

The Board of Trustees of the Sangamon Mass Transit District met in a regular session on April 28, 2025, in the Training Room of the Sangamon Mass Transit District located at 928 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois. The Meeting called to order at 4:30 PM by Brian Brewer, Chairperson.

I. ROLL CALL Present:

Brian Brewer	Chairperson
Leslie McCarthy	Board Secretary
Sandra Douglas	Trustee
Charlie Stratton	Trustee
Sue Davsko	Vice Chairperson
Jerry Doss	Trustee

Absent:

Karen Hasara	Treasurer
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II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Doss made a motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2025, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, and Trustee Douglas seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. DIRECTORS REPORTS

Managing Director Steve Schoeffel advised the Board members that SMTD is still waiting to hear back from the State and IDOT about a ribbon cutting ceremony at the transfer center. As soon as a date is set, he will advise. SMTD is also working on Mental Health training curriculum for our leadership team and frontline training for operators and customer service. And a final reminder is that statements of economic interest are due May 1st and are required by board members.

Director of Finance and Administration, Michelle Alexander, shared that Triennial review is approaching May 13-14 and will take place on site. Also, the annual Transit Asset Management plan was submitted. Some administrative team members attended payroll training sessions with Avail, and an onsite walk thru with commercial insurance provider Gallagher took place in our facility. SMTD also received 8 new paratransit vehicles and 4 new Road supervisor vehicles are also in process. AECOM will be presenting findings of comprehensive operational analysis next month.

Director of Operations Melissa Ashford shared that it has been busy month operationally and that her updates for the month were already covered by the other director and has no other information to report today.

Director Steve Schoeffel added an additional comment that in regard to the triennial review, Director of finance Michelle Alexander was complimented on a form that she

implemented for Grants and Echo Draws and it was deemed a “best practice” for Triennial reviewers.

IV. REPORTS

A. Approval of February 2025 Financial Statements and Cash Disbursements

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

B. Board Committee Reports:

Finance: No Report

Operations: No Report

Administration: No Report

IT Steering: No Report

Planning Commission Report: Jason Sass reported they continue to work on long-term transportation plans and have finished and by approved by June. RPC is continuing to work on the Active Transportation Plan with CMT. It is currently on display for the public to review and they will hold an open house for the public to review the draft plan on May 8th. Jason also advised they have moved offices to room 252 in the County Building,

SMTD ADA Advisory Committee Report: No Report

V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Consider Renewal of Software Agreement with Genfare

Grants and Procurement Manager, Hadley Markiewicz, advised that Genfare was awarded the electronic fare collection contract in June 2021. The software that accompanies the electronic fareboxes, Genfare Link, supports a variety of fare media and has enabled SMTD to take fare payment online, in app, or at the Ticket Vending Machines in addition to cash payments. Genfare Link also provides a dashboard for reports and real-time monitoring. SMTD secured a 3% annual increase for Years 4-6 based on increases from Years 1-3. The price has been determined to be fair and reasonable based on comparison with similar products.

Trustee Davsko made a motion to approve the renewal of the Genfare Software Agreement and Trustee Douglas Seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

B. Proposed FY 2026 Corporate Operating & Capital Budget

Director of Finance Michelle Alexander advised that annually, SMTD must comply with Illinois law compelling the district to adopt a spending plan that balances resources held and incoming to uses outgoing. A balanced budget means the Agency's use of funds (expenses) is met with current sources (revenues + fund balance). Staff have completed work on the FY26 spending plan. The document provided for tonight's review is a spending plan for the period from July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026. Staff must make the proposed budget available for public inspection 30 days prior to the board officially voting to adopt the plan. The required public notice will be published next week and SMTD will be in compliance with the state's budget law. Staff recommends the board authorize staff to place the budget on display for public inspection. The FY26 plan as presented represents a proposed \$26,773,100 in Operating Expenses and \$3,961,000 in Capital Expenses; for Total Expenses of \$30,734,100. Further, FY26 proposed Revenues are \$26,773,100 for Operating Revenues and \$3,961,000 in Capital Revenues, totaling \$30,734,100 for Total Revenues.

Trustee McCarthy made a motion to place the proposed FY2026 Budget on file for public inspection. Trustee Doss Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Approve The SMTD Transportation Improvement Program for FY2026-2027

Director of Finance Michelle Alexander advised that the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is Sangamon Mass Transit District's contribution to the unified approach to comprehensive regional transportation planning. The TIP is a four-year, multi-modal program prepared annually to identify all federally funded and/or regionally significant transportation projects. Public notice of public involvement activities and time established for public review and comment on the TIP will satisfy FTA's Program of Projects (POP) requirements of the Section 5307 program. The TIP is consistent with the SATS 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and is part of the vision of an interconnected transportation network by SATS member jurisdictions in the metropolitan area (MPA) of the Springfield Sangamon County Regional Planning Committee (SSCRPC). This work represents staff's best effort to employ long-range planning to identify future funding sources and uses. This isn't a financial commitment, but a planning document which will guide forward-planning efforts related to resource obligations, local share commitments, and procurement planning. Staff recommends the Board accept the plan as presented. Staff will forward the TIP to the Springfield Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission (SSCRPC).

Jason Sass from the regional planning commission commented that projects identified in the improvement plan can be identified if there is funding source, and other projects identified that are not yet funded would be slotted into the plan so that we can apply for funding in the future when it is available. The Program is beneficial in that the projects and future projects can be added to the program so that when the funds are applied for or received, we can identify those projects in the plan.

Trustee Douglas made a motion to approve the SMTD Transportation Improvement Program for FY2026-FY2029. Trustee Davsko Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Placement of Historical Marker at Springfield Sangamon County Transportation Center SMTD Transfer Center

Managing Director Steve Schoeffel reported that Bill Furry, the Executive Director of the Illinois State Historical Society, is here to explain the historical marker and its importance. The Illinois State Historical Society has asked to display an historical marker at the Washington St. & 11th St. corner of the transfer center. According to Furry, the area is along the walking path of an African American coal miner, Henry Stephens, who became an activist for civil and union rights and desegregation in the late 1800s and during the era of the 1908 race riots in Springfield. This marker would be similar to other markers you would see around the state.

Trustee McCarthy made a motion to accept staff's recommendation to approve the placement of the Henry Stephens Illinois State Historical Society marker at an agreed upon location at the SMTD Transfer Center as presented to the Managing Director via email. Trustee Douglas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

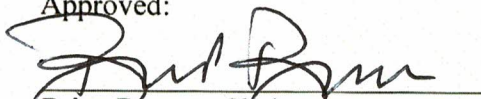
VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ron Walker made comments about funding, buses, and routes.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business to come before the Board, Trustee McCarthy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Douglas. The meeting adjourned at 5:02 PM.

Approved:


Brian Brewer, Chairperson


Leslie McCarthy, Secretary