

**MONONGALIA COUNTY URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
March 18, 2026**

Authority Members Present:

Jenny Dinsmore, President
Jeremy Evans, Vice President
Terri Cutright, Secretary
Jonathan Cook
Stephanie Hunt
Russ Rogerson

Other Personnel Present:

Maria Smith
Kimberly Fragola
Kelli LeNeve

Other Personnel Not Present:

None

Authority Members Not Present:

Wesley Nugent, Treasurer

Others Present:

None

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM by President Jenny Dinsmore.

II. Reading and Approval of Minutes:

a. February 18, 2026

President Jenny Dinsmore requested a motion to approve minutes for January 21, 2026. Terri Cutright made a motion to approve minutes for January 21, 2026, Jonathan Cook seconded the motion.

For: All

Opposed: None

Jonathan, Russ

b. March 11, 2026

Terri, Russ

III. Presentations:

a. Driver of the Month February 2026

The Transit Authority Board announced the Authority's January 2026 Driver of the Month, Tom Jones. The Authority also recognized Alex Siracusa, Daniel Shorter, Craig Wilfong and Shawn Devall for their outstanding performance during the month of January 2026.

Martin Garcia

Tom Jones, Shawn Devall, Dave Stump, Daniel Shorter

b. Rider of the Month March 2026

The Transit Authority Board announced that Melissa McGilton is the February 2026 Rider of the Month selected by the Mountain Line Transit Citizen's Advisory Committee. The next Mountain Line Transit Citizen's Advisory Committee will be held Wednesday March 18, 2026 in person or via zoom at 1:30PM.

Brian Miller

c. New Hire Introductions February 2026

CEO Maria Smith confirmed that no new hires were made in January 2026.

None

IV. Public Comments (Rules & Procedures)

President Jenny Dinsmore opened for public comment.

There were no public comments made.

None

V. Monthly Data Summaries and Correspondence

Mountain Line Transit Authority – January 2026 Ridership Report

- **Total Monthly Ridership: 45,995 trips**

- **Year-over-Year Comparison (January 2025–January 2026):** -11% change
- **Monthly Comparison:**
 - All Riders: -11%
 - Disabled Riders: -1%
 - Senior Riders: +45%
 - WVU Riders: -15% (21,284)

Winter Storm Fern – Service Impact

- **Sunday, January 25, 2026:** 372 trips completed during storm conditions.
- **Monday, January 26, 2026:** 985 trips completed as service recovery began.

Ridership by Service:

- Grey Line: 741 trips
- High School Riders: 183 trips
- Senior Riders: 2,877 trips
- New FIT Service: 96 trips
- State Opioid Response (SOR): 118 trips (24,097 cumulative since March 2020)
- Ride Mon: 502 trips (16,294 cumulative since May 2022)
- Military Pass Program: 45 trips
- Property Pass Tax Program: 8,871 trips (1,383 passes distributed since January 2020)
- Sweep Account Interest \$7,446.69
- Route 50 Don Knotts Ridership: 4,898 trips

VI. Committee Reports

a. Finance Committee Report

i. February 2026 Finance Report

President Jenny Dinsmore requested a motion to approve the Finance Report for December 2025.

Russ Rogerson, made a motion to approve the Finance Report for December 2025, **Jeremy Evans** seconded the motion.

For: All

Opposed: None

President Jenny Dinsmore requested a motion to approve the Finance Report for January 2026.

Russ Rogerson, made a motion to approve the Finance Report for January 2026, **Stephanie Hunt** seconded the motion.

For: All

Opposed: None

Maria breaking out levy costs

Johnathan, Russ

VII. Old Business

a. Construction Updates

i. Roofing Project

CEO Maria Smith confirmed that the project kickoff meeting was held on January 15, 2026. She noted that the tentative start date is projected for as early as February, with work expected to begin no later than the end of March.

CEO Maria Smith reported that the project Kick-Off Meeting was held on January 15, 2026. She further noted that MTV Solar began on-site setup on February 16, 2026, marking the official start of installation activities.

MVT nearly complete removing solar panels

Staging materials for actual roofing replacement

ii. Lot A Development

CEO Maria Smith confirmed that this item will remain open on the agenda. There has been no movement forward at this time, as the scope of work is still pending.

CEO Maria Smith discussed the TSA Threat Vulnerability Assessment, noting that it is a no-cost, non-regulatory program for public transit systems that reviews security measures, physical security, and procedures. She explained that the process includes an application, on-site assessment, in-brief, and a final report outlining strengths and actionable improvements, with results that can support grant funding and enhance overall preparedness. There is no obligation to pursue any of the recommendations, and there are no penalties if a decision is made against doing so.

Bringing in TSA – delay for Homeland Security funding hold

VIII. New Business

a. Substance Abuse Policy Update

Updated dates/titles names

Russ, Terri

b. Purchase of Two 35 Foot Gillig Buses - \$1,531,216 (\$306,243.20 Local)

2 replacement buses – from WA state procurement – reached useful life – expect receive 2027

- \$ budgeted already – 2 35' Gilligs

Move? 2nd?

c. Purchase of Seven Minivans - \$595,000 (\$119,000 Local)

7 for use on NewFit/SOR/RideMon w/ new universal branding across services – from Rohrer

– 4 in stock, 3 to order (arrive 4-6 months) – what contracts? – funding secured from state

d. FY 2026/27 City Funding

356,5400 quite a few years

Notified city cutting 56, 500

Beginning fiscal year on July 1

Historically MLTA respond funding cut w/ corresponding service cut

Strong voice from board lack of funds burden not be turned over to riders

[[[ms. Smith advised funding from levy for growth]]]]

Jenny – continue service until better handle on routes moves forward & save \$ - route study to determine how much money – downtown transfer Hub likely result in service efficiencies & interconnectivity more convenient for riders – resulting in saved money

Jenny attempts speak with city council

Jenny – continue service DT area until complete efficiency study in next year w/ MPO

Voice/Message we want to convey

Levy funds to cover this was to be for growth areas in community and will need to use instead to fund this

Reviewing route efficiency study, own budget tightening opportunities, DT hub of some type

\$113K w/ match --- total burden now --- will attempt to decrease w/ above 3 things

Following board discussion, ()& sev other details board mentioned)

Convo w/ city re: hub location

Suggest weight of cut put on service areas of levy & as able to bring down costs can add back

City vote not yet

Let it settle – when voice? After city vote

Doing all can to not impact riders – Board very reluctant pass cut on to riders & doing everything can to investigate ways to find funding

Levy already absorbed inflation -- @ csome point need to say enough & want to grow

MOTION: MLTA absorb cost of the \$56,500 city cut for FY 2026/27 and will continue at current service levels

Russ? Steph?

IX. Board Member Reports and MPO Update

CEO Maria Smith and **Assistant Manager Kimberly Fragola** attended the Transit Network Design Course in Washington, D.C., offered by Jarrett Walker + Associates last week.

What It Is: An intensive, hands-on course focused on designing and evaluating effective public transit networks. Key topics include route structure, service frequency, coverage strategies, and the trade-offs involved in network design.

How It Works: The course uses interactive exercises based on a fictional city, supported by group discussion and applied problem-solving. Activities emphasize real-world decision-making and practical network planning concepts.

CEO Maria Smith provided an update on MMMPO activities, including the following items:

1. **Bill Austin will retire in June 2026.**
2. **Election of Officers.**
3. **West Run Warming Shelter – coordination with DOH.**
4. **RFQ for the Complete Streets component of the Greenbelt Project.**
5. **Stewartstown Road / Point Marion Intersection Study.**
6. **Unified Planning Work Program.**
7. **Harmony Grove Interchange Project – update as of January 15, 2026.**
8. **Holland Avenue Construction Project.**
9. **Fairmont Avenue Construction Project.**
10. **Exit 155 Temporary Traffic Light.**

CEO Maria Smith stated that there have been no significant updates since the previous report and that no major actions or resource impacts are anticipated for the items that follow.

MPO _ Maria search for new ED @ interview stage

Maria & Rus – Exit 155 I79 improvements – diversion diamond design plan & timeline

DC – CTAA Summit & Leg Fly In – Maria & KF – reviewed talking points for when met w/ Senator Shelley Moore Capito, and Representative Riley Moore, as well as with the staffs of Senator Jim Justice and Representative Carol Miller

Russ – Gov Affairs – met w/ local leg folks & state legislators & staff – same talking points – in Charleston

R. Rogerson added that Government Affairs also met with local and state legislators and staff

X. Next Board Meeting – April 15, 2026 at Noon

XI. Adjournment:

Russ Rogerson moved to adjourn 12:38 PM.