



**MASS TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 26, 2026
BOARD MEETING**

PRESENT: Luke Zelle, Scott Bennett, Nate Henry, James Avery, Candace Mushatt, Tommie Johnson, Charles Winfrey, Sharon Reeves (8:07AM)

ABSENT: Glenn Wilson

GUESTS: Eme Torlai, Clean Energy

STAFF: Ed Benning, Jacqueline Saxton, Tim Ashley, Corwin Mathews, Ed Burger, Dennis McDonagh, Shawnice Dorsey, Elizabeth Davis, Patrick Tesler, Melinda Johnson, Kevin Galloway, Michele Loper, Michael Foerster

Chairperson Zelle called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

Comments of the Public

Shawnice Dorsey, MTA Director of Training, explained the MTA Leadership Cohort Program as a professional development course which provides management and leadership training to participants, and asked employees in attendance who are enrolled in the program to introduce themselves.

Ed Benning stated that we are very proud of the program and those individuals that are participating.

James Avery moved acceptance of the agenda, seconded by Scott Bennett; motion approved unanimously.

Approval of the January 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Charles Winfrey made a motion, supported by Scott Bennett, to approve the January 15, 2026 board meeting minutes; motion approved unanimously.

Charles Winfrey moved agenda items 2 through 8 for discussion and approval, supported by Scott Bennett. Nate Henry asked for Resolution Item 2, #26-19 to be separated and discussed independently.

Resolution #26-19 authorizes the General Manager to take the necessary action to have the Mass Transportation Authority millage renewal proposal submitted to the electorate of Genesee County.

Ed Benning said that this is a millage renewal with a small increase. Mr. Benning stated that since the pandemic we have experienced many changes; ridership is slowly coming back but is much different today than in the past. Mr. Benning said we are working to transform our services to better meet the needs of the community; including microtransit, special services, new routes, and the use of smaller vehicles as transportation needs in the community continue to grow. Mr. Benning stated that he is asking the board for authorization to present a millage renewal to the county, with an increase, in August 2026, which will help the MTA to continue to be sustainable in the years ahead.

Tommie Johnson moved, supported by Sharon Reeves, to approve Resolution #26-19. The motion passed with seven (7) votes in favor, one (1) opposed.

Resolution #26-20 authorizing the General Manager to enter into an agreement with Oscar W. Larson Co. to upgrade the Mass Transportation Authority (MTA) fuel management units and transition to Fuel Master's cloud-based fuel management software solution, at a total cost not to exceed \$206,985.18.

Corwin Matthews stated that approval of this agreement will give the MTA access to Fuel Master’s fuel management systems through cloud-based services and eliminate the need for network access.

Resolution #26-21 authorizing the General Manager to enter into an agreement with FAAC Incorporated (Ann Arbor, Michigan) to purchase a Bus Driving Simulator for training purposes, at a total amount not to exceed cost of \$1,110,363.00.

Ed Benning stated that our current driving simulator is over 20 years old; approval of this agreement for a new simulator will allow for training of employees during various types of weather conditions and circumstances.

Resolution #26-22 authorizing the General Manager to amend the current 3-year agreement with TransTrack Systems, Inc. (Cedar Rapids, IA) to provide a Business Intelligence, Data Analytics and Reporting Software Solution for the Mass Transportation Authority, in an amount not to exceed \$795,453.00.

Corwin Matthews stated that this amendment will provide additional modules and will further assist us in the collection and processing of data to support future decision making.

Resolution #26-23 authorizing the General Manager to enter into a 3-year agreement with Clean Energy (Newport Beach, CA) to purchase Renewable Natural Gas, perform and process Renewable Identification Number (RIN) credits to provide an annual \$235,000.00 in estimated RIN credits based on an annual fuel volume of 500,000 Gasoline Gallon Equivalent.

Ed Benning stated that we have worked with Clean Energy for many years and staff is recommending that we enter into an agreement with Clean Energy to purchase renewable natural gas, and to receive annual credits through the use of renewable identification numbers (RIN).

Resolution #26-24 authorizing the General Manager to purchase up to four (4) used 29’ to 40’ low floor used buses to supplement the fleet until damaged vehicles are restored to service, for an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 budgeting approximately \$50,000.00 per bus.

Ed Benning stated that the purchase of these vehicles will assist us in meeting our service requirements within the community. With board approval, these four used CNG vehicles will be purchased using operating funds.

Resolution #26-25 approving the intent to apply for state formula operating assistance for FY 2027 under Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended.

Ed Benning stated that this is an annual requirement of the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Motions for #26-20 through #26-25 approved unanimously.

General Manager Report

Ed Benning reported on state and federal funding, regional services, and movement at the federal level on the natural gas tax credit.

Comments of the Board

None

Meeting was adjourned at 9:03 A.M.

