

**CENTRAL COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
KALAMAZOO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
Joint Regular Meeting  
February 10, 2025**

Place: Metro Administration Building, Kalamazoo, MI  
Time: 11:30 A.M.  
Staff Present: Sean McBride, Greg Vlietstra, Keshia Woodson-Sow, Sarah Joshi, Jason Emig, Rob Branch, Annette Arkush, Barbara Blissett  
Others Present: John Dulmes, Nichole Beauchamp, Earl Cox

**1.) KCTA ROLL CALL**

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

*KCTA Members Absent: Tim Sloan*

*A motion was made to excuse Sloan.*

*Motion: Farmer*

*Second: Eckland*

*Motion carried by voice vote.*

*\*Sigman arrived at 11:37 am.*

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

**1.) CCTA ROLL CALL**

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

*CCTA Members Absent: Jim Pearson*

*A motion was made to excuse Pearson.*

*Motion: Farmer*

*Second: Mackie*

*Motion carried by voice vote.*

*\*Burns arrived at 12:30 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 February 10, 2025 with the approval of the CCTA/KCTA meeting minutes for January 13, 2025. ...*

*Motion: McCormick*

*Second: Farmer*

*Motion carried by voice vote.*

**4.) PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**5.) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Dir. of Support Services Vlietstra reported the Committee had discussed millage planning and proposed the potential ballot language on the Board agenda for discussion/approval in either May or June.

Exec. Dir. McBride noted the Committee was also considering a change to the millage duration by having CCTA request a five-year millage and KCTA extending its millage beyond five years. He said this would benefit both Authorities by not requesting voter approval in back-to-back years.

## **6.) PERFORMANCE MONITORING COMMITTEE**

Chair Rama indicated the Committee had a healthy discussion touching on various winter weather management topics including weather planning, coach operator training, snow and ice management and restricting Metro Connect and Metro Link during inclement weather and a new communication platform that will provide needed information for the public.

Discussion ensued about specialized passes for Bronson, Kalamazoo Valley Community College and Western Michigan University and the Youth Mobility Program. Dir. of Operations Woodson-Sow noted that currently there were 400 passes allotted for KPS with the intention to increase the amount to 500 passes next school year.

Exec. Dir. McBride stated that metrics reporting would begin to provide ridership information per route along with other data.

## **7.) EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chair Farmer commented that the Committee discussed the 2024 Annual Report and consideration of partner locations for two Board meetings.

Exec. Dir. McBride introduced John Dulmes, Michigan Public Transportation Association (MPTA) Executive Director. He said he was invited to the CCTA/KCTA Board Meeting to provide an update on State-level advocacy for public transit.

Dulmes shared a PowerPoint presentation that described the different facets of transportation funding and how they worked. He noted funding for local transportation services was at an all-time low with the expectation that it will continue to drop in the coming year. He shared Governor Whitmer's proposal for assisting with funding solutions. (A copy of the PowerPoint is included with the minutes of the meeting.)

Boardmembers asked questions about the information provided and thanked Dulmes for the excellent presentation.

## **8.) BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chair Aardema reported the Committee met and reviewed the current agenda.

## **9.) EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT**

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

- On Demand Services Study
- Articles of Incorporation – Boundaries
- Safety and Security
- Metro Link Update

Exec. Dir. McBride shared that the Amended CCTA Articles of Incorporation would be on the next Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioner's agenda for February 11<sup>th</sup> for approval. He said the Articles would include Precinct #1 located in Comstock Township.

Exec. Dir. McBride indicated Comstock Township had approved and recommended Comstock Township Clerk Nicole Beauchamp to replace Randy Thompson and would need County Board approval.

Exec. Dir. McBride invited Boardmembers to take a short tour of the Kalamazoo Transportation Center (KTC) after the meeting.

Exec. Dir. McBride provided information about the Crossroads Mall lawsuit.

Exec. Dir. McBride noted the KTC shooting incident that took place on January 23rd. Exec. McBride explained the process that takes place after this type of situation including debriefing and review of security systems in place. He also shared Metro was working with a new social media platform called HubSpot to notify riders and the public and was found to be a beneficial tool in an incident like this.

**10) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Pension Board – Did not meet.

KATS Policy Committee – Rama shared that KATS discussed the Transportation Improvement Program prioritization in December and would announce their decisions soon. Aardema added the Prioritization Committee looks at the future projects for the area and includes an emphasis on safety under the new prioritization scoring.

Local Advisory Committee (LAC) – Did not meet.

**11.) CHAIRPERSON REPORT** – No Report.

**12.) PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**13.) MEMBERS TIME** – Boardmembers thank John Dulmes for the informative regarding State-Level advocacy for public transit

**14.) ADJOURNMENT**

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

*Motion: McCormick*

*Support: Farmer*

*Motion carried by voice vote.*

The meeting adjourned at 12:39 PM.



Curtis Aardema  
CCTA Chairperson



Barbara Blissett  
CCTA Clerk



Curtis Aardema  
KCTA Chairperson



Barbara Blissett  
KCTA Clerk