



Jeremy Peterson
Chief Executive Officer

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

**Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority
Board Meeting
August 24, 2026
MINUTES**

Attendance via TEAMS & hybrid meeting:

Board members	EMTA Staff	Guests
Ashley Lawson (absent)	Jeremy Peterson	Sarah Phillips (V)
George Willis	Dave Robinson (absent)	
Lyn Twillie-Darby	Ed Torres	
Ron Jones	Dani Duran	
Shantell Hilliard (V)	Vicky Takach	
Dr. Ben Wilson (absent)	Sarah Morrison (absent)	
Jill Nagy (V)	Sara Little	
John Trucilla (V)	Taylor Patten (absent)	
Dave Cannon (absent)		
Chelcie Alcorn (V)		

The board meeting was called to order at 4:01PM.

Lyn Twillie-Darby asked for approval of the August 24, 2026, meeting agenda. George Willis moved to approve the agenda. Ron Jones seconded. Motion passed.

Lyn Twillie-Darby asked for approval of the July 27, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes. Ron Jones moved to approve. George Willis seconded. Motion passed.

SOLICITORS' ANNOUNCEMENTS: none

CEO ANNOUNCEMENTS: none

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

CEO REPORT:

- EMTA hosted the Northwest Transit Managers meeting, with discussion of a potential regional Low/No Emission grant application for bus procurement and facility improvements. Staff are coordinating with PennDOT on the application.
- Met with Intermodal Center tenants regarding completion of the summer concrete project and building security. A new key-fob access system has been installed to restrict unauthorized access.
- Met with Representative Bob Merski regarding potential service to the new City Mission location on East Grandview Boulevard. Staff are evaluating existing route adjustments or a deviated route to serve the area and nearby shopping destinations.

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- Continuing legislative advocacy for transit funding, including Senate Bill 597 and House Bill 1510, with a focus on allowing non-traditional fare revenue to be used toward local match and other funding needs. Additional meetings with regional legislators are being coordinated.
- Met with Pennsylvania Transportation Secretary Mike Carroll during his visit to Erie regarding transportation funding and upcoming road, bridge, and infrastructure projects.
- Discussed growing safety concerns involving e-bikes and scooters around transit vehicles, including potential public awareness efforts and legislative considerations.

SOLICITOR REPORT: none

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- The committee continues to meet consistently on the Tuesday prior to each monthly Board meeting and met again last week.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Vicky reviewed June and July financials. George Willis made a motion to approve. Chelcie Alcorn seconded. Motion passed.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

- Fixed Route Operator: Received four applications; two applicants met qualifications, with five interviews scheduled. Two new employees began August 17.
- LIFT Operator: Received 48 applications; 21 applicants met qualifications, with 41 interviews scheduled. Two new employees began August 3, and one additional applicant is in the hiring process.
- Utility Position: Received two applications; both applicants met qualifications, with one interview scheduled. One applicant was scheduled to begin August 17.

MARKETING COMMITTEE:

- Participated in National Night Out, Rep. Bizarro's Senior Fair, Erie High open houses, and other community events.
- Conducted travel trainings with Stairways, USCRI, Erie County Care Management, and other organizations.
- Coordinated with local universities regarding fall semester use of EMTA services.
- Concluded Route 33 Presque Isle Express and 8 Great Tuesdays for the season.
- Completed commercial shoots for the 4 new spots coming this fall.

- Installed MidCity Strip signage on the exterior of the retail common space and is developing additional signage and a landing webpage to establish the area as a distinct destination separate from individual businesses in the tenant spaces and EMTA operations.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

- July ridership stats: 111,843 rides for fixed route and 11,147 rides for LIFT, with

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3,129 of them being ADA rides.

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

- Odis 12 construction and approvals are nearing completion. The hood system, flooring, coolers, tables, and chairs are in place, with remaining approvals underway. A meeting was held with National Fuel regarding gas pressure requirements for the equipment.

NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE:

- The committee met with the union on August 7 and 12 and with labor counsel to review tentative agreements. Attorneys will review the agreements before the contract is presented to the union for a vote. The next meeting with the union is scheduled for September 20. The Committee noted that the negotiations have been productive and cordial and that reaching agreements on both fixed-route contracts within one year has avoided significant arbitration and legal costs.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: none

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: none

ADJOURNMENT: Lyn Twillie-Darby asked for approval to adjourn the meeting. Ron Jones made a motion to approve. George Willis seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35PM.

The next meeting will be **September 28, 2026** via TEAMS and In-person @ 4:00 p.m.