



2817 Canal Street  
New Orleans, LA 70119

## **New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Board of Commissioners**

### **Meeting Minutes - Draft**

---

**Tuesday, July 23, 2024**

**10:00 AM**

**RTA Board Room**

---

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, July 23, 2024 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)).

**Present:** Vice-Chairman Art Walton, and Flozell Daniels

**Absent:** Chairperson Fred Neal, and Commissioner Timolyn Sams

#### **1. Call to Order**

#### **2. Roll Call**

#### **3. Consideration of Meeting Minutes**

[Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes - June 25, 2024]

[24-074](#)

#### **4. Reports**

A. RTA Chairman's Report

B. Operations & Administration Committee Chairman's Report

C. Finance Committee Chairman's Report

[May 2024 Financials]

[24-075](#)

D. Jefferson Parish Report

E. RTA General Counsel's Report

F. RTA Chief Executive Officer's Report

G. Chief of Staff Legislative Update

H. Operations Update

I. RTA Chief Financial Officer's Report

## **5. Consent Agenda**

Substation Upgrade/Repairs

[24-055](#)

Enactment No: 24-038

Replacement of Track Switch Boxes and Cleanouts

[24-057](#)

Enactment No: 24-039

Change Order Request: Agreement for Ferry Service Operations  
and Maintenance

[24-063](#)

Enactment No: 24-043

Zero-Emission Fleet Planning

[24-065](#)

Enactment No: 24-040

## **6. Authorization**

Cyber Insurance Placement and Renewal of Excess Liability and  
Automobile Physical Damage Insurance [2024-2025]

[24-061](#)

Amendment the Transit Agreement between the City of Kenner  
and Regional Transit Authority (RTA)

[24-072](#)

Enactment No: 24-046

Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) between The University  
of New Orleans (UNO) and Regional Transit Authority (RTA)

[24-073](#)

Enactment No: 24-046

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

## **8. Audience Questions and Comments**

Ms. Johnson stated that her mother is a rider on Paratransit # 12866, and this was the 3rd incident with Paratransit. She commented that the agency is not providing the service that they claim they are. The latest incident with her mother took place on June 24, 2024, her mother is 93 years old. Her mother was attending her own son's funeral and the family had arranged for Paratransit to pick her up and bring her home from the funeral. They brought her to the funeral with no problem but did not pick her up until 3 hours after her to pick-up time.

Ms. Johnson stated that she spoke to a Ms. Joseph, and he gave her Mr. Duplessis number, and he did not call her until July 10, 2024. She stated that Paratransit has the elderly waiting in the heat. She spoke to Paratransit, and they stated they would be there in 10 minutes it was a total of 1 hour and 10 minutes before Paratransit arrived. When the driver arrived, she told the driver she was going inside to get her mother and the driver put her mother as a no show. Her mother stayed was at the church until after 12:00 pm she arrived at the church for 8:30 am.

Commissioner Daniels stated that the public should receive a response when complaints are filed and should not have to bring them before the Board. He and Commissioner Walton both stated that the reoccurring complaints are unacceptable and that communication with other departments is not happening. Board members requested an update to Ms. Johnson's issue along with a strategy to address the deficiency issues within Paratransit.

- **RTA RESPONSE:**

Korey Dupree stated that when he speaks at the Board Meetings, he is representing Local 1560 President. His mother is having the same issues as Ms. Johnson's mother. Mr. Dupree stated that the RTA need to change, and the RTA is not moving forward the RTA is moving backwards. Mr. Dupree mentioned that he had filed a lawsuit to get management to respond to a grievance and that operators did not receive their progressive rate increase. He has 14 mediations coming before management some operators were fired due to security issues.

Phyeka Spencer stated that she was wrongly terminated from her job as a bus operator. She was accused of hitting a passenger and the video shows that she did not. She was supposed to be reinstated, management has not reinstated her, and she does not know why. The only thing she did wrong was that she had a cup in her hand, and she is looking for answers.

- **RTA RESPONSE:** Commissioner Daniels stated that on certain issues the Board can't comment due to legal issues.

Shirani Jayasuriya stated that passengers are still looking for bus stop signs and riders need new buses. The 91 Route bus is not showing as scheduled and Rideline does not have answers and does not show correctly on the app. The app does not work properly. Riders know that a communication policy is being worked on bus breakdowns and riders would like to receive an update on that policy.

- **RTA RESPONSE:** #91, the app not working properly and Rideline (why they

do not have answers?)

Earnest Moneriffe he was terminated for a verbal altercation on the bus. He had a passenger sleeping on the bus he was on the 61-bus route on Chef and Michoud. The altercation took place off the bus not on the bus.. Mr. Earnes encountered the gentleman again and help him get off the street. He would like to have his job back.

- **RTA RESPONSE:** The board cannot provide a comment on this issue.

Courtney Jackson thanked the Board for assisting with the Opportunity Passes for the youth ages 16-24.

Valerie Jefferson stated that she was representing the NAACP Labor and Management should always have great conversations.

## **9. Executive Session (2/3RDS VOTE TO Consider)**

## **10. Adjournment**