

SORTA BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
SORTA/METRO AT HUNTINGTON CENTER
SORTA BOARD ROOM-6th FLOOR
525 VINE STREET, CINCINNATI OHIO 45202

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, July 22nd 2025, 9:00 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tianay Amat, Jay Bedi, Tony Brice, Chelsea Clark, Blake Ethridge, Kala Gibson, Neil Kelly, Pete Metz, Briana Moss, Sara Sheets and Sonja Taylor

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Dan Driehaus, Trent Emenecker, Greg Simpson and KZ Smith

STAFF MEMBERS: Andy Aiello, Delmaro Dowell, John Edmondson, Pat Giblin, Adriene Hairston, Brandy Jones, Natalie Krusling, Tony Russo, Khaled Shammout, Bill Spraul and Tim Walker

LEGAL COUNSEL: Kim Schaefer (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP)

GUEST/PUBLIC PRESENT: N/A

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Ethridge SORTA Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

HEARING FROM CITIZENS

N/A

CEO STAR AWARD

Queensgate Operator Delmaro Dowell was presented with a CEO Star Award. Delmaro helped locate a critically missing man and took decisive action to keep him safe while contacting authorities.

CHAIR UPDATE

Blake spoke about the August 23rd operator career fair and the recent Board/Administrator APTA conference held in Kansas City.

MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Kelly made a motion that the minutes from the June 24th, 2025, board meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Brice seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the SORTA Board approved the minutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ms. Clark reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on July 15th 2025, and there were no items(s) to present for Board Approval.

PLANNING AND OPS COMMITTEE

Mr. Ethridge reported on the Planning and Ops Committee meeting held on July 15th 2025, and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 27: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT MODIFICATION 54-2019 FOR 54-2019 MEDICAL EXAM SERVICES

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Sheets seconded the motion. The contract modification will approve modified contract no. 54-2019 on behalf of Metro and Bethesda Healthcare, Inc., dba TriHealth Corp, Health increasing the total not to exceed value from \$845,146 to \$1,132,570, an increase of \$287,424.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 28: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT MODIFICATION 33-2022 FOR 33-2022 TRAPEZE SCHEDULING SOFTWARE

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Sheets seconded the motion. The contract modification will approve modified contract no. 33-2022 on behalf of Metro and Trapeze Software Group, increasing the total not to exceed value from \$2,705,574 to \$2,890,296, an increase of \$184,722.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 29: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT MODIFICATION 126-2023 FOR FLEETWATCH UPGRADE

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Sheets seconded the motion. The contract modification will approve modified contract no. 126-2023 on behalf of Metro and S&A Systems, Inc., increasing the total not to exceed value from \$433,262 to \$500,737, an increase of \$67,475.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 30: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT MODIFICATION 199-2023 FOR TEMPORARY LABOR SERVICES

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Sheets seconded the motion. The contract modification will approve modified contract no. 199-2023 on behalf of Metro and Robert Half Government, increasing the total not to exceed value from \$458,282 to \$703,282, an increase of \$245,000.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 31: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT 066-2025 FOR DIESEL EXHAUST FLUID

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Sheets seconded the motion. The contract will approve contract no. 066-2025 on behalf of Metro and PetroChoice, LLC., at a total of \$217,800.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 32: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT 078-2025 FOR NORTHSIDE TRANSIT CENTER INFORMATION MONITORS

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Sheets seconded the motion. The contract will approve contract no. 078-2025 on behalf of Metro and Message Point Media of Alabama, at a total cost of \$131,246.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PARATRANSIT COMMITTEE

Mr. Kelly reported on the Paratransit Committee meeting held on July 15th 2025, and there were no items(s) to present for Board Approval.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF JUNE 30TH, 2025

Mr. Walker presented the June financial results. Total revenues were \$15.8 million, which was favorable to budget by \$796k. Total expenses were \$14.2 million, which is unfavorable to budget by \$337k. Operating Capital Contribution was (\$1.5) million, which was favorable to budget by \$459k. Ridership was 1,043k, which is unfavorable to budget by 55k. Mr. Walker presented the Cashflow and Obligation Report with a total All Securities at \$161,973,188, Net Unrestricted Securities Available at (\$1,970,737) and Net Unrestricted Securities and 2025 Operating Budget Surplus at \$2,841,264. Mr. Walker then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

PROGRESS AND PRIORITIES

Mr. Aiello presented the progress and priorities report and reviewed the State and Federal Funding, National Transit Database (NTD) Reporting, Preventable Accidents Reach New Low, Access/MetroNow! Operator Growth and Coaching for Operator Success.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

2025 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE PROCESS

Mr. Ethridge and Ms. Sheets presented the 2025 Strategic Plan Update Process and reviewed the purpose, team and the steps and timeline.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees has been scheduled for
August 26th, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.
the SORTA/Metro Board Room, at 525 Vine Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:



Blake Ethridge
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:



Andy Aiello
CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer