

The Board of Trustees of the Sangamon Mass Transit District met in a regular session on March 23, 2026, in the Training Room of the Sangamon Mass Transit District located at 928 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois. The Meeting called to order at 4:28 PM by Brian Brewer, Chairperson.

I. ROLL CALLPresent:

Brian Brewer	Chairperson
Sue Davsko	Vice Chairperson
Karen Hasara	Treasurer
Jerry Doss	Trustee
Sandra Douglas	Trustee
Charlie Stratton	Trustee

Absent:

Leslie McCarthy	Secretary
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II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Doss made a motion to approve the minutes of January 26, 2026, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, and Trustee Douglas seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. DIRECTORS REPORTS

Managing Director Steve Schoeffel reported that the Transfer Hub on 9th street is under construction, the Amtrak parking garage portion is well underway, and the walkway will be placed over the rail this summer. The east yard reconstruction project is awaiting IDOT approval to move forward at this time. Training is scheduled in April for SMTD frontline staff to receive mental health de-escalation training to help with ongoing transit work with the community. Finally, the training room will be set up differently next month at the board meeting, which will allow us to make better use of monitors and audio-visual controls and create a better setting for our meetings.

Director of Finance and Administration, Michelle Alexander, introduced Controller, Melissa Peterson, who was hired in February to replace Tim Wenthe for the SMTD Controller position. SMTD was awarded 6.7 million dollars in grant funds for renovation of the CNG station at SMTD. The funds were awarded under the 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Program. The finance team also released a RFQ for Tuckpointing and a RFQ for new Bus Vac systems, closed NTD year 2025 successfully, and received a new transit grants handbook from IDOT that will affect operating and capital grants. Also, a review of the SMTD cyber security policy is underway and changes for review during the last audit based on new recommendations for that policy.

Director of Operations, Melissa Ashford, shared ADA changes that are affecting Paratransit. These changes will keep us in compliance and enhance operations and scheduling for staff and ridership. Conversation with Dave Munroe of our ADA Advisory Committee and consultation with experts at the Great Lakes ADA center are helping staff, and the new process will begin April 1. Surveys to ridership will be collected to get feedback about the changes to the reservation process. These measures will help ensure success as we see increases in ridership. Service planning meetings will begin for routes and summer run-bid to review any changes and additions to night service and address additional staffing needs.

IV. REPORTS**A. Approval of December 2025 and January 2026 Financial Statements and Cash Disbursements**

Trustee Doss made a motion to approve the November 2025 Financial Statements and Accounts Payable Disbursements, seconded by Trustee Douglas and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Board Committee Reports

Finance: Trustees Doss and Hasara reported having had a meeting which covered a number of items.

Operations: No report

Administration: No Report

IT Steering: No Report

Planning Commission Report: Scott Boyce reporting for Jason Sass, and Graham Gunn, a new SSCRPC planner, provided written updates on various planning commission projects. He thanked all participants in the safety action plan, and results should be released in the following weeks.

SMTD ADA Advisory Committee Report: David Munroe advised that the committee discussed paratransit changes and were impressed with the plans, particularly being able to schedule a little further in advance. The committee is planning to expand and will soon be including Lorraine Waterbury as a new committee member.

V. NEW BUSINESS:**A. Amended FY 2026 Corporate Operating & Capital Budget**

Director of Finance Michelle Alexander advised that annually we review budget variances. The final number was not changed, but internal adjustments were made to make allowance for increases in liability claims and utility costs. The variances are listed in red in the board packet.

Trustee Doss made a motion to approve the FY26 Corporate Budget as amended. Trustee Douglas seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

B. Authorize Execution of FY2027 Downstate Operating Assistance Program (DOAP) Application

Director of Finance and Administration, Michelle Alexander presented the annual application for FY2027 starting July 1. The current legislation increases the reimbursement amount from 65% to 80%, which means we will receive a larger share for operating costs. Managing Director Steve Schoeffel explained how SMTD is impacted by the state appropriation.

Trustee Davsko made a motion to approve resolution 2026-06 authorizing staff to submit the 2027 DOAP. Trustee Hasara seconded the motion.

Passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

C. Consider Declaring Certain Equipment Surplus

Director of Finance and Administration, Michelle Alexander advised that we will be declaring old bus shelters surplus, SMTD has tried to restore and reuse many shelters, but these are out of useful life and no longer usable, and we anticipate scrapping them.

Trustee Hasara made a motion to prepare equipment declared surplus for the final disposition. Trustee Doss seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

D. Exterior Updates to Administrative and Maintenance Buildings

Grants and Procurement Manager Hadley Marckiewicz advised routine work is needed on the buildings. We received two quotes and Pulliam Masonry was the lowest bid at \$72,585. Funds are set aside in a federal grant for this project.

Chairperson Brewer questioned the number of quotes received being only two, and asked if that was standard, indicating an expectation of more than two quotes locally. Grants and Procurement manager Hadley Markiewicz advised that demand for contractors is high locally and many indicated they were already booked during the timeframe needed.

Trustee Hasara made a motion to authorize the Managing Director to execute the agreement with Pulliam Masonry for exterior updates to the Administrative and Maintenance Buildings. Trustee Doss seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Compressor Rebuild for CNG Station

Grants and Procurement manager Hadley Markiewicz advised the station requires routine maintenance every 8,000 hours of runtime and includes two compressors. J-W Power was the lowest quote at \$49,900.

Trustee Davsko made a motion to authorize the Managing Director to execute the agreement with J-W Power Company for the CNG Compressor Rebuild. Trustee Douglas seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Engine Replacement

Grants and Procurement Manager Hadley Markiewicz advised that a catastrophic engine failure occurred in the engine of a 2018 New Flyer CNG bus, and because a repair be made, the engine block must be replaced. Truck Centers provided the best quote \$52,175.

Trustee Douglas made a motion to authorize the Managing Director to execute the agreement with the Truck Centers for a new CNG engine. Trustee Davsko seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Authorization of Free Bike Riders during Curb Your Car week and One Day of Free Fare during that week.

Managing Director Steve Schoeffel advised that SMTD has partnered with SSCRPC to continue Curb Your Car Week. The week is scheduled for May 10 – 16, 2026. SMTD offers anyone that rides their bike to the bus a free ride on the bus that week and everyone can ride free on Tuesday that week.

Trustee Doss made a motion to accept staff recommendations for continuation of Bikes Ride Free during Curb you Car week May 10-16 and authorized staff to set one free ride day for fixed route passengers during that week. Trustee Douglas Seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

H. Board Officer Elections

Managing Director Steve Schoeffel advised SMTD's bylaws call for election of officers of the Board of Trustees – a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer – to two-year terms during the month of March in the relevant year. The officers currently consist of the following:

Chairperson	Brian Brewer
Vice-Chairperson	Sue Davsko
Secretary	Leslie McCarthy
Treasurer	Karen Hasara

The bylaws state the Chairperson shall appoint such standing committees or subsidiary boards, and he or she deems necessary. Committee Assignments are currently as follows:

Administration	Charles Stratton, Leslie McCarthy
Finance	Jerry Doss, Karen Hasara
Operations	Sue Davsko, Sandra Douglas
IT Steering	Sandra Douglas, Charles Stratton

Chairperson Brewer advised that the most important thing is consistency and stability, and that the slate of candidates looks agreeable and can continue. There were no objections or comments.

Trustee Davsko made a motion to elect the following to new two-year terms in their respective positions as follows:

Chairperson	Brian Brewer
Vice-Chairperson	Sue Davsko
Secretary	Leslie McCarthy
Treasurer	Karen Hasara

Trustee Douglas seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ron Walker commented on ridership, schedules, and advertising wraps on buses.

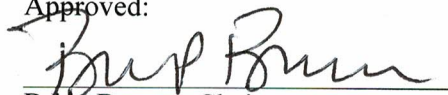
Managing Director Steve Schoeffel thanked the group "Friends of Transit" that made a generous donation to SMTD for Driver Appreciation Day.

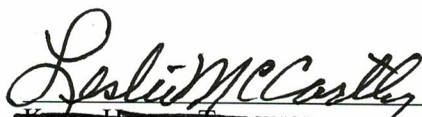
Trustee Davsko thanked all SMTD staff for hard work and dedication, and Trustee Hasara complimented the running and organization of the monthly board meetings.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business coming before the Board, Trustee Hasara made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Davsko, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:10PM.

Approved:


Brian Brewer, Chairperson


~~Karen Hasara, Treasurer~~