

**June 25, 2024. Chicago Transit Board Regular Meeting Minutes.**

Noticed for 10:00 a.m. Commenced at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA: The posted agenda for the meeting is available at [www.transitchicago.com](http://www.transitchicago.com), "Chicago Transit Board", "Meeting Notices, Agendas, and Minutes", (06/25/2024) (Regular Board Meeting), "Agenda".

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lester Barclay at 10:00 a.m.

There was a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL: Directors: Lester L. Barclay (Chairman), Director Requejo, Director Ortiz, Director Eaddy, Director Jakes.

The Chair recognized Director Ortiz who was standing at her seat.

Director Ortiz moved that Director Michele Lee be permitted to participate in the meeting remotely due to factors brought on by the severe weather and its impact on her mobility. The motion was seconded by Director Requejo. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Lee was admitted into the meeting. There was a quorum.

Before the Board moved onto Board Matters, Chairman Barclay recognized the newest Mayoral appointee to the Board, Director Michael Eaddy. He welcomed Director Eaddy and acknowledged his extensive community development and outreach experience as the Senior Pastor of the People's Church of the Harvest Church of God in Christ where he has implemented community resources and programming to those who are underserved on the West Side of Chicago. Examples of those programs are as follows: children's services; housing assistance; substance abuse prevention services; anti-violence assistance; senior services and youth employment. Director Eaddy is also President of The People's Community Development Corporation of Chicago which has invested \$40,000,000 by way of development to the East Garfield Park community.

BOARD MATTERS: Chairman Barclay asked whether there were any Board Matters? Secretary Greenlee responded that there was one item on the agenda under Board Matters and that was the appointment and setting the salary of Director Michael Eaddy and appointing him to the Finance Audit and Budget Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Following the motion passing, Director Eddy thanked Chairman Barclay and counted the appointment a great privilege to serve the city of his nativity and expressed gratitude to Mayor Johnson for his confidence to allow Director Eddy this opportunity. He stated that he looked forward to working with this team.

Director Eddy was welcomed to the CTA Board by members of the Board. Director Jakes stated that “young guys stand on Director Eddy’s shoulders,” as he welcomed him to the Board.

There was the second Board Matter of approving the resolution approving the change of date of the June 2024 regular CTA Transit Board Meeting. Director Ortiz moved, and Director Lee seconded the motion that the June 2024 Regular Board Resolution be adopted. The resolution was adopted by unanimous vote.

Director Ortiz then moved that the Chicago Transit Board Regular Meeting be recessed until called to order by the Chair following the meeting of the Committee on Finance Audit and Budget. The motion was seconded by Director Lee. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 10:06 a.m.

The Regular Board Meeting of the CTA Transit Board was called back to order at 11:35 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Chairman Barclay advanced the agenda to Public Comments. There was one public comment which was given by Mr. Steve Hastalis from Edgewater who is active in the National Federation of the Blind. He spoke on the need for the brail CTA signs to give the same information as the signs for those who can see receive. In recent months the National Federation of the Blind, Illinois Chapter has met in locations with several nearby bus stops. Most bus stops that they met near are combo stops that serve several bus routes. The braille raised bus stop sign at Michigan and Huron says: “Bus Stop.” It gives no further information about route number or destinations. This provides less information to a blind passenger than the CTA gives to a sighted passenger.

Not every visually impaired or blind passenger has extensive experience with CTA service. Years ago, CTA installed signs giving comparable information at rail stations to comply with federal regulations to comply with the American with Disabilities Act. CTA can install signs for blind and visually impaired bus riders. CTA has not provided a satisfactory response to the National Federation of the Blind to improve service for visually impaired bus riders.

Following Mr. Hastalis's remarks, President Carter stated that his staff would follow up with this group. He made a distinction regarding why the bus stop braille signs were installed and stated that he wanted to make sure that the CTA was responsive to the needs of this community.

#### CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD REPORT:

Katanya Raby the Chair of the Citizens Advisory Board gave the report on behalf of the Citizens Advisory Board. This June marks the first anniversary for the current CAB members. They have learned a lot about the inner workings of the CTA. However, they believe that their role is not to be information "silos" but to represent the citizens of the Chicago areas by demystifying the hard work that the CTA is doing across the various constituencies of the CAB.

There are terms that are being used a lot in the media that need clarification to the rest of riders like "fiscal cliff." The CAB want to ensure that these terms are not so scary and are understood by community members. They want to be of assistance in the conversations that must take place in Springfield and with the federal government in procuring more funding sources for the CTA.

The CAB want to move forward to be better at communicating concerns and facilitating dialogue about what is being done to address concerns. The CAB want to promote both the challenges and the "wins" of the CTA.

That conclude the report of the CAB Chairperson.

Director Ortiz congratulated the CAB on the anniversary of their first year. Director Requejo congratulated the CAB, stated that he was happy to see Katanya Raby as the chairperson of the CAB and asked how the Board of the CTA could be helpful in the work of the CAB. Katanya Ray thanked him and the Board for their support and stated that she envisioned the CAB being a feedback loop.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Carter presented his report:

- President Dorval Carter reported that he wanted to report on ridership improvements, trends and initiatives that will be coming out from their marketing department. He introduced Molly Poppy, Chief of Innovations and Planning who made a presentation entitled "Driving Ridership Growth." The report may be found at <https://www.transitchicago.com/board/presentations>. Following the presentation there

were questions posed by the CTA Transit Board members.

MINUTES: Director Jakes, who took over the role of Chair of the meeting in lieu of Chairman Barclay having to leave the meeting for an emergency, asked for a motion to approve the regular Board meeting minutes from May 8, 2024. After being moved by Director Ortiz and seconded by Director Jha, the minutes were approved with six (6) votes in the affirmative.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: CTA's Deputy General Counsel Brad Jansen explained that there would be an Executive Session pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, Article 2C, Sections 2, 11 and 21. Director Ortiz moved that the Board go into Executive Session and Director Lee seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. The Board went into Executive Session at approximately 12:35 p.m.

At approximately 1:00 p.m. the Board came out of the Executive Session.

Director Jakes requested a motion to return to open session, which was moved by Director Ortiz and seconded by Director Lee. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8A: CLOSED SESSION MINUTES APPROVAL: It was moved by Director Ortiz and seconded by Director Lee that the Board approve the close session minutes from May 8, 2024. The motion passed unanimously. Director Eaddy abstained from voting.

AGENDA ITEM 8B: The Board approved an ordinance to ratify a Memorandum of Agreement with the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 241 and 308. The motion was made by Director Ortiz and seconded by Director Lee. The vote to approve was unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM 8C: The Board reviewed the recommendation by counsel to approve the settlement in the matter of MC Johnson vs. CTA & James Brown, in the Circuit Courts of Cook County 2023 L 000448 in the amount of \$3,000,000 (Three Million Dollars and Zero Cents and no/100). Director Ortiz moved, and Director Lee seconded the motion to approve the settlement recommended by counsel. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM 8D: The Board reviewed the recommendation by counsel to approve the settlement in the matter of Aaron Lezama-Ruiz & Vianet Lezama vs. CTA, Circuit Courts of Cook County 2022 L 002337 in the amount of \$900,000 (Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents and no/100). Director Ortiz moved, and Director Lee seconded the motion to approve the settlement recommended by counsel. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, AUDIT AND BUDGET: The Finance, Audit, and Budget Committee report was presented by Director Bernard Jakes. The committee reviewed the monthly finance report and approved the May 8, 2024, FAB committee meeting minutes. Director Jakes stated that all Committee agenda items, listed on the Board agenda, were presented, reviewed, discussed, and recommended by the Committee, for Board approval. Director Jakes stated that all the approved committee items, 9 ordinances and 8 contracts, were placed on the omnibus for approval by the Board. The FAB Committee voted to postpone the review of two of the contracts to the full board meeting. Director Jakes concluded her report.

Director Ortiz moved that the omnibus be approved, and the motion was seconded by Director Lee. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

All approved June 25, 2024, Board ordinances are available online, at [www.transitchicago.com](http://www.transitchicago.com), "Chicago Transit Board", "Board Ordinances", Ordinance numbers 024-65– 024-80.

CONSTRUCTION REPORT: Director Jakes asked for a motion to postpone the Construction Report to the next meeting. Director Ortiz moved that the Construction Report be postponed, and the motion was seconded by Director Lee. The motion passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS: None

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Temporary Chairperson Ortiz asked for a motion to adjourn the June 25, 2024, Chicago Transit Board meeting. After being moved by Director Ortiz and seconded by Director Lee, the motion was approved with six (6) yes votes and the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

APPROVED:   
Secretary of the CTA Board of Directors

Date: 07/17/2024