



Topeka Metro
Board of Director's Minutes
June 15, 2026
Quincy Street Station boardroom

MEMBER'S NAME	ORGANIZATION	PRESENT / ABSENT / EXCUSED
Candis Stiles, Chair	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Rodd Miller	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Beverly Hall	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Michaela Saunders	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Tamika Terry	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Fátima Pérez-Luthi, Vice Chair	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
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 & Comm.	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
John Cassidy, General Counsel	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Jessica Moberly, Director of Planning	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Alan Parrish, Director of Maintenance & Facilities	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Terri Miller, Director of Human Resources	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Jared Culbertson, Director of IT	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Shawn Auten, Scheduler	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Scott Tummons, former TMTA board member		

TOPIC	KEY DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDED ACTION / STATUS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Call to Order	Candis Stiles, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.	6 of 6 members present.	Candis Stiles
Approval of Board Minutes	Minutes from May 18, 2026, Board meeting were reviewed.	MOTION: Beverly Hall moved, and Rodd Miller seconded, to accept the May 18, 2026, TMTA BOD meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed 6-0.	Candis Stiles
Public Comment	Scott Tummons thanked everyone for the years he served on the board with Topeka Metro. All of the staff made everything really easy. When it came time to a decision we had to make, you all put your effort into it. I'm sorry I couldn't continue on.		Candis Stiles
Department Reports	Planning – Jessica said that the MOD transit service has been discontinued but down the line we may look in the future. Operations – Denise is not here today but Bob offered to answer any questions. Maintenance – Candis asked if Alan had bought gas. He was going to do it last Friday, but there was only one bidder, so he cancelled it. He will be buying some soon. Finance – Candis asked if there are any questions for Richard?		Candis Stiles
Action Items	Approval of the Finance Report Topeka Metro will have a several hearings regarding the Revenue Neutral Rate. The first hearing is set for July 7th and the second hearing to exceed or not to exceed the RNR is July 14th. The final hearing is Tuesday, August 18th. Approval of the Fiscal Year 2027 budget	MOTION: Rodd Miller moved to accept finance report as submitted, and Beverly Hall seconded. The motion passed, 6-0. MOTION: Rodd Miller moved to approve the FY2027 Budget as presented both fiscal & capital, and	Candis Stiles

	Uniform and Linen Service Request for bid – We have UniFirst now. We’ve used Cintas before, and Cintas might be buying UniFirst, so the staff committee is recommending Ace ImageWear Uniform Services. Four fixed route diesel buses – Richard said right now we’re still using 2011 Gillig diesel buses, soon we will be down to three, and we have four electric buses that will replacing four of the 2011s. Eventually, all four electric buses will be in service and it will be down to just three 2011s. We also have ten 2014s and will exceed their useful life in December 2026. It’s going to take 24 months, so even if we order them today, we’re not get them until 2028, and the cost is just going to keep rising. We’d like to go ahead and order four fixed route diesel buses to replace the aging fleet. The purchase of three fixed route hybrid buses. Richard said we originally had a grant for electric buses, but we asked if we could change the order for hybrid buses. We are waiting on FTA approval. There is grant coverage for this—we would only have to pay \$750,000 and the rest comes from the grant. RFB for Architect - Building Garage Addition There is a large area that we would like to cover up to expand the building, and we do have a grant for this project. \$939,000 Carbon Reduction Program funds (CRP). The estimated cost for this project is \$1,175,000. We’d like to hire an architect, draft the plans, and then provide a cost estimate of what the	Beverly Hall seconded. The motion passed, 6-0. MOTION: Rodd Miller moved to award Contract TO-26-05 for Uniform and Linen Services to Ace ImageWear Uniform Services. Beverly Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed 6–0. MOTION: Beverly Hall moved to approve purchasing four fixed route diesel buses, and Rodd Miller seconded. The motion passed, 6-0. MOTION: Rodd Miller moved to purchase three hybrid buses per FTA approval and Tamika Terry seconded. The motion passed, 6-0.	
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architect thinks it will cost. We would like to put out to bid an architect to draft the plans. Eighty percent of the cost would be covered by the grant.

Candis asked if since we have six RFBs to review, what's the cost in doing the RFB? Richard says it depends on the project. Sometimes we have an engineer or an architect to assist us and when they assist us, they're able to give us a pretty good estimate of what the price is going to be for the project. When we're preparing to put something out, we need an engineer or an architect to draft the plans. Candis said we're going to vote on six RFBs.

Richard said he would briefly go over all the RFBs.

RFB for Website builder – Just like it sounds, but we want to get a new website.

RFB Garage Drainage – We have an engineer helping us with an Independent Cost Estimate (ICE) for \$88,000. We have water ponding in the garage.

RFB for Bus Advertising – It's money coming to us to get paid for advertising on the buses. Currently we have a guarantee of \$85,000 a year. We out it out to bid every five years. We've had Houck Transit Advertising, who typically is the only bidder.

RFB for QSS HVAC at Maintenance – We do this every four or five years. Routine maintenance on our equipment at QSS. We figure doing maintenance saves from potential breakdowns.

RFB for Natural Gas – This we do every three years. In the past companies bid based on the spot rate and then plus or minus whatever their markup is. Unfortunately, because we're buying from the general market when you're paying spot prices, we're susceptible to large increases if there are cold snaps. We

MOTION: Rodd Miller moved to have the RFB for the natural gas bid before the end of October 2026, and Beverly Hall seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

	haven't had to use much natural gas when it's warmer winters or we didn't use all of our allotment and we were able to sell gas back at a high price, but you to run the risk because of the market. Rodd suggested that the gas company sells us gas at a contracted rate regardless of our utilization. So, we may pay more on average during the summer but then we should balance it out. Michaela asked if it is like the average payment plan? Richard said yes. Richard said when he puts it out to bid, he can ask for the spot price or ask for the average. Richard said that the contract is at the end of October.		
New Business	Bob addressed Beverly Hall, Scott Tummons and Rodd Miller as board members and their years of service to Topeka Metro Looking at 43 years of experience, and that's almost as long than this organization has been around. Bob said he was really sorry that you're moving on. Time changes and we're going to continue to do what we're doing. Bob said he thinks very highly of all three of you. You've been quite an asset to me in this organization. We went through some tough times, we went through COVID, and done some things that we later regretted, but good or bad we've come out of it day after day. This organization is in a way better spot today than when I first came here. This is nothing to do about me, it's all been the board's direction and what they sought that's right to do in this community. I want to thank you and Topeka Metro for your service. Rodd wanted to thank the staff. He said he got thrown into the ring early. Got run over once or twice. At times, it's been stressful with change, and nobody likes change. He said I think in my mind, Metro now is willing to make decisions and even if it's a mistake change it, without a lot of guilt, such as the bicycles, MOD, or whatever it might be. Having the fortitude if it's not working do something different. It's important to be		Bob Nugent

	flexible. There are many people who are dependent on us for getting to work, getting to doctor's appointment. If it weren't for us, they wouldn't be able to do it. I personally appreciate everything you've done. To my two colleagues, I appreciate your help along the way. Beverly Hall said it's been an interesting ride and definitely a worthwhile experience. I thank you all for the support you've given me. I thank Rodd as he brought me on. I'm thankful and I appreciate everybody. Scott Tummons said you all made it very easy and went above and beyond providing us with what decisions we had to make and then the information to come to a decision.		
Executive Session	N/A	N/A	
Adjourn		MOTION: Tamika Terry moved to adjourn the meeting and Rodd Miller seconded. The motion passed, 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.	Candis Stiles

Respectfully Submitted,
Keri L. Renner, Board Secretary