



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MOUNTAIN RIDES TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 1:00 pm
Ketchum City Hall, 191 5th Street West, Ketchum, Idaho

The Mountain Rides Transportation Authority's Board of Directors met in a Regular Meeting in person and via conference call.

PRESENT: Grady Burnett, Tom Blanchard, Kristin Derrig, Peter Hendricks, Peter Prekeges, Martha Burke, Christina Giordani, Muffy Davis

ALSO PRESENT: Wally Morgus, Carlos Tellez, Jamie Canfield, Raul Romero, Andrea Hernandez, Liz Ruiz, Andrea Loera, Eric Humbach, Amy DeGennaro

1. CALL TO ORDER

Grady Burnett called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. Kristin Derrig took attendance and confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR, BOARD MEMBERS, and STAFF

Grady Burnett introduced Andrea Loera as the new Finance & Administration Specialist. Kristin Derrig mentioned that the gondola shelter on Main Street in Ketchum looked great with the graphics and the Mountain Rides logo on top.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

4. ACTION ITEM: *Approve Consent Agenda*

- a) *Authorize/approve: Disbursement of MRTA's funds for paying bills on hand as of February 16, 2026*
- b) *Approve/file: Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, January 21, 2025*
- c) *Approve/file: Minutes of Finance & Performance Committee, February 4, 2026*
- d) *Approve/file: Minutes of Planning & Marketing Committee, December 10, 2026*
- e) *Approve/file: Minutes of Planning & Marketing Committee, February 4, 2026*
- f) *Receive/file Performance Dashboard, January 2026*
- g) *Receive/file: December 2025 Operating Fund Financial Statements and Bills Paid*
- h) *Receive/file: Report from Director, Fleet, Maintenance & Facilities; Director, Community Transportation; Manager, Finance & Administration; Manager, Transit Operations; Manager, Marketing & Communications; Executive Director*

- Grady Burnett asked Carlos Tellez about his staff report, where he mentioned the work they've been doing on the electric buses. Carlos provided clarification regarding software-related charging limitations affecting the New Flyer electric buses. Due to a battery recall and charging restrictions (currently capped at 80%), operational challenges have occurred. New Flyer is working on software updates and battery replacements. Mountain Rides has formally communicated urgency to the manufacturer and expects prioritization. Carlos also mentioned that they have received two new Gillig electric buses that are being prepared for service. These buses have seven battery packs, which offer improved range.
- Jamie Canfield provided an update on the new airport shuttle service. He said that driver recruitment has been successful, with a team now in place. Service began on Monday, and initial ridership numbers are encouraging. Marketing efforts, including social media reels and printed materials distributed to hotels and community partners, have generated strong engagement.
- The Board discussed seasonal revenue fluctuations and maintenance costs associated with Vanpool. Jamie stated that winter months reflect reduced usage while maintenance costs remain steady. The team plans to increase the per-mile rate to \$1.00 to better align revenue with expenses while maintaining the program's community benefit.

Kristin Derrig moved to approve the consent agenda, and Peter Hendricks seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

5. DISCUSSION ITEM: *ADA Paratransit & Community Health Transportation (CHT) Services Update*

Jamie Canfield provided a comprehensive update regarding ADA Paratransit and Community Health Transportation (CHT). He clarified that the ADA service is funded through Section 5311, while CHT is currently funded through the CARES Act funds and a \$20,000 grant from the St. Luke's Foundation. He stated that service demand has steadily increased since July, with Fridays being particularly busy. He also said that Mountain Rides maintains a 100% acceptance rate for eligible riders and has expanded the service to cover the entire county, including Carey and Gannett.

6. DISCUSSION ITEM: *Scheduling the 2026 Board Strategic Workshop*

The Board agreed to schedule the 2026 Strategic Workshop in May or June, potentially in conjunction with a regular Board meeting. Staff will propose potential dates for consideration at an upcoming meeting. The Ketchum Community Library was suggested as a preferred venue.


7. DISCUSSION ITEM: *Items of Interest to the Members*

Additional discussion included:

- Grant outlook and federal funding status. Wally Morgus confirmed that, as of now, everything looks good and that he is optimistic about receiving the necessary funding. He also provided an update on the RAISE grant and coordination with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), stating that everything is moving forward and that ITD plans to secure the funds.
- Ongoing exploration of microtransit options: Wally and Jamie emphasized that they are moving forward and gathering more information. Wally mentioned that, ideally, they can work it in without a lot of extra funding.

8. ADJOURN

Tom Blanchard moved to adjourn the meeting, and Peter Hendricks seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:07 pm.



Chair Grady Burnett