

LUZERNE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING  
JANUARY 27, 2026

PRESENT:

CHARLES SCIANDRA, CHAIRMAN  
MICHAEL CEFALO, VICE-CHAIRMAN  
JOHN YOUNG, TREASURER  
LYNETTE VILLANO, SECRETARY  
GARY POLAKOSKI, ASST. SECRETARY  
JERRY ALSHEFSKI, MEMBER  
VALERIE KEPNER, PH.D., MEMBER (By Phone)  
JOSEPH ZELLER, MEMBER

ATTORNEY JOSEPH BLAZOSEK, SOLICITOR  
ATTORNEY JOSEPH JOYCE, ASST. SOLICITOR

ABSENT:

JOSEPH PADAVAN, MEMBER

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

ROBERT FIUME, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
RANDY LISMAN, FINANCE DIRECTOR  
GINO MARRIGGI, OPERATIONS DIRECTOR  
VINCE COVIELLO, MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR  
JOANN DECKER, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR  
GRETCHEN WINTERMANTEL, MARKETING DIRECTOR  
DEBBIE DENNIS, SHARED RIDE DIRECTOR  
MARK GIFFORD, OPERATIONS MANAGER  
COLIN HORVICK, I.T.

OTHERS:

JIM DURLAND, PUBLIC

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance:** Board Chairman, Mr. Sciandra, welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited those present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2. Roll Call:** The following Board Members were present or available by phone for the meeting: Mr. Alshefski, Mr. Cefalo, Dr. Kepner, Mr. Polakoski, Ms. Villano, Mr. Young, Mr. Zeller and Mr. Sciandra.
- 3. Public Comment:** None.
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** Board Chairman, Mr. Sciandra, asked for approval of the board minutes from the December 16th, 2025 Board Meeting and the January 8th, 2026 Reorganization Meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Young and seconded by Ms. Villano. Motion carried.

**5. Treasurer’s Report: Mr. Joseph Zeller, Chairperson**

Mr. Sciandra asked for a motion to approve the treasurer’s report pending audit. A motion was made by Mr. Young and was seconded by Mr. Alshefski. All members present voted yes; motion carried.

**6. Chairperson’s Report: Mr. Charles Sciandra**

Mr. Sciandra gave a shout out to everyone with the recent snow fall adding that everybody did a great job getting us back and the buses back out on the routes again.

**7. Solicitor’s Report: Attorney Joseph Blazosek**

Atty. Blazosek noted for the record that they went into an executive session at approximately 4:10 p.m. He said during that time Mr. Fiume gave an update on real estate matters but no final decisions were made. He mentioned that Atty. Joyce gave an update on legal matters and some personnel matters were discussed. Atty. Blazosek stated no votes were taken or decisions made and that any actions would be subject to future board meetings.

**8. Executive Directors Report: Mr. Robert Fiume**

Mr. Fiume said we were not open on Monday due to the storm but today we resumed service on snow routes. He explained that we plan on being on snow routes again tomorrow but will make a call tomorrow afternoon to decide if we will be back to regular routes on Thursday.

Mr. Fiume presented the following motions:

Motion to approve the Resolution for Right of Entry agreement with The Wright Center to place a shelter on the medical center property located at 169 N Pennsylvania Ave, Wilkes-Barre, PA. A motion was made by Ms. Villano and seconded by Mr. Zeller. All members present voted yes; motion carried.

Motion to approve the Resolution for the award of contract to WSP USA, Inc. to prepare Bus Rapid Transit Feasibility Study. A motion was made by Mr. Young and seconded by Mr. Alshefski. All members present voted yes; motion carried.

Motion to approve the draft contract with Northeast Counseling Services for MATP client transportation pending final review. A motion was made by Mr. Zeller and seconded by Mr. Cefalo. All members present voted yes; motion carried.

Motion to approve authorization for the provision of MATP client transportation services pending finalization and acceptance of a contract at the February 2026 Board Meeting.

Mr. Fiume asked for a motion to remove this item since Atty. Blazosek stated it was covered by the last motion. A motion was made to remove this item from the agenda by Ms. Villano and seconded by Mr. Cefalo. All members present voted yes; motion carried.

**9. Committees:**

**Customer Service/Public Transit Ridership Committee-** Valerie Kepner, Chairperson

Dr. Kepner said the committee did not meet as she was waiting to see what the membership of the new committee was going to be after the reorganization meeting. She said they usually meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 10 or 11 a.m. but explained that she was open to different days and times.

**Operations/Safety Committee-** Gary Polakoski, Chairperson

Mr. Marriggi said they had a safety meeting and reorganization meeting as well. He said they set the upcoming meetings for the rest of year on the second Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m.

**Strategic Planning Committee-** Michael Cefalo, Chairperson

Mr. Cefalo said he will be having a conference this week with Mr. Fiume and Mr. Fauver with regards to working out the details on the next iteration of the strategic plan and then putting together a task force around cost controls and savings in operations. He explained that he and Mr. Fauver are working on a presentation for the February board meeting.

**Personnel and Continued Progress Committee-** Joe Padavan, Chairperson

Mr. Padavan was absent from the meeting. Ms. Decker said they had a personnel meeting last week and they discussed staff updates and performance reviews that will be worked on in the next week or so.

**Finance and Budget Committee-** Joseph Zeller, Chairperson

Mr. Zeller did not have a report at this time.

Mr. Fiume explained that the number four motion is tied to the Children's Service Center and we will need approval to move forward because it was too late to get a contract together for this meeting. A motion was made to rescind the removal of the fourth motion by Ms. Villano and seconded by Mr. Young. All members present voted yes; motion carried.

Mr. Fiume asked for a motion to approve the authorization for the provision of MATP client transportation services pending finalization and acceptance of the contract at the February 2026 Board Meeting regarding the Children's Service Center. A motion was made by Mr. Zeller and seconded by Mr. Young. All members present voted yes; motion carried.

**10. Old Business:** None.

**11. New Business:** No new business was discussed.

**12. Remarks:** There were no remarks.

**13. Adjournment:** With all business completed, Mr. Alshefski made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Cefalo. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

BY: Tracy Kline, Secretary to the Board