrs. Donaldson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5. PUBLIC FORUM – None

6. REPORT FROM THE CARRIER – No report.

7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a. Chairman Eckert welcomed back Mr. Furlong following his return after recovering from surgery.
- b. Chairman Eckert discussed the volunteer role of serving as an MMVTA Board Member, reminding members that information shared during meetings should be communicated back to their municipalities. He emphasized that, at its core, the MMVTA exists to serve our communities by providing reliable public transportation, and that Board Members are responsible for protecting the Authority through clear policies and thoughtful planning, not only for today, but for the future.
- c. Chairman Eckert reminded Board Members that the standing committees enable the MMVTA to concentrate on specific areas of oversight and present thoughtful, well-vetted recommendations to the full Board. He then directed members to Article 5 of the By-Laws for a detailed outline of committee responsibilities. Chairman Eckert encouraged all members to renew their commitment to committee engagement and invited those not currently serving on a committee to consider joining one. He also expressed his appreciation to those who are actively participating in a committee.

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 February amounted to \$512,174.37 in Operating Expenses.
  - ii. Mr. DeRienzo reported that the Capital Expenditures for the month of February were:
    1. \$3,240.00 payable to David Davis Communications for two laptops (State & Local Funds).
    2. \$1,560.00 payable to David Davis Communications for Board Room television (State & Local Funds).
    3. \$1,603.76 payable to Scherer Lock & Supply for balance due on Transit Center door (State & Local Funds).
    4. \$4,961.42 payable to Michael Baker International for Route Study Project – Payment #9 (Federal & Local Funds).
    5. \$5,557.76 payable to AVAIL Technologies for Branded Mobile App – Final Payment (Federal, State & Local Funds).
    6. \$3,192.00 payable to JED Heating & Cooling for Storage Facility heater replacement (Federal, State and Local Funds).



municipality's appointed Board Member, two to three additional representatives from each community are welcome to attend. Mr. Nedrow then turned the floor over to Ms. Basile for a presentation.

1. Mrs. Basile delivered a PowerPoint presentation titled "2026 Operating Funds & Local Match Overview," which covered MMVTA funding categories, including operating and capital funds; the significance of state operating assistance; the definition of Local Match and its eligible sources; how Local Match is calculated; the risks of not meeting Local Match goals; current challenges for FY 2026–2027; and recent changes to Local Match determinations. Mrs. Basile then opened the floor for questions.
  - a. Ms. Williamson expressed concerns about the increased Local Match amounts and asked whether the MMVTA had considered budget reductions, such as scaling back bus purchases or cutting the Administrative Office budget. Ms. Basile explained that budget reductions have been put into place.
  - b. Ms. Martini inquired about the consequences of not securing the required Local Match amounts. Mrs. Basile explained that the MMVTA's Operating Funds would be reduced if sufficient Local Match is not obtained.
- b. Human Resources – Cathy Martini, Committee Chair
  - i. Ms. Martini announced that a Human Resources Committee meeting will be held before May to review employee salaries, employee policies and procedures, and benefits.
- 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
  - i. Mr. Furlong announced that the By-Laws Committee will hold a meeting in April or May.

## 10. REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

- a. Executive Director
  - i. Mrs. Seman announced that Governor Shapiro unveiled his proposed state budget, which includes a provision to transfer an additional 1.75% of Sales and Use Tax revenues to the Pennsylvania Transportation Trust Fund starting July 1, 2027. If enacted, this would generate over \$300 million annually in recurring statewide transit funding. She also noted that the proposal includes potential new revenue sources, such as legalizing and taxing adult-use cannabis and regulated skill games, estimated to generate more than \$200 million and \$2

billion annually, respectively. Mrs. Seman stated she will keep the Board informed as the budget process progresses.

- ii. Mrs. Seman updated the Board on the NFL Draft scheduled for April 23-25, 2026, noting that MMVTA buses will be permitted to operate on select city streets, including Smithfield Street. She added that the Large Park & Ride will serve as a transfer point to Pittsburgh Regional Transit buses, running every 15 minutes into the city with fares charged to riders. Mrs. Seman also highlighted operational considerations, including service beyond normal routes and hours, associated costs, and uncertainty around actual rider demand. She stated that a meeting is scheduled with MV Transportation to review logistics and costs, and she will present a recommendation to the Board if any action is required.
- iii. Mrs. Seman announced a virtual session titled “Ethics Essentials for Transit Leaders and Boards” scheduled for March 17, 2026, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM, and invited Board members to attend from the Transit Center.

b. Marketing

- i. Mrs. Dochenetz announced that PennWest University’s Spring Break will run from March 7 to March 15, during which the Vulcan Flyer and Cal Commuter services will not operate.
- ii. Mrs. Dochenetz announced that Transit Driver Appreciation Day will be celebrated on March 18, with a special thank-you treat for all MMVTA drivers in recognition of their dedication and hard work in keeping transportation safe and accessible for our communities.

c. Operations

- i. Mrs. Lee provided an update on the Economic Outlook for Washington County meeting held on February 19. She reported that Russell Mills from the Pittsburgh Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland presented a regional economic forecast, and the program also featured panels on economic and infrastructure development, workforce development, and remarks from Dan Rooney on the regional impact of the upcoming NFL Draft.
- ii. Mrs. Lee shared that on February 23, MV Transportation conducted a bus tour at Monessen Middle & High School for special education students, giving them an opportunity to become familiar with the bus environment and prepare for their future transportation needs.
- iii. Mrs. Lee informed the Board that the February 24 meeting with CFS Bank regarding the addition of a bus shelter at the Monongahela Branch was canceled and will be rescheduled.

11. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

- a. Mr. Naccarato read an appointment letter from Allenport Borough designating Nancy Williamson as their representative on the MMVTA Board of Directors.
- b. Mr. Naccarato reminded the Board that the 2025 Statements of Financial Interest are due to the MMVTA prior to May 1, 2026.

12. OLD BUSINESS – None.

13. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Mr. Nedrow suggested that the Steering & Planning Committee review the commission percentage paid to the bus advertising consultant to determine if costs could be reduced.
- b. Member Community Updates
  - i. Chairman Eckert announced that Monongahela Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Purse Bash on March 14 at 4:00 PM at the New Eagle VFD Social Hall.

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. Bryner made the motion. Mr. Furlong seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:19 PM.

**REMINDER:**

THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR:

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026, AT 5:00 PM**

YOUR ATTENDANCE IS APPRECIATED!