

**July 31, 2025**  
**Shawnee Mass Transit District**  
**Minutes**  
**Giant City Lodge**  
**460 Giant City Lodge Road**  
**Markanda, IL 62958**

**Members Present:**

Nancy Doss  
Rick Nannie  
Jim Clark  
Sidney Miller  
Chris Cromeenes

**Executive Director:**

Mike Pietrowski

**CFO:**

Jean Hurford

**Human Resource:**

Aaron Hodge

**Operations Director:**

Ron Gorst

The meeting was called to order by Nancy Doss at 10:00 a.m.

**Item: Minutes from June 19, 2025**

Jim Clark motioned to approve minutes. Sidney Miller seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

**Item: Check Register and Financial Register for June 2025**

Chris Cromeenes motioned to approve the Check Register and Financial Update. Rick Nannie seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

**Item: Discussion and Action to authorize a banking relationship with U.S. Bank and to grant authority to the Chief Financial Officer and Executive Director to open and manage accounts, transfer funds, sign checks, and conduct all necessary financial transactions on behalf of the organization.** Jim Clark moved to table this item until next board meeting. Sidney Miller seconded. All in favor. Item tabled.

**Item: Human Resource Update**

Aaron Hodge provided the Human Resources update. Two new drivers have been hired in Vienna, and a new mechanic will start on August 4, 2025. Recent raises have gone into effect, and employee feedback has been positive. This week, SMTD participated in a job fair in Marion. The employee picnic will be held on September 13th, with the employee committee meeting today to finalize activities and food. The company's annual holiday party is scheduled for December 6th at Giant City Lodge.

**Item: Operations Director Update**

Ron Gorst provided the Operations Director's update. Effective Monday, SMTD will be going paperless for all drivers. Over the past two weeks, test routes have been run to prepare for this transition, and aside from a few minor issues—now resolved—everything has gone smoothly. Tablets will now be used to replace the eliminated paperwork. Ron expressed pride in the team for reaching the ridership milestone for FY24, noting that the paperless system will improve morale and save time for drivers. Due to increased ridership in Anna, a second dispatcher has been added. This dispatcher will have a dual role, driving in the mornings and afternoons in addition to dispatch duties. The revalidation process is still ongoing, and SMTD will be hosting a schedulers/dispatch meeting with participation from other local agencies. The new shelter in Mounds has been installed and is functioning well. Since the last board meeting, there have been two incidents, and one bus is currently out of service for repairs. Of the newly delivered buses, four are awaiting camera system installation before being put into service.

**Item: Administrative Update**

Mike Pietrowski provided the administrative update. He has been in communication with IDOT regarding the new training center and is awaiting approval to move forward. Once approved, SMTD will begin the planning stage, with the HVAC and sprinkler systems expected to be the primary expenses for the building. Mike also reported that Community Rides has a grant opportunity that could provide \$100,000 to support the expansion of services to weekends and evenings.

**Item: Adjournment**

At 10:51AM Sidney Miller motioned to adjourn. Jim Clark seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passed.

*Jim Clark*

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Jim Clark, Secretary

*MP*



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