

MEETING MINUTES

CARTS Board of Directors

May 28, 2026, 9:30 a.m.

CARTS Board of Directors

Lee Dildy Operations Center, 5300 Tucker Hill Lane, Cedar Creek, Texas 78612

Board Members Present		Staff Present	
	Present		Present
X	Commissioner Glass, Bastrop County	X	Dave Marsh, General Manager
X	Commissioner Riley, Blanco County	X	Pearl Jackson, Assistant General Manager
X	Commissioner Collier, Burnet County	X	Ed Collins, CARTS Planning
X	Commissioner Berckenhoff, Fayette County	X	Dana Platt, Community Outreach Director
X	Commissioner Cohen, Hays County	X	Rachid Breir, Director of Operations
X	Commissioner Knobloch, Lee County	X	Jo Tucker, Finance Director
	Commissioner Gomez, Travis County		Adrian Elliott, Director IT Services
	Commissioner Horne, Caldwell County		
	Commissioner Boles, Williamson County		
X	David Salazar, Travis County (Proxy)		
X	Amalia Puentes-ZuaZua Williamson County (Proxy)	Guests	
X	Peter Jones, Llano County Commissioner	Jaqueline Ipina, TxDOT	
		Jose Becerra, Travis County	
		Julie Mazur, CapMetro	
		Amy Finn, COSM	

Call to Order

Chair Steven Knobloch confirmed a quorum and called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Commissioners Collier, Berckenhoff, Riley and Glass attended in person at CARTS HQ, while other members attended via TEAMS remote connection.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes as presented for January 29, 2026, meeting of the CARTS Board of Directors. (Moved by Riley, Berckenhoff unanimously approved)

Consideration/Action regarding the adoption of the Annual Report on CARTS Finances for Fiscal Year 2025. Presentation by Jeremy Myers of Atchley and Associates

Motion: To accept the Annual Report on CARTS Finances for Fiscal Year 2025 as presented and to authorize the publication and distribution of a final report. (Moved by Glass, Collier unanimously approved)

Financial Reports

Jo Tucker, Finance Director, presented the Agency Financial Report.

Motion: To approve the financial reports as presented. (Moved by Riley, second by Glass, unanimously approved)

Contracts and Grants Summary Review

Jo Tucker provided an overview of all open contracts and grants.

Report on CARTS submittals to the TXDOT Biannual Coordinated Call for projects filed in January 2026.

Mr. Marsh reported that CARTS submitted seven projects totaling \$7,262,357 through TxDOT's January 2026 Biennial Coordinated Call. Five projects were funded, resulting in total approved funding of \$4,226,244.

Update on Pre-authorized Bus Procurements (Action Required)

Mr. Marsh reported on current and upcoming vehicle procurements, including:

- (6) Six EV vans and two charging stations funded by TxDOT (\$1,058,000) are in production.
- (6) Six CapMetro-funded Manor Pickup vehicles (\$1,020,000) are in production.
- (3) Three Country Bus vehicles will be purchased through the Oklahoma cooperative contract using a pending TxDOT grant (\$637,787).

Motion: To approve the purchase of three (3) Country Bus vehicles from Model 1 Commercial Vehicles under the Oklahoma Cooperative Purchasing Program, using the proceeds of the pending TxDOT Section 5339 grant in an amount not to exceed \$637,787. (Moved by Berckenhoff, second by Riley, unanimously approved)

Reports and Updates

A. Updates from Dana Platt, Director of Community Engagement

Mr. Marsh provided the Community Engagement update on behalf of Ms. Platt, who was out of town. Updates included recent outreach, marketing, and communications activities; reports are included in the background materials.

B. Update on CPRG Projects

1. Commuter Routes

Mr. Marsh reported that CARTS was allocated \$2 million over five years through the City of Austin Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program for qualifying transit improvements.

The 1515X Smithville–Bastrop–Austin and 1511X Georgetown–Round Rock–Austin commuter routes launched on March 2, 2026. Additional routes may be considered based on vehicle availability, grant eligibility, and City of Austin approval.

2. Bastrop Mobility Hub

Mr. Marsh reported that CARTS was invited to submit a Bastrop Mobility Hub proposal through the Austin CPRG program. The proposed project would connect the Bastrop Station and downtown library through electric bike pods, public EV charging, and additional passenger amenities.

Design elements have been incorporated into the Bastrop Park-and-Ride Expansion contract. Coordination with the City of Bastrop is ongoing, and CARTS plans to submit the final proposal to the City of Austin by June 1, 2026.

C. Operations

Mr. Breir provided updates on service performance and expansion efforts; supporting reports are included in the background materials.

1. CARTS San Marcos Urban Operations
2. CARTS NOW Services

D. Special Projects

Mr. Collins provided updates on the following projects; related exhibits were included in the background materials.

1. Bastrop Station Park-and-Ride Expansion

Mr. Collins reported that design is advancing toward 90% of construction documents, with completion anticipated in June 2026.

CARTS and the design team met with City of Bastrop officials to confirm compliance with City requirements. Staff also submitted the Categorical Exclusion to TxDOT and the Federal Transit Administration for environmental review.

The project will expand the existing park-and-ride facility, add approximately 35 parking spaces, and improve space for fleet staging and passenger parking.

2. FM 1209 Corridor Planning Project

Mr. Collins reported that the consultant developed potential Transportation Demand Management strategies for the FM 1209 employment corridor, including rideshare pilots, carpool incentives, vanpool subsidies, and guaranteed ride home programs.

Despite repeated outreach, staff were unable to secure continued participation from the businesses involved. Staff subsequently learned that the businesses were constructing a large parking garage to address their parking needs.

The consultant was directed to complete a final report summarizing the proposed strategies and project outcome. In the absence of business participation, staff recommended concluding the planning project.

Other items as presented for discussion/information

Mr. Marsh reported TXDOT has awarded us an additional \$96,850 to address increased fuel costs during this fiscal year

He reported that from February to March our fuel costs increased by 35%, From March to April 42%.

Adjournment and set next meeting date and location. Action Requested

Motion: To adjourn the May 28, 2026, meeting and set the next meeting for July 30, 2026, at the Lee Dildy Operations Complex, Cedar Creek, TX at 9:30 AM. (Moved by Berckenhoff, second by Glass, unanimously approved)

Executive Session

The Board may adjourn into Executive Session to consider any item listed on this agenda if a matter is raised is appropriate for Executive Session discussion. An announcement will be made of the basis for the Executive Session discussion. The Board may also publicly discuss any item listed on the agenda.