

River Valley Metro Mass Transit District
Metro Centre, 1137 E 5000 North Road, Bourbonnais IL 60914
Board of Director Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2025

Chairman Argyelan called the regular monthly River Valley Metro Board of Directors meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

Attending Board Members: Chairman Mark Argyelan, Vice-Chairman Jerry Pearce, Secretary Nick Allen, Treasurer Ron Jackson, Board Members David Hinderliter, Kenny Blake, Ryan Nugent.

Staff Members Present: Managing Director Siron Sims, Director of Administration Mandy Taylor, Director of Operations Michelle Brutlag, Project Manager Cortney Koning, COO Ken Munjoy, Director of Facilities Tim Goodman

Others Present: We Drive U G.M. Rod Kimbrough, area resident Marta Perales

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Siron Sims

Public with Business to Come Before the Board:

Marta Perales is a resident of Momence. She expressed the need for more bus shelters due to frequently seeing people waiting for buses during inclement weather. She also stated that we should be more transparent by posting our board meeting agendas on our website.

Consent Agenda: Jerry Pearce made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Nick Allen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken of those in attendance, with all in favor. Consent agenda approved.

Communications:

Chairman's Report: Mark Argyelan

None

Managing Director's Report: Siron Sims

Our all-employee lunch is scheduled for this Friday and will be catered by Olive Garden.

Mr. Sims attended the APTA Transform Conference in Boston. It was well attended, and the sessions were very valuable. Next year's conference will be an Expo and will be held in Chicago.

Operations Report:

Rod Kimbrough reported that safety metrics here are well below national averages. We currently have 60 operators, with a goal of 64.

Ken Munjoy reported that August ridership this year was 52,541, compared to 56,350 last year. FY year-to-date rides are down 8.1% from last year.

Complaints/Comments: Michelle Brutlag

In the last month, there were 6 complaints, 4 of which were valid. We received 1 compliment. CCS and Transit Officers provided 76 rides.

Board Report:

David Hinderliter commented that he met with Rod Kimbrough and the meeting was very rewarding.

Nick Allen mentioned that he believes that our board meeting agendas and minutes are on our website. Siron Sims confirmed this to be true.

New Business

Employee Action

Michelle Brutlag is retiring at the end of September after 18 years of irreplaceable service and leadership. Michelle was presented with a commemorative plaque.

Old Business

Planning Study

The original idea was to study the possibility of merging rural and urban public transportation in Kankakee County. Some transportation systems are moving toward microtransit to better serve their communities. Our ADA scheduling software, Tripmaster, has a microtransit module. In addition, Rod Kimbrough has microtransit experience. We have prepared a microtransit plan RFP.

Questions from the news media:

None

Other Business to come Before the Board:

None

Executive Session:

None

Adjournment

Jerry Pearce made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 AM. Motion was seconded by Nick Allen and passed unanimously in a voice vote.