

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF MEMBERS  
KANAWHA VALLEY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

**July 17, 2025**

The Board of Members of the Kanawha Valley Regional Transportation Authority (KRT) met for its regular monthly meeting at the offices of the Authority (with attendance both in person and via video conferencing) at 8:45 AM on Thursday, July 17th, 2025, pursuant to proper notice to the public and news media.

Present were President Todd Goldman, Valerie Gainer (representing Kanawha County), Jay Snodgrass (representing Kanawha County), \*Michael Farmer (representing Kanawha County), Thomas Toliver (representing the City of Charleston), \*Heidi Bonnett Adams (representing the City of Charleston), \*Bobbi Spry (representing the City of Charleston), Robert Sutphin (representing the City of St. Albans), \*Dave Casebolt (representing the City of Nitro), \*Maurice Anderson (representing the City of Montgomery), and \*Jean Arthur (representing the City of South Charleston). Also present were members of KRT staff: Travis Garrett, Jacob Pitman, Curt Zickafoose, Jess Gardner, Briana Warner, Sean Hill, and Chris Baldwin. Additionally, Grace Hurney of Jackson Kelly PLLC (legal counsel to the Authority), Jeffrey Mace (representing RIC), Brett Meadows and Eric Pence (representing ATU Local 1742) and Audrey Conn (Small Business Liaison with the City of Charleston) were in attendance.

\* - denotes virtual attendance

Absent were Larry Bailey (representing the City of Dunbar) and Marc Doughty (representing the Town of Belle).

President Todd Goldman called the meeting to order by welcoming everyone and taking a roll call. The reading of the minutes of the April and May meeting was dispensed as each member of the Board had been previously provided with copies thereof. A motion to approve the minutes of the April and May meeting were made and seconded and carried with unanimous consent.

Mr. Hill presented the Voting Rights Resolution to the Board. Mr. Hill reviewed the contributions and votes attributed to each jurisdiction. After a brief discussion, Mr. Snodgrass made a motion to adopt the Voting Rights Resolution as presented. The motion was duly seconded and carried with unanimous consent.

President Goldman then moved to the Election of Officers and Oaths of Office. President Goldman thanked everyone for the opportunity to have served as President of the Board and recommended Valerie Gainer as the next Board President. Mr. Snodgrass echoed the recommendation of Mrs. Gainer. Mr. Snodgrass was then recommended to be Vice Chair and accepted. The current treasurer (Jean Arthur) and secretary (Heidi Bonnett Adams) were asked if they'd be willing to continue in their roles and they accepted. After the nominations were closed, Mr. Sutphin made a motion to approve the slate of officers as follows: President – Valerie Gainer; Vice President – Jay Snodgrass; Treasurer – Jean Arthur; and Secretary – Heidi Bonnett Adams. The motion was duly seconded and carried with unanimous consent. Mr. Sutphin then thanked and praised Mr. Goldman for his service as President and Mr. Toliver suggested a small

token of appreciation from the Board and staff for his years leading the Board. Mrs. Gainer then began presiding over the meeting as President.

Jessica Gardner presented the financial statements for June 2025, consisting of the statement of net position, the statement of revenues and expenses, and a comparative analysis of operations. Mrs. Gardner stated operating revenues for June 2025 totaled \$250,947 and expenses totaled \$769,165. She noted that at the end of the fiscal year we came in under budget. We received 7.5% more in the last fiscal year from the levy, but still operated at a loss as a whole on the fiscal year. There has been a delay in federal funding that we have made up with our reserves. As soon as we receive the federal funding, we will replenish the reserve. Mrs. Gardner also reported that we have a full process in place with Truist to protect from fraud.

There were no invoices in excess of \$5,000.

President Gainer then moved to Old Business. She turned to Mr. Zickafoose to present the Insurance Report. Mr. Zickafoose reported that there had been a couple of new claims, however over the fiscal year we saved on our insurance quote and had less claims paid out. He reported it was a good fiscal year for insurance and credited drivers with a good job reporting issues.

Mr. Pitman then presented the Operations Report and noted that for the entire fiscal year, we completed 1.1 million trips, which represents an increase of 1% over the previous fiscal year. Our on-time performance in June was down due to some driver absences and vacations. With the onset of the new fare rates on July 14<sup>th</sup>, we are seeing decreased demand for KRTplus trips. We have 5 new drivers in training. President Gainer asked that Mr. Pitman add a line to the operations report for the numbers of no-shows per month, as this does factor into our performance metric.

Mr. Hill reported that we had 400 passengers take advantage of the Regatta shuttle. He reported that we monitor the hours and cost per passenger annually and adjust as needed. Mr. Hill also thanked the City of Charleston for quick work on failing concrete at the City Center and thanked Mayor Goodwin for a \$10,000 donation to KRT for its annual free rides during Holly Jolly Brawley, Regatta, and other City public service events.

Travis Garrett provided the maintenance report. He stated that we are getting permitting ready for garage work and will soon have a 60-day procurement window opening. He stated that they've been working on getting the new transit vans into service and have successfully introduced 8 into our fleet. Passengers and community members will see more in the coming months.

President Gainer then moved to new business and banking resolutions. As several officers changed, KRT must take steps with Truist to authorize new signatures. Mr. Goldman made a motion to approve the new officers as designated signors; the motion was seconded and approved.

Also under new business, Mr. Hill addressed the proposed service modification and transition of six fixed routes to KRTplus on-demand service. KRT administration is also proposing expanding the KRTplus zones from three zones to six zones. KRT held two public hearings with approximately 25 community members in attendance and half of those speaking. Mr. Hill explained that the majority of comments were concerns about passenger ability to adapt to this change. KRT reiterated that

passengers do not have to adopt new technology and can still book on-demand rides by calling our schedulers. Mr. Hill also acknowledged and committed to a detailed campaign to educate passengers before any changes occur. The plan would be to wait for technology vendor Via to get the expanded zones into our system and then we would conduct a multi-week educational campaign, all likely taking place in a couple of months.

Before moving on from the discussion, the Board agreed to allow Ms. Betty Rivard to make her public comment as it related to the agenda item. Ms. Rivard spoke about some of the concerns she has about the proposal, including cost, time it takes for her to reach her destinations under the new plan, transfer times, and safety of bus stops. She stated that she would like to see community participation in overall service offerings and would like to see full Saturday/Sunday service restored.

President Gainer then opened up discussion on the service modification discussion. Mr. Sutphin indicated that the Board could always approve the changes, try them and make changes as needed. Mr. Hill added that we will continue to collect data and follow that data to see if changes are warranted. Mr. Snodgrass asked about the difference in what it costs to run a fixed route vs. on-demand service and staff outlined that it costs around \$140/hr to operate on-demand and \$120/hr to operate fixed routes. KRTplus is considered a premium service. Mrs. Gainer asked that the Board continue receiving data on ridership by KRTplus zone and area. Mr. Goldman asked that we make sure to address some of Ms. Rivard's requests, specifically looking into whether the East End/West Side of Charleston are disproportionately affected by KRTplus expansion and making sure that we review all bus stops for safety. Mr. Sutphin made a motion to approve the proposed changes to service, including the transition of six current fixed routes to on-demand service, and that data will continue to be collected to address any further concerns. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goldman and carried with unanimous consent.

Board comments continued with members and Mr. Hill again acknowledging Mr. Goldman's work as President. At the conclusion of the conversation, with nothing further to discuss, President Gainer adjourned the meeting. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held Thursday, August 21, 2025, at 8:45 AM at the offices of the Authority, located at 1550 Fourth Avenue in Charleston.

*Please note that meeting video is archived at: [KRT July 2025 Board Meeting](#)*

