

**MID MON VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
1300 MCKEAN AVE
CHARLEROI, PA 15022
March 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 13 members present at 5:00 PM, there was a quorum.

Members Present:

Bernie Bandini
Mark Boyle
Ed Bryner
Diann Donaldson
George Eckert
Fred Exley
William Furlong
John Habel III – Teams
Timothy Herd
Cathy Martini
Fred Naccarato
Scott Nedrow
Rik Pankiewicz

Members Absent:

Devin DeRienzo
Frank Kennedy
Nancy Williamson

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:

Marc Roncone, MV Transportation
James Brown, MV Transportation
Blane Black, Solicitor

4. Chairman Eckert inquired if there were additions or corrections to the February 26, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes? Hearing none, Chairman Eckert asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2026, Board Meeting. Mr. Bryner made the motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Martini seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5. PUBLIC FORUM – None

6. REPORT FROM THE CARRIER – MV Transportation, Inc., Marc Roncone.

- a. Mr. Roncone introduced James Brown, the new Assistant General Manager for MV Transportation at the MMVTA Bus Facility in Donora.
- b. Mr. Roncone reported on Average On-Time Performance for the months of January 2026 and February 2026 as follows: Average On-Time Performance was 94.00% in January and 95.00% in February with an average of 95.00% for 2026.
- c. Mr. Roncone reported on fixed route service for the months of January 2026 and February 2026 as follows: Actual Vehicle Miles were 71,893.00 in January and 75,051.00 in February; Revenue Vehicle miles were 59,430.00 in January and 63,260.00 in February; Actual Vehicle Hours were 4,298.84 in January and 3,808.41 in February; and the Revenue Vehicle Hours were 3,753.02 in January and 3,304.77 in February.
- d. Mr. Roncone also reported there were 2 incidents without injuries in January and 0 in February; 3 incidents with injury in January and 1 in February; 2 accidents without injury in January and 2 in February; and 0 accidents with injury in January and 0 in February. Mr. Roncone stated that there were 0 security issues in January and 0 in February; 4 valid complaints in January and 2 in February; and 1 compliment in January and 1 in February.
- e. Mr. Roncone also informed the Board that there were 6 road calls in January and 3 in February; 11,982 miles between road failures in January and 25,070 in February; 8 major mechanical failures in January and 10 in February; and 7 other mechanical failures in January and 11 in February.
- f. Mr. Roncone provided an update on maintenance performance in January and February 2026, stating that there were no overdue class preventative maintenances or individual preventative maintenances.
- g. See **Attachment I.6** for further details, provided in the agenda packet.

7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a. Chairman Eckert informed the Board that the MMVTA received February's RIN rebate totaling \$4,809.66. He also reminded the Board that this monthly rebate is received through Love's/Trillium as part of the CNG fueling operations and continues to serve as a positive revenue stream for the Authority.
- b. Chairman Eckert also informed the Board that the MMVTA will receive a mid-year increase to the Section 1513 State Operating Assistance Grant from PennDOT. With this adjustment, the total award for Fiscal Year 2025–2026 will be \$4,456,396.00, up from \$4,195,914.00 in the previous fiscal year, an increase of approximately 6%. Chairman Eckert noted this increase does not require any additional local matching funds.
- c. Chairman Eckert reported that he and Mr. Bryner attended a virtual session titled "Ethics Essentials for Transit Leaders and Boards," which focused on governance, transparency, and best practices for transit

boards. He noted that a key takeaway was the importance of reinforcing the Board's role as a policy-making body that provides oversight, direction, and accountability.

- d. Chairman Eckert summarized a discussion with the mayor of Monongahela emphasizing the critical importance of securing the required local match funding for transit services. He highlighted insights from a recent workshop that improved understanding of ridership, noting that actual usage exceeds 30,000 annual rider movements, far higher than some officials assume. Eckert warned that if even one municipality fails to meet its relatively small funding obligation, the transit authority could lose over \$420,000 annually in state funding from PennDOT, along with additional federal funds tied to that amount, losses that would be permanent. He stressed that this system was originally built on shared community support, expressed concern about some municipalities hesitating to contribute, and underscored the uncertainty and potentially severe consequences if full funding is not secured.

8. TREASURER'S REPORT

- a. Mr. Herd 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. Herd reported that the total bills for March amounted to \$481,171.71 in Operating Expenses.
 - ii. Mr. Herd reported that the Capital Expenditures for the month of March were:
 - 1. \$91,248.00 payable to Genfare for Farebox Program Management (Federal, State & Local Funds).
 - 2. \$3,441.00 payable to David Davis Communications for Balance Due on Board Room Equipment (State & Local Funds).
 - 3. \$22,739.47 payable to Michael Baker International for Route Study Project – Payment #10 (Federal & Local Funds).
 - iii. Mr. Herd made a motion to accept March's Finance Report and approve payment of the same. Mr. Furlong seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- b. Mr. Herd 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 Farebox System Project has been completed; however, MMVTA is currently purchasing spare parts, so related expenditures are expected.
 - 2. Mrs. Lee informed the Board that she, Mrs. Seman, and Ms. Basile will attend a second two-hour workshop with Michael Baker International on April 20, 2026, to discuss the systemwide study. Mr. Roncone and Mr. Brown from MV Transportation will also be in attendance.

3. Mrs. Lee reported that funds remain from the Office Equipment & Furniture Project. After consulting with PennDOT, MMVTA was advised that these funds may be used for the following improvements: repairing and sealing the windows in the Transit Center tower, fixing the broken roof drainage pipe, and sealing two counters that are separating from the walls.
4. Mrs. Lee updated the Board on the Facility Equipment & Vehicle Lift Project, stating that the lift has been ordered and is expected to be delivered in approximately seven months.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Finance Management – Scott Nedrow, Committee Chair
 - i. Mr. Nedrow reported that the draft operating budget for Fiscal Year 2026–2027 has been submitted to the Finance Management Committee for review, and that the Committee will meet prior to the next Board meeting to discuss details.
- b. Human Resources – Cathy Martini, Committee Chair
 - i. Ms. Martini announced that a Human Resources Committee meeting will be held in April to review employee salaries and address other budget or personnel related matters.
- c. Planning & Steering Committee – Timothy Herd, Committee Chair – No report.
- d. Safety & Security – Ed Bryner, Committee Chair
 - i. Mr. Bryner encouraged caution when crossing the road at the Transit Center, noting that vehicles often speed through the area.
- e. By-Laws – William Furlong, Committee Chair – No report.

10. REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

- a. Executive Director
 - i. Mrs. Seman provided an update on the Local Match Workshop held on March 18, 2026, noting that it was well attended and included representatives from several member communities, including Charleroi, North Belle Vernon, Belle Vernon, Roscoe, Carroll Township, Speers, Elco, Allenport, Monongahela, and Dunlevy. She explained that the workshop aimed to outline how the local match process works, its connection to state funding, and to provide clear, community-specific information for councils to review.
 1. Mrs. Seman stated that each attending community received a tailored information folder containing ridership data, service miles, and system maps specific to their municipality. The agenda included opening remarks, comments from the Chairman, a presentation from PennDOT, and a detailed local match presentation by Ms. Basile, along with time for

discussion. She expressed appreciation to PennDOT, as well as to the Board members and staff who participated.

2. Mrs. Seman added that she will continue to follow up with communities as they proceed with discussions and consider resolutions. She reminded the Board that MMVTA is encouraging communities to move forward with resolutions in the coming weeks, as they are essential for planning and securing the state funding needed to sustain service. She also noted that, although resolutions are being considered now, payments would not be due until 2027.
 - ii. Mrs. Seman provided an update on service planning for the upcoming NFL Draft in Pittsburgh, which is expected to attract approximately 700,000 attendees.
 1. Mrs. Seman stated that MMVTA will provide service to support the event, with all Commuter A departures remaining in place, along with the addition of a special Draft Express route on Thursday and Friday evenings. The fare will be \$4 one way. To accommodate this service, Express 1, Express 2, and the Cal Commuter routes will be suspended on Thursday and Friday, while the regular Commuter A schedule will remain in effect on Saturday.
 2. Mrs. Seman also announced that MMVTA service information is now available in the NFL OnePass app under the “Plan Your Trip” section and within event details, helping attendees access transit options and plan their travel.
- b. Marketing
- i. Mrs. Dochenetz announced that the Transit Center and Administrative Office will be closed on April 3, 2026, with regular bus service in observation of Good Friday.
 - ii. Mrs. Dochenetz also announced that there will be no bus service on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026.
 - iii. Mrs. Dochenetz informed the Board of two new bus advertising contracts, noting that both agreements include an increased percentage as part of the new terms.
- c. Operations
- i. Mrs. Lee updated the Board on a March 5, 2026, meeting with cfsbank regarding the proposed bus shelter at the Monongahela branch. She stated that cfsbank is coordinating internally, and MMVTA has provided information on relevant federal guidelines and procurement sources for shelters. cfsbank indicated they will reach out if any additional information is required.
 - ii. Mrs. Lee thanked Chairman Eckert for visiting the Donora Bus Facility on March 18, 2026, for Transit Employee Appreciation Day, and expressed appreciation to Mr. Naccarato for touring the facility on March 19, 2026, to review the recent updates.

d. Funding Update

- i. Ms. Basile updated the Board on Community Local Match for the upcoming fiscal year, reporting that, to date, MMVTA has received signed resolutions from Belle Vernon, California, Carroll Township, Charleroi, and Fallowfield Township, as well as one payment from Fallowfield Township for the upcoming fiscal year. Ms. Basile noted that she plans on attending the Speers Borough and City of Monessen meetings in April to provide them with additional information regarding their respective allocations.
- ii. Ms. Basile informed the Board that she is preparing to submit the State and Federal capital and operating grant applications. She noted that for the upcoming fiscal year, MMVTA plans to use the remaining balance of Section 5307 Urbanized Area FTA funds, totaling \$1,050,240, to supplement the operating budget. Additionally, MMVTA intends to request \$1,228,000 in Section 5311 FTA Rural Funds, administered through PennDOT. Ms. Basile noted that with these federal operating funds, MMVTA anticipates a carryover exceeding \$1 million, representing roughly two months of operating expenses. She added that this level of carryover aligns with PennDOT's expectation for transit agencies to maintain a substantial fund balance between fiscal years.
- iii. Ms. Basile assured the Board that once the capital project information for the upcoming year is finalized, she will submit the draft capital budget to the Finance Management Committee for review.

11. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

- a. 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. Mrs. Seman referred the Board to **Attachment I.13.a**, Approval of the Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority Contract Extension with MV Transportation, Inc. Exercise Option Year #1 of 2. Mr. Herd made the motion to approve. Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- b. Mrs. Seman then referred to **Attachment I.13.b**, regarding the approval of the Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority contract extension with Mon Valley Detective Bureau to exercise Option Year #1 of 2, and requested a motion to table the resolution. Mr. Furlong made the motion to table. Mr. Naccarato seconded the motion. The motion to table the resolution carried.
- c. Member Community Updates

- i. Chairman Eckert announced that a potential buyer has shown interest in the City Mission Thrift Store in Monongahela, with plans to continue operating it as a thrift store.
- ii. Vice Chairman Donaldson noted that West Newton has showed interest in receiving bus services.

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. Exley made the motion. Vice Chairman Donaldson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:59 PM.

REMINDER:

THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR:

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026, AT 5:00 PM

YOUR ATTENDANCE IS APPRECIATED!