



MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

November 19, 2025

- I. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) of Middle Tennessee was convened on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at the Greater Nashville Regional Council, located at 44 Vantage Way, Suite 450, Nashville, TN 37228. The Executive Committee meeting was officially called to order by Board Chair, Mayor Randall Hutto, at 9:31 a.m.

Executive Committee Members in Attendance:

Mayor Randall Hutto – Wilson County, Chair
Mayor Paige Brown – City of Gallatin, Vice Chair
Mayor Ken Moore – City of Franklin
Ed Cole – Davidson County (Gov. Appt.)
Mayor Billy Vogle – Robertson County
Kelly Dannenfelser – Williamson County (Gov. Appt.)
Ken Davis – Wilson County (Gov. Appt.)

Others Present:

Howard Bradley – Robertson County (Gov. Appt.)
Mayor Nelson Andrews – City of Brentwood
Jason Gage – City of Brentwood
Mayor Jamie Clary – Hendersonville
Ed Elam – Rutherford County
Thad Jablonski – City of Columbia
Jim Kerr – City of Murfreesboro (Alt.)
Gerald Herman – City of White House
Mayor Mike Callis – City of Portland
Matthew White – City of Mt. Juliet (Alt.)
Ray Render - Congressman John Rose Office - 6th District, TN

- III. **Approval of Minutes:** Mayor Ken Moore made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2025, Executive Committee meeting. Ken Davis seconded the motion, and the Executive Committee unanimously approved the minutes.
- IV. **Public Comments:** NO members of the public requested time to speak.
- V. **Finance Committee Report:** Mayor Ken Moore introduced the following items for discussion and action:
- a. **Monthly Financial Report Compared to Budget (R-D-25-029):** Mayor Ken Moore presented the Statement of Operations for September 2025 compared to the approved fiscal year (FY) 2026 budget. Ms. Vandegrift was present and available to answer questions; however, the committee had none, and no further discussion followed.
 - b. **Authorization to Purchase MCI Buses (R-A-25-018):** Director of Maintenance Carl Rokos presented the Authorization to Purchase MCI Buses action item:

Staff seek approval to purchase ten 45-foot MCI commuter coaches to ensure fleet availability and align with the Capital Fleet Replacement Plan, replacing service currently provided with contractor vehicles. The purchase will be made through the State of Washington's cooperative procurement contract under the FAST Act, which meets federal competition and procurement requirements. A pre-audit confirmed that the buses comply with Buy America requirements, and all required federal clauses will be included in the purchase order.

Staff requested that the Executive Committee provide the Chief Executive Officer with authority to enter into a contract with Motor Coach Industries (MCI) for the purchase of ten (10) D4500 commuter coaches for an amount not to exceed \$11,500,000 million dollars. Base bus price is \$986,656.34 each with an additional \$51,000 for inspections by our third-party inspection company, TRC, \$50,000 per bus for tools, training, and spare parts (\$500,000), and 10% as contingency (\$1,133,436.60). Two pending grant applications have been submitted to fund the purchase: federal 5339(b) discretionary, and SFY2026 state IMPROVE funds. If these grants are unsuccessful, federal formula 5307 and 5339 funds will be used with state and local matching funds.

Mayor Ken Moore made a motion to approve the Authorization to Purchase MCI Buses, Ed Cole seconded the motion, and the Executive Committee unanimously approved the minutes

VI. Operations Committee Report: Mayor Randall Hutto introduced the following for discussion and action:

- a. Monthly Operating Statistics (R-D-25-030):** Chief Operating Officer Andy Burke presented the RTA Monthly Dashboard Report for September 2025 to the Executive Committee. Mr. Burke was present and available to answer questions; however, the committee had none, and no further discussion followed.
- b. Approval of the 2026 RTA Board Meeting Calendar (R-A-25-025):** Chief of Staff and Administration Vince Malone presented the following for action:

The RTA by-laws require the Board to meet at least quarterly, with additional meetings as needed, and require the Executive Committee to meet monthly except during months when the Board meets. To comply with these requirements, a proposed schedule of 2026 meeting dates for both the RTA Board and Executive Committee is attached.

Staff recommended that the proposed 2026 meeting dates be adopted and approved by the Board.

Kelly Dannenfelser moved to approve the Approval of the 2026 RTA Board Meeting Calendar. Ken Davis seconded the motion, and the Executive Committee approved it unanimously.

VII. CEO's Report: CEO Bland presented the following report:

1. WeGo continues on the City of Murfreesboro Park and Ride lot. Staff plan to present the site plan and a zoning change request to the Murfreesboro City Council in early December and are working toward a memorandum of understanding with the City of Murfreesboro for long-term maintenance and operation of the facility. If approvals are received, staff anticipate issuing a construction bid package in early 2026, with project completion expected by the end of 2026.
2. CEO Bland reported that, thanks to the persistence of Mayor Moore and his staff, there is a strong lead on a new Park and Ride site in the Cool Springs area of Franklin. The property owner appears receptive, and staff are negotiating the terms of an occupancy agreement. While the current Park and Ride at the Williamson County Agricultural Expo Park provides adequate parking, its location south of Franklin's population centers makes it less attractive than a more centrally located option.

3. The WeGo Forward strategic service plan update is ongoing, with current efforts focused on developing alternative service strategies. This work includes coordination with local transit agencies in Clarksville, Franklin, and Murfreesboro to reflect future planning efforts. Public engagement to review service options is anticipated in the first quarter of 2026, along with a presentation to the RTA Board.
4. Beginning in December, a major state-of-good-repair project will take place at Riverfront Station, including replacement of the original HVAC system and improvements to mechanical system access to enhance long-term maintainability.
5. The Titans Express service continues to perform well, with rail service consistently carrying approximately 1,300–1,400 passengers per game. New express bus services from Sumner County and Bellevue are carrying approximately 250–300 and 150–200 passengers per game, respectively. At the conclusion of the season, the staff plans to meet with the Tennessee Titans to explore opportunities to expand the partnership next season.
6. WeGo has received an unsolicited proposal from a developer interested in a potential long-term lease of an unused portion of property at Hermitage Station. Staff are currently conducting due diligence and exchanging information with the developer. The proposal is expected to be reviewed by the RTA Finance Committee in December, with possible Board action in January.
7. The work on the Donelson Station project continues, though at a slower pace than anticipated. During efforts to acquire a small parcel of land from the Nashville and Eastern Railroad

VIII. Chair's Report: Mayor Hutto thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

IX. Other Business: No other business came before this board.

X. Adjournment: With no further business, Mayor Hutto called for a motion to adjourn. Howard Bradley motioned to adjourn the meeting, which was adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Ed Cole, RTA Secretary & Davidson County
Governor Appointee