



2817 Canal Street  
New Orleans, LA 70119

## New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Board of Commissioners

### Meeting Minutes - Final

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Tuesday, March 25, 2025

10:00 AM

RTA Board Room

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The New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA) hereby declares that, in accordance with La. R.S. 42:17.1 (A)(2)(a)-(c), a meeting will be held in person on Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. Meetings start at the scheduled time, but may be delayed until a quorum of the Commissioners is present. The agency's website will stream the in-person meeting live, and wearing masks in the boardroom is optional.

Written comments on any matter included on the agenda will be accepted in the following ways: 1) Submission of a Speaker Card on meeting day; 2) Electronically by email sent to: [rtaboard@rtaforward.org](mailto:rtaboard@rtaforward.org) prior to the meeting; or 3) By U.S. Mail send to 2817 Canal Street, Attention: Office of Board Affairs, New Orleans, LA 70119.

This meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. To help assure availability, modifications or accommodations linked to a disability must be requested 72 hours before the meeting or hearing. Please direct requests for public meeting accommodations to the Office of Board Affairs, 2817 Canal Street, NOLA 70119, or call 504-827-8341 or by email ([rtaboard@rtaforward.org](mailto:rtaboard@rtaforward.org)).

#### 1. Call to Order

#### 2. Roll Call

**Commissioners Present:** Commissioner Colin, Commissioner Daniels, Commissioner Guidry, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Sams and Commissioner Walton

**Present:** Chairperson Fred Neal, Vice-Chairman Art Walton, Commissioner Timolyn Sams, Commissioner Timolyn Sams, Commissioner Flozell Daniels, Commissioner Louis Colin, Commissioner Mitchell Guidry, and Commissioner Mariah Moore

**Absent:**

### 3. Consideration of Meeting Minutes

[Board meeting minutes from 02.25.25]

[25-038](#)

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2025. The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Daniels, seconded by Vice-Chairman Walton and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Chairperson Neal, Vice-Chairman Walton, Commissioner Sams, Commissioner Daniels, Commissioner Colin, Commissioner Guidry, and Commissioner Moore

**Absent:**

Enactment No: N/A

### 4. Reports

A. RTA Chairman's Report

Commissioner Neal thanked everyone who rode the system during Mardi Gras.

B. Operations & Administration Committee Chairman's Report

No Report.

C. Finance Committee Chairman's Report

No Report.

D. RTA General Counsel's Report

No Report.

E. RTA Chief Executive Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Executive Officer's Report was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Board Meeting.

Employees of the Month - February 2025

Errol Broussard - Streetcar

John Celius - Mechanic

The CEO reported that staff were given lunch for National Transit Employee Appreciation Day. People were using the new shelters that were being put up around the city. The RTA was acknowledged in City Business as being one of the top 10 Construction Programs in the City of New Orleans and the Louisianan Landmark Society gave the RTA an award for Excellence in Historic Preservation for the

Napoleon Facility. Also, the RTA will do Free Fare Rides for this Saturday Election.

The CEO was staying on top of everything that was happening in Washington, DC regarding Transportation Funding and Local Funding that can affect the Ferry Funding.

Commissioner Neal stated that the shelters are the type of riders' amenities that the RTA are making for the riders. In response to a question from Commissioner Sams, the CEO stated that the RTA does not have "Adopt A Shelter Program".

Commissioner Sams stated that this would be a way to get the community involved.

In response to budget question from Commissioner Guidry, according to the CEO, the RTA lacks the funds to provide COLA for administrative employees, and the budget for COLA was intended for the Union rather than for administrative staff. The CFO and the CEO made the decision not to give administrative staff a COLA. The CEO stated that this was communicated to staff in March that there would be no COLA. Commissioner Moore stated that staff need to make public transportation welcoming when they are considering COLA.

Commissioner Guidry gave the CEO a list of shelters located in New Orleans East that are no longer being used by the riders because the bus routes have been changed.

#### F. Chief Transit Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Transit Officer's Report was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Board Meeting.

#### G. RTA Chief Financial Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Financial Officer's Report was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Board Meeting.

Commissioner Moore requested that the fare box recovery rate be included in the monthly reports for each route.

The CEO stated that the RTA was updating old software which would improve the RTA efficiencies. This information will be discussed at the Board Retreat when she gives a report on the Work Plan.

## 5. Informational Report - Annual Fare Report

### 2024 Annual Fare Report

[25-025](#)

The 2024 Annual Fare Report was presented and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Board Meeting.

Commissioner Neal stated that the New York Transit System was stopping the use of the Metro Card. They are going to start using the tap and pay method. Staff need to research the best ways that the passengers can pay to ride the system. Commissioner Moore stated that the RTA needs to partner with a lot of

organizations to educate the community on the different financial ways to use to ride the system.

Commissioner Guidry stated that the RTA need to consider a different Fare for the Airport Express Bus, the CEO stated that staff was considering the fare change during the September pick.

Commissioner Guidry had an issue with the 24-hour bus pass being passed to different passengers but Commissioner Moore believed riders were not taking advantage of that pass. A consultant will be hired to look at the fare structure of the RTA.

Commissioner Daniels would like to know at the next Board Meeting what the RTA's authority was when it came to increasing fares. The CEO stated that the City Council has the right to approve all RTA fare increases.

The Jazzy Pass can be marketed to show the best benefit for each purchase. Commissioner Moore stated that people below the poverty level will only purchase the one-day pass and the RTA needs to think of all people when changing fares. The RTA needs to take care of all riders and when the ride experience changes the revenue will change.

Enactment No: INFORMATIONAL

**6. Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Sams moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda. Resolution No. 25-014 was adopted unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sams, seconded by Commissioner Colin and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Chairperson Neal, Vice-Chairman Walton, Commissioner Sams, Commissioner Daniels, Commissioner Colin, Commissioner Guidry, and Commissioner Moore

**Absent:**

Purchase of Canal and Riverfront Streetcar Tires [25-022](#)

Commissioner Sams moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to purchase streetcar tires.

Enactment No: 25-015

Change Order Request- Carr, Riggs, & Ingram Contract (RFQ2019-021) [25-023](#)

Commissioner Sams moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to adopt the Change Order Request for Carr, Riggs, & Ingram. Resolution No. 25-016 was adopted unanimously.

Enactment No: 25-016

Outside Counsel Legal Services [25-024](#)

Commissioner Sams moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to adopt Outside Counsel Legal Services. Resolution No. 25-017 was adopted unanimously.

Enactment No: 25-017

5-Year Capital Investment Program 2025-2029

[25-027](#)

Commissioner Sams moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to adopt the 5-Year Capital Investment Program 2025-2029. Resolution No. 25-018 was adopted unanimously.

Enactment No: 25-018

RTA Insurance Brokerage Services for Property and Casualty Coverages

[25-028](#)

Commissioner Sams moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to adopt the RTA Insurance Brokerage Services for Property and Casualty Coverage. Resolution No. 20-019 was adopted unanimously.

Enactment No: 25-019

## 7. New Business (UNANIMOUS VOTE REQUIRED TO CONSIDER)

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Moore seconded to add the following items to the agenda. the motion was approved unanimously.

A. CEA with GNO, Inc. for Shelter Improvement Funding

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Sams seconded to ratify the CEA with GNO, Inc. for Shelter Improvement Funding. Resolution No. 25-020 was adopted unanimously.

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B. First Amendment to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Parish of Jefferson and Regional Transit Authority for the use of the Wilty Terminal

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to adopt the First Amendment to the CEA between the Parish of Jefferson and RTA for the use of the Wilty Terminal.

A motion was made by Commissioner Daniels, seconded by Commissioner Moore and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Chairperson Neal, Vice-Chairman Walton, Commissioner Sams, Commissioner Daniels, Commissioner Colin, Commissioner Guidry, and Commissioner Moore

**Absent:**

## 8. Audience Questions and Comments

Alan Drake stated that the majority of the Sales Tax comes from New Orleans, the RTA gets 1% of that Sales Tax. When you order online from certain vendors a Sales Tax is being

charge to the customers the RTA was not collecting that 1% Sales Tax. Also, the fareboxes on the vehicles has been broken and the RTA was missing out on revenue.

Shirani Jayasuriya - Ride - Challenged the RTA to Ride the vehicles so that they can understand what the riders experience when riding transit.

### 10. Adjournment

Commissioners Guidry moved and Commissioner Daniels seconded to adjourn the Board Meeting of March 25, 2025. The motion was adjourned unanimously.

**Aye:** Chairperson Neal, Vice-Chairman Walton, Commissioner Sams, Commissioner Daniels, Commissioner Colin, Commissioner Guidry, and Commissioner Moore

**Absent:**

[03.25.25 Board Presentation Slides]

[25-057](#)