



Topeka Metro
Board of Director's Minutes
May 18, 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
Michaela Saunders	Topeka Metro	Present QSS
Fátima Pérez-Luthi, Vice Chair	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Beverly Hall	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
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
Jared Culbertson, Director of IT	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Shawn Auten, Scheduler	Topeka Metro	Present via Zoom
Jonah Kahn	WIBW-TV	Present QSS
Rick Felsburg	WIBW-TV	Present QSS

TOPIC	KEY DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDED ACTION / STATUS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Call to Order	Candis Stiles, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.	5 of 5 members present.	Candis Stiles
Public Comment	No public comment; however, Jonah Kahn & Rick Felsburg from WIBW were in attendance.		Candis Stiles
Public hearing on MOD	Public hearing on MOD. Candis said the public hearing is open and asked if anyone would like to speak on the MOD service. Michaela Saunders thanked the staff for putting together the summary. Candis said that she & Michaela were both at the second public meeting and we talked to two people that day. From the notes at the first public hearing and then what you received from the second meeting, putting everyone's comments together was helpful. Close the public hearing on MOD. Motion on the MOD service.	MOTION: Rodd Miller moved for the public hearing on MOD and Michaela Saunders seconded. Motion passed 5-0. MOTION: Michaela Saunders moved to close the public hearing on MOD, and Rodd Miller seconded. Motion passed 5-0. MOTION: Rodd Miller moved to discontinue the MOD service as of May 30, 2026, and as per the staff's recommendation, and Fátima Pérez-Luthi seconded. The motion passed 5-0.	Candis Stiles
Approval of Board Minutes	Minutes from April 20, 2026, Board meeting were reviewed.	MOTION: Rodd Miller moved, and Beverly Hall seconded, to accept the April 20, 2026, TMTA BOD meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed 5-0.	Candis Stiles

	don't know of any support claim that's been settled without at least notifying the board of directors. John said to those here that are all present, should have copies and he emailed all of you just moments before this meeting and those attending by Zoom – hopefully, those are in your inbox by now. Tort Claims Settlement – A case from 2024. Bus Stop Pad and Sidewalk Connections Project RFB – Jessica said this is a shared project between Topeka Metro and the City of Topeka for meaningful sidewalk connections to some bus stop pads. Three locations were identified and design work has been done. Now we're just looking to the board to put the project out to bid. The locations are SE 23rd & Belleview, SE 27th & Indiana and SE 29th & Indiana.	MOTION: Rodd Miller moved to make the settlements for the tort claims as proposed by legal counsel at \$10,000, Beverly Hall seconded. Motion passed 5-0. MOTION: Rodd Miller moved that we approve the RFB for bus stop pad and sidewalk connections with the City of Topeka, and Michaela Saunders seconded. Motion passed 5-0.	
New Business	Quorums Rod and Bev's terms will expire July 1st which will put us in the position of only three members on the board, when a quorum is four. We have to address the lack of quorum because we don't have any information from the city for this board, so it could be a month, maybe two months before we get a quorum back. Bob's question to the board is, do you want us to consider certain projects for the board to approve so we're not going to miss a month or two in this process. We're in the uniform process right now. Richard said it may be ready for the June meeting regarding uniform approval. Bob said we could pre-emptively ask FTA about the hybrid vehicles. To prove that we have the dollars, but maybe a not to exceed number.		Bob Nugent

	If the Bus and Bus Facilities grant, and the Low & No come out—which they usually come out in March or April—Bob hasn’t seen them yet, what’s going to happen this year? Are they going to skip a year? If they don’t, then we could go after diesels. Do we just need to buy vehicles and not worry about federal funds. If we get a grant right now, it will be two years before we get them. We have 2014s that have spent their 12 years already. Candis said if FTA decides not to do a grant this year, we’ve got to buy buses anyway. Her question would be if we decide and then a grant comes out, can we backtrack those bills? Bob said that we can always put the grant in pre-award authority, but he doesn’t know where that line is drawn. If we ordered them and then get a grant, and we put it in as pre-award authority would they allow us to charge that grant for something that we’ve already ordered. Richard said the previous contact person from FTA was very amenable to changes & revisions, but he didn’t have a feel for our current FTA contact. The previous FTA person had more time, this one doesn’t. He’s the only one now. There used to be three plus. Rodd said that we discuss this at the next study session.		
Executive Session	N/A	N/A	
Adjourn		MOTION: Michaela Saunders moved to adjourn the meeting and Rodd Miller seconded. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.	Candis Stiles

Respectfully Submitted,
Keri L. Renner, Board Secretary