

**CENTRAL COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
KALAMAZOO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
Joint Regular Meeting  
December 9, 2024**

Place: Metro Administration Building, Kalamazoo, MI  
Time: 11:30 A.M.  
Staff Present: Greg Vlietstra, Keshia Woodson-Sow, Sarah Joshi, Kathy Schultz, Jason Emig, Barbara Blissett  
Others Present: Jim Ferner, Anthony Harp

**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: Rosine*

*Second: Farmer*

*Motion carried by voice vote.*

*\*Brown arrived at 11:50 am.*

**1.) CCTA ROLL CALL**

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

*CCTA Members Absent:* None

Chair Aardema introduced new CCTA Boardmember Christyn Johnson. He noted she would be filling the spot of Rob Britigan.

Christyn Johnson stated she was looking forward to serving on the CCTA Board. She provided some personal background including that she was currently working at KRESA as a coordinator for student transportation.

**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 December 9, 2024 with the removal of Item 3 Presentation regarding downtown Kalamazoo Street Construction Design and for approval of the joint CCTA/KCTA meeting minutes for November 11, 2024.*

*Motion: Sloan*

*Second: Farmer*

*Motion carried by voice vote.*

**4.) PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Jim Ferner addressed the Boards regarding his interest in Metro's operations and requested to meet with staff to discuss various topics such as budget, farebox revenue and millages.

**5.) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**



Chair Burns reported the Committee met and discussed the current agenda, upcoming millages and reviewed the 2025 CCTA/KCTA Meeting Calendar.

Burns said the Committee, in accordance with the Governance guidelines, selected a Nominating Committee for CCTA/KCTA Board leadership. The selection included: Burns (Chair), Rosine, Sigman, Mackie and Brown.

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

Dir. of Operations Woodson-Sow explained the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) and the requirements Metro provides to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). She said the Agency Safety Plan had been updated to include the role of the Safety Committee. She reminded the Boards that the FTA had approved updates in April 2024, but the Board's role was approval for an annual update that included the Executive Director and Safety Committee's approval. Woodson-Sow stated the Performance Monitoring Committee was recommending approval by the Boards.

*A motion was made by KCTA and CCTA to approve the annual update of the Public Transportation Safety Plan.*

*Motion: Sigman/Burns*

*Second: Rosine/Pearson*

*Motion carried by a roll call vote.*

*Ayes: Aardema, Ayers, Brown, Ecklund, Farmer, Rama, Sigman, Rosine*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: Sloan*

*Ayes: Aardema, Burns, Farmer, Johnson, Mackie, McCormick, Pearson, Rosine*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: None*

The Boards discussed ridership and how construction had impacted the numbers.

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

External Relations Chair Farmer commented that there had been 26 presentations resulting in a good beginning for resuming outreach activities. She said the Committee would be looking forward to mapping out 2025 outreach activities with the upcoming millages. Farmer announced that there would be a photographer at the January 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to take headshots for the Metro website.

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

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

Dir. of Support Services Vlietstra shared that Metro had received a three-year \$2.1 million grant for the purpose of further testing of various aspects of the microtransit pilot project.

Deputy Dir. Joshi of On-Demand Services and Planning explained the need for a change order to the River North, LLC (subsidiary of Via Transportation, Inc.) for the microtransit pilot project scheduled to run through 2025. She indicated after testing the zone boundaries originally identified in April, 2024 it was recognized that expansion was needed to areas that are currently underserved, and the contract would extend microtransit through September 30, 2027 at the same hourly rate. Joshi said that it would be likely Pavilion Township would be joining the service area through a service agreement funded by Kalamazoo County.

*A motion was made by KCTA and CCTA to approve a contract change order with River North, LLC to extend service through September, 2027 in an amount not to exceed \$2,216,105 and authorize the Executive Director to execute all documents related to the action on behalf of the CCTA.*

*Motion: Farmer/Pearson*

*Second: Sigman/Rosine*

*Motion carried by a roll call vote.*

*Ayes: Aardema, Ayers, Brown, Ecklund, Farmer, Rama, Sigman, Rosine*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: Sloan*

*Ayes: Aardema, Burns, Farmer, Johnson, Mackie, McCormick, Pearson, Rosine*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: None*

Chair Aardema presented to the Boards the Committee's discussion related to the upcoming millage elections: 1) when to conduct the election, 2) the amount of millage levy to request and 3) duration of the millage. He said at this time it would be prudent to choose an election date for 2025. He said the Committee was recommending November 4, 2025.

*A motion was made by KCTA and CCTA to recommend the CCTA millage question be put before voters at the November 4, 2025 General Election.*

*Motion: Sigman/Farmer*

*Second: McCormick/Farmer*

*Motion carried by a roll call vote.*

*Ayes: Aardema, Ayers, Brown, Ecklund, Farmer, Rama, Sigman, Rosine*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: Sloan*

*Ayes: Aardema, Burns, Farmer, Johnson, Mackie, McCormick, Pearson, Rosine*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: None*

Chair Aardema presented to the Boards the 2025 CCTA/KCTA Joint Meeting Calendar.

*A motion was made by KCTA and CCTA to approve the CCTA/KCTA Joint Meeting Calendar.*

*Motion: Rosine/Farmer*

*Second: McCormick/Farmer*

*Motion carried by a roll call vote.*

*Ayes: Aardema, Ayers, Brown, Ecklund, Farmer, Rama, Sigman, Rosine*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: Sloan*

*Ayes: Aardema, Burns, Farmer, Johnson, Mackie, McCormick, Pearson, Rosine*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: None*

Chair Aardema shared that the Committee had discussed and selected a Nominating Committee for the purpose of CCTA/KCTA Board Officer appointments. The following individuals were chosen to serve on the committee: Chris Burns (Chair), Greg Rosine, Gary Sigman, Lisa Mackie and Tafari Brown.

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

Dir of Support Services Vlietstra provided an update on the following topics:

- New CCTA Boardmember Christyn Johnson
- Holiday Parade Participation
- Outreach Updates
- Winter Weather Updates
- Metro Link Update

Vlietstra thanked Keshia Woodson-Sow and Jason Emig for all their work on organizational safety and security.

**10) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Pension Board – Did not meet.

KATS Policy Committee – Did not meet.

Local Advisory Committee (LAC) – Did not meet.

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

**12.) PUBLIC COMMENT** – Anthony Harp requested additional information on Metro Link and availability to the northside area.

**13.) MEMBERS TIME** – The Boards welcomed new CCTA Boardmember Christyn Johnson.

Mackie announced that with her recent election, she would continuing as the Kalamazoo Township representative on the CCTA.

Ecklund shared that the City of Kalamazoo had adopted a new snow removal policy and will require property owners to be responsible for snow removal on their sidewalks or it would result in a fine.

**14.) ADJOURNMENT**

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


*Motion: McCormick*


*Support: Sigman*


*Motion carried by voice vote.*

The meeting adjourned at 12:27 PM.

  
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Curtis Aardema  
CCTA Chairperson

  
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Barbara Blissett  
CCTA Clerk

  
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KCTA Chairperson

  
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Barbara Blissett  
KCTA Clerk