

**CENTRAL COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
KALAMAZOO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
Joint Regular Meeting  
June 9, 2025**

Place: Metro Administration Building, Kalamazoo, MI  
Time: 11:30 A.M.  
Staff Present: Sean McBride, Greg Vlietstra, Keshia Woodson-Sow, Sarah Joshi,  
Richard Congdon, Vera Younger, Barbara Blissett  
Others Present: Earl Cox Sr.

**1.) KCTA ROLL CALL**

*KCTA Members Present:* Curtis Aardema, James Ayers, Tafari Brown, Paul Ecklund,  
Dusty Farmer\*, Aditya Rama, Greg Rosine, Gary Sigman,  
Tim Sloan

*KCTA Members Absent:* None

*\*Farmer left the meeting at 12:38 pm.*

**1.) CCTA ROLL CALL**

*CCTA Members Present:* Curtis Aardema, Chris Burns, Nicole Beauchamp, Dusty  
Farmer\*\*, Christyn Johnson\*, Lisa Mackie, Garrylee  
McCormick, Jim Pearson, Greg Rosine

*CCTA Members Absent:* None

*\*Johnson arrived at 11:42 am.*

*\*\*Farmer left the meeting at 12:38 pm.*

**2.) REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

*A motion was made by KCTA and CCTA for approval of the joint CCTA/KCTA meeting agenda for June 9, 2025 with the approval of the CCTA/KCTA meeting minutes from May 12, 2025.*

*Motion: Rosine*

*Second: Sloan*

*Motion carried by voice vote.*

**3.) PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**4.) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Chair Ayers reported the Committee would be meeting the following week to begin discussion on the 2026-2027 CCTA/KCTA budget.

**5.) PERFORMANCE MONITORING COMMITTEE**

Chair Rama shared the Committee had met and discussed upcoming items, roles and responsibilities.

They discussed topics for future meetings which included contract reviews, bus purchases, Metro Connect, Metro Link and Michigan Municipal Risk Management Association (MMRMA).

## **6.) EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chair Mackie reported the Committee reviewed the policy and charge of the Committee. She said they discussed the 2025-2026 plan for community outreach including the community informational report and the Legislative Breakfast scheduled for September 19<sup>th</sup> and provided an update about the Committee's proposed outreach plans for jurisdictional visits in 2025. Mackie commented that a focus would also be to help recruit vacant rural positions on the CCTA.

## **7.) BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Dir of Support Services Vlietstra shared a PowerPoint presentation explaining the difference between the State and Federal grants, the amounts available and the process to acquire them. He said the percentages awarded are currently Federal at 80% and State at 20%. (A copy of the PowerPoint is included with the meeting minutes.)

Exec. Dir. McBride provided a PowerPoint presentation to refresh/reorient the Board on the Governance Fine-Tuning Initiative, including the importance of the Committee structure.

Exec. Dir. McBride explained that in 2022 the Board conducted a governance process facilitation by consultant Doug Eadie, who specialized in working with public transit agencies on board governance. He said some of the goals for governance reorganization were:

- Ensure adequate attention to governing decisions and judgements;
- Make Board meetings more productive;
- Provide Board members with a more satisfying governing experience;
- Provide forums for mapping out Board member engagement processes;
- Capitalize more fully the On-Board members' experience, expertise, talents, and diverse perspectives; and,
- Develop well-rounded Boardmember experiences to enable and promote regular Board leadership rotation

(A copy of the PowerPoint is included with the meeting minutes.)

## **8.) EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT**

Exec. Dir. McBride provided an update on the following topics:

- Route Adjustments
- Human Resources
- Outreach
- Training
- Kalamazoo Arts Council – Mural
- Metro Link Update

(A copy of the report is filed with the meeting minutes.)

Exec. Dir. McBride shared that Metro held an open house Job Fair with approximately 66 applicants applying for various positions in Operations and Maintenance.

Exec. Dir. McBride announced that Dep. Dir. of On-Demand Services and Planning Sarah Joshi had accepted the position of Parchment City Manager. The Board wished her well in her new role and thanked her for the excellent launch of the Metro Link project.

## **9) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Pension Board – Did not meet.

KATS Policy Committee – Rama and Aardema shared that KATS had approved the Unified Planning Agreement Amendment and staff is working to finalize the 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

Chair Aardema commented that the City of Kalamazoo was beginning the next phase of the two-way street conversion for next year. He said the City has been awarded a grant to study the railroad track configuration on the east side of Kalamazoo. This could help improve the grid lock experiences on Michigan Avenue and Kalamazoo Avenue and possibly moving the tracks to another location as a permanent solution.

Local Advisory Committee (LAC) – Farmer reported the Committee met and approved minutes.

**10.) CHAIRPERSON REPORT** – Chair Aardema stated that he is working on developing an On-Demand Services Ambassador role and has asked Boardmember Sloan who could report on services and customer experiences.

Chair Aardema thanked Sarah Joshi for her services at Metro and wished her well in her new position in Parchment.

**11.) PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**12.) MEMBERS TIME** – Boardmembers thanked Sarah Joshi for her extensive work on the Metro Link pilot.

## **13.) ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made by KCTA and CCTA to adjourn the KCTA/CCTA meeting.*

*Motion: McCormick*


*Support: Brown*

*Motion carried by voice vote.*

The meeting adjourned at 12:42 PM.

  
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Curtis Aardema  
CCTA Chairperson

  
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Barbara Blissett  
CCTA Clerk

  
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Curtis Aardema  
KCTA Chairperson

  
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Barbara Blissett  
KCTA Clerk