



Jeremy Peterson
Chief Executive Officer

Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority
127 East 14th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503

**Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority
Board Meeting
January 26, 2026
MINUTES**

Attendance via TEAMS & hybrid meeting:

Board members	EMTA Staff	Guests
Ashley Lawson (excused)	Jeremy Peterson	Jim Wertz (V)
George Willis (V)	Dave Robinson	Maurice Troop (V)
Lyn Twillie-Darby (V)	Ed Torres	Toby Fauver (V)
Ron Jones (In Person)	Dani Duran	Freda Tepfer (V)
Shantell Hilliard (V)	Vicky Takach	
Dr. Ben Wilson (V)	Sarah Morrison (excused)	
Jill Nagy (V)	Branden Montgomery	
John Trucilla (V)		
Dave Cannon (V)		

The board meeting was called to order at 4:24PM.

Ben Wilson asked for approval of the January 26, 2026, meeting agenda. Ron Jones made a motion to approve. David Cannon seconded. Motion passed.

Ben Wilson asked for approval of the November 17, 2025, meeting minutes. George Willis made a motion to approve. Ron Jones seconded. Motion passed.

SOLICITORS ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

CEO ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comment received in advance. Due to a system glitch, an additional opportunity for public comment will be offered later in the meeting.

- Freda Tepfer provided public comments emphasizing the need for robust public and stakeholder engagement in developing goals and objectives; accessible materials for individuals with disabilities; dedicated transit funding options; consideration of environmental impacts when evaluating fleet goals; schedule alignment with nontraditional work schedules; improved fare access for LIFT users; and broad outreach to increase participation in the transit survey

CEO REPORT:

- Welcomed new County and City Liaison – Jim Wertz and Maurice Troop
- Met with the new ATU Executive Board; fixed-route contract to vote on a retroactive agreement through June 30, 2026, with plans to negotiate a new 3–5 year contract effective July 1, 2026



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- Met with LeAnne Parmenter, City of Erie regarding bike lanes on French Street
- Parking ramp logistics and validation process ongoing
- Kudos to maintenance staff for snow clean up and to drivers for driving in snow conditions
- Attended Safety Board and PPTA meetings
- Spoke with Legislative Consultant Andy Surra, planning May trip to Harrisburg to discuss state budgets and transportation funding proposals

SOLICITOR REPORT: None

Transit Development Plan Presentation by Toby Fauver, Rockland Planning

- The presentation included the draft service plan goals and initiatives; discussion followed and Toby will incorporate the feedback and circulate revised goal statements and notes for further review

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- Executive Committee will establish a cadence in 2026 to meet prior to board meetings to align, provide updates and support Jeremy's team.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Vicky reviewed the November and December financials. Ron Jones made a motion to approve. George Willis seconded. Motion passed.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- EO performance assessment is wrapping up, further discussion to follow in Executive Session

MARKETING COMMITTEE:

- TDP surveys underway for fixed route and LIFT riders
- Winter Goods Drive benefiting the Erie Humane Society through February 13th
- New Token Transit validators on fixed route buses go live in the spring
- Find My Ride schedule for LIFT goes live in February
- Travel Trainings continue with individuals and schools
- Hiring Event in partnership with Erie's Black Wall Street Pathways to Career Program and UPMC Neighborhood Center will be held on January 30th

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

- December ridership stats: 105,339 rides for fixed route and 11,729 rides for LIFT with 1,946 of them being ADA rides.

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Telephone: (814) 459-4287 • Fax: (814) 455-0071 • www.ride-the-e.com



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- Restaurant update - new equipment continues to arrive, construction should begin by the end of March

NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE:

- Excited to report that regular meetings with the Executive Committee of the Union Board are being held

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: None

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Ben Wilson asked for approval to adjourn the meeting. George Willis made a motion to approve. Ron Jones seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:58PM, followed by an Executive Session.

The next meeting will be **February 23, 2026** via TEAMS and In-person @ 4:00 p.m.