



**Topeka Metro
Board of Directors Minutes
March 18, 2024**

BOARD MEMBER'S NAME	ORGANIZATION	PRESENT / ABSENT / EXCUSED
Scott Tummons, Chair	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Candis Meerpohl, Vice Chair	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Rodd Miller	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Chance Lucas	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Beverly Hall	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Alan Bearman	Topeka Metro	Absent
Fatima Perez Luthi	Topeka Metro	Absent

Staff/Visitors	ORGANIZATION	PRESENT / ABSENT / EXCUSED
Bob Nugent, General Manager	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Richard Appelhanz, Chief Financial Officer	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Keri Renner, Director of Marketing and Communications/Board Secretary	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Jared Culbertson, Director of Information Technology	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Terri Miller, Director of Human Resources	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Denise Ensley, Chief Operations Officer	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
John Cassidy, Legal Counsel	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Alan Parrish, Director of Maintenance & Facilities	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom

TOPIC	KEY DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDED ACTION / STATUS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Call to Order	Called the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.	5 of 7 members present	Scott Tummons
Public Comment	<p>Cassandra Martin, a Washburn social work student and intern for the YWCA Center for Safety & Empowerment. She clarified that she is not representing the YWCA but sharing her experiences as an intern. Cassandra McManus, a Washburn social work student and an intern for the Kansas Department for Children and Families, also addressed the board regarding clients not being able to afford to ride, or times that are convenient. Both expressed concern about the cost of fares, the barrier of having to have an agency sign-off for reduced fare passengers, and not having buses operating late into the evenings. It was also mentioned that late buses would benefit Washburn students and high school students. They plan to share the same concerns with Topeka City Council on March 19th as well.</p> <p>Rodd asked Denise about the difference between Medicare and Medicaid and having to have an agency or physician sign off on paperwork. The board members thanked Ms. Martin and Ms. McManus for their presentation.</p>		Scott Tummons
Meeting Minutes		MOTION: Rodd Miller moved, and Candis Meerpohl seconded the February 20, 2024, TMTA BOD meeting minutes as presented. Motion approved 5-0.	Scott Tummons
Department Reports			
Planning Report	Planning report as submitted. Richard stated that since we are past the first year of the MOD service that his reports will have a table with only two columns for 2023		Richard Appelhanz

Operations Report	& 2024. MOD continues to grow. Main destinations are Dillons and the East and South Walmart stores. Report as submitted. Rodd asked about the hand-held radios. Denise explained for now the radios we have serve their purpose. The operators would like different options. We have analog-style but getting 800-megahertz cost handhelds is too much. We do want what is safe for the operators.		Denise Ensley
Maintenance Report	Report as submitted.		Alan Parrish
Finance Report	February 2024 Finance report as submitted.	MOTION: Rodd Miller moved, and Chance Lucas seconded the motion to approve the February 29, 2024, financials as presented. Motion approved 5-0.	Richard Appelhanz
New Business	Richard Appelhanz explained the grading of the RFB for the Bus Technology award. There were seven bidders, then narrowed to four, then two. Strategic Mapping, Inc. was the least expensive, had excellent reviews from references and the highest rated of all the bidders. Richard recommended to the board that Strategic Mapping, Inc. be granted the contract. Richard also explained that we have COVID money left over that could help purchase a back-up generator that is needed for Quincy Street Station. The TMTA administrative building has one as well as the Maintenance building and they have been helpful when needed.	MOTION: Rodd Miller moved, and Beverly Hall seconded the motion to approve the award for Bus Technology to Strategic Mapping, Inc. for the bid. Motion approved 5-0.	Richard Appelhanz
Old Business	Bob briefly discussed that we would go over the budget development process soon.		Bob Nugent
Executive Session	Candis Meerpohl moved to adjourn for an executive session.	MOTION: Candis Meerpohl moved to recess for an executive session so that we can discuss personnel matters of	Candis Meerpohl

		<p>nonelected personnel in order to discuss individually identifiable employees per K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). Rodd Miller seconded motion and the executive session began at 4:54 p.m. and open session would resume at 5:04 p.m. The motion carried by a vote 5-0. Scott Tummons moved to extend the executive session by 5 minutes to end at 5:09 p.m. Candis Meerpohl seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.</p>	
Adjourn	<p>The board meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m. Executive session to be from 4:54 p.m. to 5:04 p.m. Then it was extended to 5:09 p.m.</p>	<p>The Board did not take action after the executive session.</p>	<p>Scott Tummons</p>

Respectfully Submitted –



Keri Renner, Topeka Metro Board Secretary