

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JACKSON AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
DISABILITY CONNECTIONS
409 LINDEN AVE, JACKSON, MI 49201
MAY 28TH, 2026
3:00 PM

Item I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 pm

Members Present: Jessica Embury, Terry Langston,
Mindy Albert, Deborah Chambers,
Steve Makulski, Barry Malek, Lisa Monk, Randy Treacher

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Michael Brown, Penny Kasper, Hunter Causie

Item II. Public Comment:

- a. Cheryl Crim – She was requesting an update on location/status of a shelter, where she resides.

ITEM III. Consent Calendar

Motion was made by Steve M. to accept the April Consent Calendar, seconded by Terry L. **Motion Carried.**

ITEM IV. JATA Making a Difference Moment

- a. Mike B. reported the successful training of new drivers for JATA, and would like to recognize James Garner, Angela Cain and Brent Sanders, in their part, in making this happen.

ITEM V. LTAC Presentation -

- a. It was decided to table this until next meeting.

ITEM VI. President's Report - Jessica Embury

Welcoming New Board Members – Lisa Monk and Randy Treacher.

- a. Jessica welcomed the new board members and had everyone announce, who they are and what they do with JATA/Board of Directors.
- b. JTV Website Presentation – David Barker, presented an example of what his ideas are of redesigning the JATA Website. Mr. Barker presented the Board, JTV's Website Redesign Proposal.
 1. Mike Brown and Hunter Causie, will be overseeing this redesign. Jessica E. requested that if any of the Board, had any ideas, to email them to Mike B.

- c. Jessica E. reported that there was not any updated information on MassTrans and MTPA conferences for 2026, as of yet. Board had a discussion on making this a budgeted expense, in future.

ITEM VII. Executive Director's Report – Michael Brown

- a. Mike reported, that he and Angela Cain, just attended the annual “MTP”, meeting. He reported that the meeting was a success.
- b. Mike reports, that soon it will be time to Renew the City Millage and that it will be up to the board, whether we ask to renew or to increase. The City Millage is to renew, in September of 2027.
- c. The Board continues to have discussions on having a County Millage. At the last Board meeting, there was discussion, about having a Millage Committee, he feels that it is the time to have further discussions, the rest of the board was in agreeance.
- d. Mike reports to the Board, that there is already a concept, out there, to have discussions with the different townships.
- e. Jessica asks the Board, if anyone would be interested on serving on a temporary committee, Terry L. and Randy T., has volunteered, to assist Mike with the County Millage concept.
- f. Steve M. asked for Mike, to clarify the bag limit, for the buses. Mike stated that the policy, in the Rider Guide, is 2 bags or 4 half bags.
- g. Mike announced that it is time again, for Union negotiations. The current contract expires, September 30, 2026. He also discusses that past negotiations have been very smooth and the Union has been reasonable with past requests.
- h. Mike reports that the parts/suppliers are charging a lot of extra surcharges. He stated, that these charges are adding up.
- i. Mike announced that we received, the Annual 5307 funding, for this year.
- j. Mike reported that JATA just had their, “National Transit” week, it was very successful.
- k. Mike announced that Tri-Transit Week, will be in October, this year. He urges the Board, to let them know if they want to volunteer.

ITEM VIII. Committee Reports

- a. Nominating Committee – No update at this time.

ITEM IX. Matters for Board Review/Action

- a. Performance Dashboard – Hunter C. presented April's Performance Stats.

ITEM X. Unfinished Business – None

ITEM XI. New Business - None

ITEM XII. Public Comment –

- a. Penny Kasper, states that she lives in Vandercook Lake area and has heard from people living in that area, that they wished that the buses would come down, as far as the old bowling alley.

Board Challenge: When did the City of Jackson first approve a millage for JATA and how much was it?

Answer: September 1986 and 1 MIL – There was no winner.

ITEM XIII. Adjournment

Motion for adjournment by Steve M. and seconded by Deborah C.

The meeting adjourned at 4:26 pm.



Mindy Albert, Secretary

Penny Kasper, Recording Secretary