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TOLEDO AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
130 Knapp Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
7/16/2026 | 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by President Kendra Smith at 4:00pm.

Roll call- Trustees Joel Beren, Gary Gonya, Dr. W. L. Perryman, Karen Poore, Zach Schmidt, Lou Thomson, Dr. Heather Baker, Matt Killam, and Megan Casiere.

Trustees Absent- Mary Morrison, Brittany Ford, Dr. Tiffany Whitman, and Karen Poore.

Officers Present: Laura Koprowski, CEO, James Karasek, CFO, Stephen Hartman, General Counsel, and Rick Bailey, Deputy CEO.

Approval of the minutes- President Kendra Smith asked for a **motion** to approve the meeting minute from June 18, 2026. Lou Thomson made a **motion** and Dr. Heather Baker seconded. It passed unanimously.

Presentations- 5- Year Capital Investment Program & 2027 Capital Budget; Laura Koprowski, CEO, Kattie Bond, CCO and James Karasek, CFO.
The group gave an overview of the 2027 5-Year Capital Investment Program emphasizing the importance of future planning for TARTA's capital needs. Included in the presentation was the 2027 Capital Budget.

2026 Local Investment in Transit Enhancements (LITE) Funding Request; Gary Doran, Manager of Planning & Service Development. Gary Doran presented the projects for the seven communities which receive annual LITE funding from TARTA. The majority of the projects include bus stops, sidewalk and cross walk improvements. Trustee Megan Casiere asked if the LITE funding amount per local government could be increased. Laura Koprowski responded that the amount cannot be increased since it is set in the Issue 12 ballot language passed by voters in 2021.

Customer Experience Update; Sam Melden, CCCEO.
Sam Melden gave a high-level overview of the customer experience department and strategies to improve responses to customer complaints. Gary Gonya asked if the new updates to the TARTA website give customers an easier way to submit feedback. Sam

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Melden responded yes. Lou Thomson asked about the monthly recap of customer complaints and how that data is collected. Susan Gettum explained the methodology.

Report from the Finance Committee- Dr. Perryman provided an overview of the Finance Committee minutes from the meeting on July 9, 2026.

Report from the Strategic & Operational Planning Committee- Zach Schmidt gave a recap of the Strategic & Operational Planning committee minutes that took place on July 9, 2026.

Report from the CEO Review Committee- Kendra Smith gave a recap of the meeting minutes of the CEO Review Committee minutes that took place on July 9, 2026.

Resolutions-

Resolution No. 21-26, AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH MGT IMPACT SOLUTIONS, LLC TO PROVIDE CEO PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SERVICES. A **motion** was made by Zach Schmidt and seconded by Gary Gonya. Lou Thomson opposed. The motion was passed 9 to 1.

Resolution No. 22-26, ADOPTION OF THE 2027 ANNUAL CAPITAL BUDGET. A **motion** was made by Dr. Perryman and seconded by Lou Thomson. It passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 23-26, AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF FY 2026 LITE FUNDING APPLICATION(S) FOR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS. A **motion** was made by Dr. Heather Baker and seconded by Gary Gonya. It passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 24-26, AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ROOF SAFETY EQUIPMENT AT THE TARTA HEADQUARTERS LOCATED AT 1127 W. CENTRAL AVENUE, TOLEDO, OHIO. A **motion** was made by Dr. Perryman and seconded by Lou Thomson. It passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 25-26, AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) TO EXECUTE A SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR YEAR 2026 COVERING PLANNING, PARATRANSIT, OPERATIONS AND PAYROLL. A **motion** was made by Lou Thomson and seconded by Gary Gonya. It passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 26-26, AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH INGERSOLL RAND TO PROVIDE COMPRESSOR PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE. A **motion** was made by Lou Thomson and seconded by Gary Gonya. It passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 27-26, AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH RESOURCE INTERNATIONAL, INC. FOR GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SERVICES AT THE CENTRAL AVENUE LOCATION. A **motion** was made by Lou Thomson and seconded by Dr. Heather Baker. It passed unanimously.

Secretary Treasurer- Cash and Investments remain strong at $59.9 million. Capital Assets not being Depreciated is less than last year due to the large apron parking lot project last

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year. Accounts Payable are higher than last year due to prep work in 2025 for the NetSuite conversion. Passenger Fares continue to be under budget. Starting in June a new operational procedure has been implemented to make sure all fares are collected. Services were over budget due to higher-than-expected VIA services, and timing of our WorkLink and Flex COA consulting services, which caused Paratransit and Planning to be over budget. Utilities were over due to higher natural gas costs than expected. May Sales Tax was $3.43 million dollars compared to May 2025 of $3.17 million dollars. June Sales Tax was $3.88 million dollars compared to June 2025 of $3.77 million dollars. TARTA again had negative Investment Income of $1,851, caused by market valuation loss because of the conflict in Iran, and subsequent fears of inflation due to the oil supply chain being disrupted. James Karasek, CFO, spoke about the no findings in the 2025 audit and gave special thanks to the TARTA team and Board for their support.

CEO Report- Laura Koprowski, CEO presented the CEO report with main points being Tap & Pay launch in 2027, the Strategic Plan online dashboard going live December 2026, the return of the Coffee Chats outreach with customers and community members, graduation ceremony for a new class of TARTA Fixed Line operators, the Roadeo event returns September 12th, and two transportation conferences will take place in Toledo this fall: RailNation in October and EVIS America in November. Laura Koprowski, CEO will follow up with an email to Board Members to register for either conference. Laura Koprowski, CEO, shared that the City of Toledo was awarded a $19 million BUILD grant from the federal Department of Transportation. TARTA will receive approximately $200,000 from this grant to build a bus rapid transit station in East Toledo. She presented highlights from the monthly ridership report that confirms 2026 ridership is up from last year; the Toledo Festival of the Arts set new records for special event transportation ridership with more than 2,000 rides provided; on time performance for fixed-route service is challenged with summertime construction season; and a discussion of the most popular fixed route lines.

President Report – Reminded trustees to put the Oct. 8th Board retreat on their calendars. President Smith gave an overview of the CEO Review Committee timeline and process. She presented Dr. Perryman with the top 20 over 60 award from the Area Office on Aging.

Reports and communications from Board Trustees- Joel Beren announced that his last board meeting will be in September and that he will not be seeking reappointment.

Any and All Other Business – Lou Thomson thanked TARTA staff for providing bus rides for the City of Maumee fireworks. Also, he congratulated TARTA for no findings in the 2025 audit.

Meeting Calendar- The next regularly scheduled TARTA Board of Trustees meeting will take place on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. in the TARTA board room at 130 Knapp St. Toledo, OH 43604.

Adjournment- Dr. Perryman made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Lou Thomson. **Motion** passed unanimously and was adjourned at 5:17 PM.

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Certificate of Compliance

I hereby certify that all members of the Board of Trustees were given notice of the foregoing in person, by telephone, mail, or email more than 48 hours before the meeting.

James Karasek
Secretary-
Treasurer

Adopted:

DocuSigned by:
James Karasek
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James Karasek

Secretary-Treasurer

For questions, additional information regarding the TARTA Board of Trustees or if you require special assistance, please contact Marina McCormick, Executive Assistant at mmccormick@tarta.com or 419.720.8877.