



Topeka Metro
Board of Director's Minutes
April 20, 2026
Quincy Street Station boardroom

MEMBER'S NAME	ORGANIZATION	PRESENT / ABSENT / EXCUSED
Candis Stiles, Chair	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Scott Tummons	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Michaela Saunders	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Fátima Pérez-Luthi, Vice Chair	Topeka Metro	Absent
Beverly Hall	Topeka Metro	Absent
Rodd Miller	Topeka Metro	Absent (with proxy)
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
Jessica Moberly, Director of Planning	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Denise Ensley, Chief Operations Officer	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Alan Parrish, Director of Maintenance & Facilities	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Terri Miller, Director of Human Resources	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
John Cassidy, General Counsel	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Jared Culbertson, Director of IT	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Shawn Auten, Scheduler	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom

TOPIC	KEY DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDED ACTION / STATUS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Call to Order	Candis Stiles, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.	3 of 5 members present.	Candis Stiles
Approval of Board Minutes	Minutes from March 16, 2026, Board meeting were reviewed.	MOTION: Scott Tummons moved, and Michaela Saunders seconded, to accept the March 16, 2026, TMTA BOD meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed 4-0 (Rodd Miller proxy).	Candis Stiles
Public Comment	No public in attendance.		Candis Stiles
Department Reports	<p>Planning – Candis asked if we have had a MOD Public Meeting. Keri Renner said we had one last Thursday, April 16th and there is one tomorrow April 21st from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Operations – We have one new bus operator in training and she’s already out on the road. We have another class scheduled in early May—hoping for two people.</p> <p>Maintenance – nothing to add to his report.</p>		<p>Jessica Moberly</p> <p>Denise Ensley</p> <p>Alan Parrish</p>
Action Items	<p>Finance – Richard had nothing to add to his report. Richard Appelhanz submitted the Finance Report to be approved.</p> <p>Five-Year Strategic Plan – Goals and Objectives Bob asked if the board would accept the plan.</p>	<p>MOTION: Scott Tummons moved, and Michaela Saunders seconded the motion to accept the March 31, 2026, financial report as presented. The motion passed 4-0. (Rodd Miller proxy).</p> <p>MOTION: Scott Tummons moved, and Michaela Saunders seconded to approve the Five-Year Strategic Plan. Motion passed 4-0. (Rodd Miller proxy).</p>	<p>Richard Appelhanz</p> <p>Candis Stiles</p>

<p>New Business</p>	<p>Topeka Metro will have a Triennial Review coming soon. Tomorrow, April 21st, we have a meeting with the lead reviewer. We sent our first submission (basically a desk audit) of information earlier in the year. They've sent some follow-up questions, and an outline of what they're going to do on the property when they're here. They will be on property at the end of July. We also have contract negotiations with the Union, so we'll be busy this summer.</p> <p>Richard shared that Topeka Metro had to share a lot of data, which included some samples of our procurements; grant draw requests (ECO); and maintenance records. Bob, Denise, John, Richard, Alan and Terri will be involved. Bob said that these reviews are meant to remind us of procedures and policies. If there are corrective measures, those are usually worked out before they arrive.</p> <p>Federal Funding – There's been some notice that our formula allocations is not going to change for the next year. They are cutting back on the capital funding (competitive funding by billions).</p> <p><u>What that means to us:</u> We have buses that are from the year 2014 that have exhausted their life. This is 2026, and because of the twelve-year bus life, we start asking for competitive grants to replace those vehicles. If the amount of funding goes down, it may take longer to get those replacement vehicles. It usually takes 18-24 months to get new vehicles. So, if there is reduced funding, those vehicles could push us out for several years to actually get funding for it. Which raises the question, do we use depreciation</p>		<p>Bob Nugent</p>
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	<p>reserves to purchase vehicles? Normally, a grant is 80% to 85%. There is still questions about the bus and bus facilities or the Low and No which usually comes about this time of year.</p> <p>Candis asked if we had 2012s now? Bob said we have 2011s and 2014s. Alan said there are three 2011s that are still in service and we haven't designated any bus replacement yet. Candis asked if the 2011s are causing all the expense this year? Alan said no, it's actually the 2014s. They're going to start costing us more money on the drivetrain. Candis asked if we already replaced issues on the 2011s and now that process is for the 2014s? Alan said we replaced four engines in some of the 2011s, and some of the transmissions we did, too. We don't want to get rid of those until last. Alan said that it takes 20 months to produce a diesel bus. Bob said if we get the hybrid buses approved, it's going to be two years before we get those buses. Candis asked if this is the time of the year when these grants are available and should we bring it up next month if we haven't heard anything? Bob said normally it's in March, April or May when they come out. Candis said that maybe that they're short-staffed. She suggested that we discuss this at our May meeting.</p>		
Executive Session	N/A	N/A	
Adjourn		MOTION: Scott Tummons moved to adjourn the meeting and Michaela Saunders seconded. The motion passed 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.	Candis Stiles

Respectfully Submitted,
Keri L. Renner, Board Secretary