



Allen County Regional Transit Authority
Board of Trustees Meeting
December 9, 2025

The Allen County Regional Transit Authority Board of Trustees met on **December 9, 2025 @ 12:00 p.m.** in the Allen County Regional Transit Conference Room, 200 East High Street, Suite 1-B, Lima, Ohio. Proper public notice was given in advance of the meeting. Mr. Cockerell, ACRTA Board Vice President, conducted the meeting.

PRESENT: Scott Cockerell, Vice President **STAFF:** Brian Wildermuth, Executive Director - Operations
Precious Payne Teresa Brown, Secretary/Treasurer
Richard Schroeder
Daniel Kimmet
Jack DeWitt

CONTRACTORS: None

ABSENT: Brad Taylor **LACRPC:** Rebecca Phillips, Executive Director

CITIZENS: Leann Unverferth, AAA3
Shelby Poling - AAA3

Minutes:

1. Roll Call

Mr. Cockerell called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m. Ms. Brown took roll call. A quorum of the Board was present.

2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve the agenda. Mrs. Payne seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Mrs. Payne made a motion to approve the November 11, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Citizens Comments

AAA3 reported they have applied for funding through ODOT to hopefully be able to use ACRTA as a transportation provider again. The Coordinated Plan currently covers Allen, Auglaize, Mercer and Van

Wert counties. There will be a new Regional Coordinated Plan that will cover Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Putnam, Wyandot, and Van Wert counties starting in June of 2027.

5. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Ms. Brown presented October's financials, including a summary of profit and loss, YTD comparison to budget, detailed profit and loss prior year comparison, and balance sheet.

A Cash Receipts Journal and a Cash Disbursements Journal were also included. Revenue is up and expenses were under budget, with a net gain for the YTD.

ACRTA was awarded \$337,463 in Operating funds and \$275,552 for two new vans for the Van Wert expansion from the SFY2026 Ohio Workforce Mobility Partnership.

ACRTA was also awarded \$2,354,425 that was applied for from the FTA Bus & Bus Facilities grant towards the purchase of five new buses.

The Fuel Bid opening was held on December 5th and was awarded to Gresham Petroleum as the lowest firm fixed price bidder. Unleaded will be \$1.7717/gallon and diesel will be \$2.2145/gallon for the 2026 calendar year.

Mr. Kimmet made a motion to approve the fuel contract. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Payne made a motion to accept the Secretary/Treasurer's report. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Action Items and ED Report

Ridership was down 3,105 rides from last month and down 695 from the same time last year. The schools had some days off due to inclement weather and the Thanksgiving holiday, and there were less days of service run in November vs. October.

Two of the buses Springfield had for sale on GovDeals were won in the auction. They will be getting picked up this week or next and taken to get our logo put on them.

Six new buses will be ordered from Gillig as soon as the final specs and pricing are in.

The Lima Loop as it has been running for the last two years has not had many riders. It was not needed for the Amphitheater as much as the Civic Center thought it would be, and passengers are not using it to just ride around downtown. It was still budgeted for 2026, but the plan is to see if it can be geared around area businesses doing special events. It will be on days other than Thursdays, so it doesn't conflict with Downtown Lima Inc.'s Third Thursday events throughout the summer. Megan Kinnear with LACPRC is going to reach out to businesses to see if something can be coordinated.

The garage is getting everything moved back into place. There was a meeting held with the construction company about getting the fueling system operational. Concrete will be poured around the pumps and over the tanks and heating blankets will be used to cure it. The rest of the concrete will be poured in the spring. A stone ramp was built for the main garage entrance, and one will be built for the wash bay to use until then.

Our ODOT rep should be here Thursday for an onsite visit.

Lori, Teresa, and Brian went to Van Wert in November to meet with the agency representatives. They were given information on scheduling trips, invoicing, and purchasing tickets. There is a meeting set up for December 18th to meet with another group, and a media announcement for the Van Wert area will be released soon.

One of our International buses (1057) needs a new engine. The second quote just came in Monday, and they ranged from \$32,000 - \$42,000. This is not feasible as the bus is past its useful life and is already scheduled for replacement on the Bus and Bus Facilities grant that was just awarded. The replacement bus won't be here until mid-2027. There are often Internationals on Govdeals and the idea is to instead put the money that would be expended on an engine towards purchasing one of those. Springfield will have some going up soon. The Internationals are used a lot for day care trips and are much better for CDL training and testing. Gillig bus engines are compact and are at the back of the bus. Internationals have a traditional hood, and the engine is spread out like a more typical vehicle. 1057 would be held for a time to use parts from it on the other International, 1058.

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to authorize either the repair of bus 1057 or the purchase of a comparable vehicle for up to \$35,000. Mr. Cockerell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve the payout of Christmas bonuses for 2025 to all employees. Mr. Cockerell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Cockerell made a motion to approve the 2026 Board Meeting Schedule. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Maintenance Facility tour was moved after the Board Meeting to allow the opportunity for Board Members to leave if necessary.

7. Discussion Items

None.

8. RPC Updates

LACRPC continues to promote and support ACRTA through marketing efforts and social media updates.

9. Executive Session

Mr. Cockerell made a motion to move to Executive Session for the consideration of compensation for a public employee. Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote: Mr. Schroeder – yes, Mr. Cockerell – yes, Mrs. Payne - yes, Mr. Kimmet – yes, Mr. DeWitt – yes.

Ms. Brown and Mr. Wildermuth left the meeting at approximately 12:39 p.m.

Roll call to return: Mr. Schroeder – yes, Mr. Cockerell – yes, Mrs. Payne – yes, Mr. Kimmet – yes, Mr. DeWitt – yes.

The meeting was back on record at approximately 12:47 p.m. No action was taken at this time.

10. Adjourn

Mrs. Payne made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Kimmet seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:48 p.m.

Submitted: Teresa Brown
Teresa Brown, Secretary/Treasurer

Approved: Daniel Kimmet
Daniel Kimmet, ACRTA Board President