

CATS Board of Commissioners
Monthly Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 25, 2025
4:30 pm

MINUTES
RECORDING

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the CATS Board of Commissioners Meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by President Hill.

2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Carolyn Coleman	Member at Large	Present
Melissa deGeneres	Member	Present
Michelle Dennis	Secretary	Present
Patrick Downs	Member	Present
Arthur Dubriel	Member	Present
Johnathan Hill	President	Present
Tremaine Sterling	Member	Present
Frederick Thomas	Vice-President	Present
John Vukovics	Treasurer	Absent

4. Public Comment -- Shavez Smith, Yvette Rhines, Stanley Smalls

5. Approval of the 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes

RESULT: ACCEPTED

MOVER: Dubriel

SECONDER: Thomas

YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Thomas,

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Sterling, Vukovics

6. Approval of the February 18, 2025, Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

RESULT: ACCEPTED

MOVER: Dubriel

SECONDER: Coleman

YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Thomas,

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Sterling, Vukovics

7. Approval of the February 27, 2025, Special Board Meeting Minutes

RESULT: ACCEPTED

MOVER: Coleman

SECONDER: Dubriel

YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Thomas,

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Sterling, Vukovics

8. President's Announcements

Commissioner Hill allowed Commissioner Downs to speak during this time.

Commissioner Downs announced that the March Board meeting would be his last meeting as a board member due to a scheduling conflict that would prevent him from attending future board meetings. He thanked the staff for the service and work to keep the system running. Commissioner Downs shared a few recommendations such as: sharing the good stories about CATS, be creative with solutions to our problems. Lastly, he encouraged the public to get involved with the agency by attending public meetings.

Commissioner Hill acknowledged that the board is aware of House Bill No. 84 and they have met with the CEO to develop a strategy about the bill.

9. Administrative Matters

a. CEO Update - Theo Richards

- Mr. Richards recognized employees who served five (Thomas Cating, Garrick Grant and Karla Hatch), ten (Gwendolyn Magee) and 25 years (Sheila Bennett) of service with CATS.
- The anticipated operable date of September 2025 for the North Transit Center is now October 2025.
- Mr. Richards also explained the recent issues with the agency's health benefits with HRA Benefit Card. He emphasized that the benefits have not been turned off. There was an account suspension on iSolved (our provider of the service/ Benny Card/HRA) due to no fault of CATS. All payments to the vendor have been made. The issue should be resolved by Wednesday, March 26.
- March Financials – Ms. Hines provided an update on the audit that is currently underway. We are ahead of schedule with the audit. Ms. Hines shared details about a recent change to the YTD amount that was reported in the F&E Meeting.

10. Committee Reports

- a. Finance & Executive: Ms. Melissa deGeneres (Mr. Hill)
- b. Technical, Policies & Practices: did not meet
- c. Audit: did not meet
- d. Community Relations & Planning: Mr. Johnathan Hill & Mr. Patrick Downs

11. New Business

- a. Consideration and approval of CATS Cybersecurity Policy

RESULT: ACCEPTED

MOVER: Coleman

SECONDER: Dubriel

YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Thomas,

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Sterling, Vukovics

- b. Consideration and approval of CATS Access Control Policy I & Policy II

RESULT: SUBSTITUE

MOVER: deGeneres

SECONDER: Coleman

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Sterling, Vukovics

SUBSTITUTE MOTION - Consideration and approval of CATS Access Control Policy I & Policy II - Substitute Motion with suggested edits.

RESULT: ACCEPTED

MOVER: deGeneres

SECONDER: Coleman

YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Sterling, Thomas,

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Vukovics

- c. Consideration and approval of for Approval of the 2025 Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire and authorization for Board officers to execute the Compliance Questionnaire

RESULT: ACCEPTED

MOVER: deGeneres

SECONDER: Dennis

YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Sterling, Thomas

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Vukovics

- d. Consideration and approval for Approval of One (1) Year Contract with River North, LLC dba Via for LYNX by CATS Microtransit Services in Baker, Louisiana

RESULT: ACCEPTED

MOVER: deGeneres

SECONDER: Downs

YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Sterling, Thomas

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Vukovics

- e. Consideration and approval for Approval of Robert Half Contract Payoff
RESULT: ACCEPTED
MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Downs
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Sterling, Thomas
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Vukovics
- f. Consideration and approval for Approval of ChargePoint Charging Stations Installation
RESULT: ACCEPTED
MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Downs
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Sterling, Thomas
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Vukovics
- g. Consideration and approval for Approval of Renewal of Keystone Consulting Group Contract
RESULT: ACCEPTED
MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Dubriel
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Sterling, Thomas
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Vukovics
- h. Consideration and approval for Approval of Renewal of Legal Services Contract
RESULT: FAILED
MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Dubriel
YEAS: Dennis, Dubriel, Hill, Sterling
NAYS: Coleman, deGeneres, Downs, Thomas
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Vukovics
- i. Consideration and approval for Approval of CATS Property Insurance Policy 2025-2026
RESULT: ACCEPTED
MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Dubriel
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Sterling, Thomas
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Vukovics

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consideration and approval to enter into Executive Session at 5:18 p.m.

RESULT: ACCEPTED

MOVER: deGeneres

SECONDER: Coleman

YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Sterling, Thomas

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Vukovics

Matters discussed in Executive Session

- a. Strategy and status regarding collective bargaining negotiations for a renewed contract with ATU Local 1546.

Consideration and approval to exit Executive Session at 5:58 p.m.

RESULT: ACCEPTED

MOVER: Coleman

SECONDER: Downs

YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Sterling, Thomas

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Vukovics

- b. Approval of the Workers Compensation Claim for CATS Self Insured Claim # 19WC115291.

Consideration and Approval of the Workers Compensation Claim for CATS Self Insured Claim # 19WC115291.

RESULT: ACCEPTED

MOVER: deGeneres

SECONDER: Coleman

YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Dubriel, Hill, Sterling, Thomas

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Vukovics

13. Review of Administrative Matters

14. Adjournment

Thomas/Dubriel