



MASS TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE MARCH 26, 2026 BOARD MEETING

PRESENT: Scott Bennett, Nate Henry, James Avery, Candace Mushatt, Charles Winfrey, Sharon Reeves (9:04AM)

ABSENT: Luke Zelley, Glenn Wilson, Tommie Johnson

GUESTS: Jason Salzwedel and Kurtis Thomas, Rehmann
Khalil Davis and English Reed-Jones, WSP

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, Rod Evans

Vice Chairperson Bennett called the meeting to order at 8:02 A.M asking for approval of the agenda. James Avery moved approval of the agenda, supported by Charles Winfrey; motion approved unanimously.

Comments of the Public

None

Nate Henry suggested moving the audit presentation to the start of the agenda to allow for more people to show up before other business items are addressed.

Resolution #26-26 by the Mass Transportation Authority Board of Directors to accept the Fiscal Year 2025 Audit, as conducted by Rehmann Robson.

Jason Salzwedel, Senior Manager with Rehmann outlined their audit responsibilities and the focus of the FY 2025 MTA Audit, pointing out various areas of the financial statements; yearly comparisons of annual expenses, revenues, and review of OPEB contributions and balances. Mr. Salzwedel reported one finding in the procurement department regarding suspension and debarment documentation.

Ed Benning stated that he met with MTA CFO Elizabeth Davis to review the finding for suspension and debarment; Ms. Davis put together an action plan to address the finding and to better address documentation in the future.

Approval of the February 26, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Charles Winfrey made a motion, supported by James Avery, to approve the February 26, 2026 board meeting minutes; motion approved unanimously.

Charles Winfrey moved agenda items 2 through 6 for discussion and approval, supported by James Avery. (Nate Henry requested that Item 2, an amendment to the election date shown on approved Resolution #26-19, be voted on separately.) Motion approved unanimously.

Amend Resolution #26-19 authorizing the General Manager to take the necessary action to have the Mass Transportation Authority millage renewal proposal submitted to the electorate of Genesee County. Revise primary election date listed in approved resolution #26-19 from August 6, 2026 to August 4, 2026.

Ed Benning stated that the MTA attorney who prepared the paperwork for the upcoming August 2026 election entered the wrong election date. This action today will amend the approved resolution with the correct date, it will then be taken back to the county. The motion passed with four (4) votes in favor, one (1) opposed.

Resolution #26-27 authorizing the General Manager to enter into a one-year Product Supply Agreement with FEV North America, Inc., of Auburn Hills for the sale of hydrogen (H2) to FEV North America, Inc.

Ed Benning stated that this is to purchase hydrogen fuel from the MTA, and that we hope to have more agreements like this in the future.

Resolution #26-28 authorizing the General Manager enter into a one-year agreement with Hi-Tech Protection, Inc. of Flint, Michigan to provide Off-Duty Flint Police Officers for a total one-year contract amount not to exceed \$109,200.00.

Ed Benning stated that the MTA has worked with Hi-Tech for a number of years, they do good work providing security at the transportation center.

Resolution #26-29 authorizing the General Manager to enter into a five-year agreement with Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations LLC (Nashville, TN) for the lease of transit tires in an amount estimated to be \$844,594.80.

Ed Benning stated that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approves the lease of tires for the operation of buses in the organization. This agreement is for five years with Bridgestone Americas.

Resolutions #26-27, 26-28 and 26-29 approved unanimously

General Manager Report

Ed Benning introduced Boots Abrams, wife of a long-term board member Richard Abrams, who was a board member for over 25 years. Mr. Benning stated the transportation center downtown is named after him for his dedicated service to public transportation.

Mr. Benning reported on his discussions with Michigan Department of Transportation staff regarding a consortium and automated buses. He also reported on state funding, upcoming community outreach events, and smaller bus purchases. Mr. Benning stated that he intends to schedule more board committee meetings in the coming months.

Presentation – WSP – Khalil Davis and English Reed-Jones – MTA 10 Year Strategic Plan

Mr. Davis and Ms. Reed-Jones started their presentation by reviewing the current status of the ten-year plan, went on to the proposed Mission and Vision statements, Goals and Core Values, and Funding Overview, explaining the current funding environment. Mr. Davis encouraged board engagement and with Ms. Reed-Jones, discussed what comes next with the project.

Comments of the Board

Scott Bennett stated that we are blessed to have the MTA center at Maple & Dort, and Grand Blanc Township has the new fire and department of public works building there now too. Mr. Bennett stated that there will be an effort to improve the area in the near future. Mr. Bennett stated that the road conditions are atrocious along Dort Highway, and that this affects all of the businesses and homes along Dort, and he proposes a joint letter to officials asking for assistance in making improvements.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:08 A.M.

