BASIN TRANSIT

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, July 23, 2026, 5:00 p.m.
Basin Transit Operations Center
62405 Verbena Road
Joshua Tree, CA 92252

ACTION MINUTES

1.0 CALL TO ORDER – Chair Abel called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chair Abel

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Merl Abel	Jeff Drozd
Danielle Harrington	Jennifer Henning
Dan Mintz	*Steven Reyes
McArthur Wright	

*Board Member Reyes's term as Member "At-Large" began immediately following his appointment under Item 7.1.

Members Absent:

NONE

1.1 Add Resolution 26-04 – Article 3 Funding to the Agenda under Item 4.10

Chair Abel proposed adding an item to adopt Resolution 26-04 as Item number 4.10. The resolution is necessary for Basin Transit to receive Article 3 funds for bus stop improvements. The requirement for the resolution was discovered after the agenda had been posted.

> **ACTION:** Board Member Mintz moved to add Resolution 26-04 to the agenda as Item 4.10; seconded by Vice Chair Wright, motion passed by Roll Call Vote (6-0).

2.0 SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

2.1 Recognition of Employee of the Quarter: Matt Atkins, Operations Manager, recognized Michael Padilla as Employee of the Quarter.

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

4.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

4.1 Minutes of May 28, 2026 Board Meeting

4.2 Treasurer's Report for April and May 2026

4.3 Warrant Register for April and May 2026

4.4 Ridership Reports

4.5 Financial Reports

4.6 Taxi Report

4.7 General Manager's Report

4.8 Operations Report

4.9 Vasquez & Company LLP Engagement Letter

4.10 Article 3 Funds – Resolution 26-04

ACTION: Vice Chair Wright moved to approve the Consent Calendar (Items 4.1 - 4.10); seconded by Board Member Henning: motion passed by Roll Call Vote (6-0).

5.0 ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR PARTICIPATION AND/OR ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

6.0 OLD BUSINESS

NONE

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Election of Member “At-Large” for Calendar Year 2026 & 2027

Cheri Holsclaw announced a vacancy for the Member “At-Large” position, noting previous applicants were contacted and one (1) new candidate applied.

Chair Abel invited applicants in attendance to address the Board.

Applicant, Steven Reyes, introduced himself, highlighting his 35 years of public service experience, including a 29-year career with the LAPD where he worked for two (2) years in the transit services sector. Mr. Reyes stated he understands the importance of transit services for remote communities in the Morongo Basin area for access to healthcare and transportation hubs.

> **ACTION:** Chair Abel made a recommendation to appoint Steven Reyes to fill the "At-Large" seat on the Basin Transit Board of Directors; seconded by Vice Chair Wright, motion passed by Roll Call Vote (6-0).

*Board Member Reyes's immediately following his appointment.

7.2 Amended General Manager Employment Contract

Cheri Holsclaw requested that the Board approve the amended employment contract for the General Manager that included updates to change the agency name from "MBTA" to "Basin Transit" and reflected a 5% salary increase for the General Manager.

> **ACTION:** Board Member Mintz moved to approve the amended employment contract for the General Manager; seconded by Board Member Henning, motion passed by Roll Call Vote (7-0).

7.3 Revisions to FY 2026/27 Operating & Capital Budget

Cheri presented a budget revision to reflect an increase in operating expenses of 5% related to the General Manager's compensation adjustment. The capital budget was being revised to reallocate funding across projects, with no net increase to the overall capital budget.

> **ACTION:** Chair Abel motioned to approve the revised FY 2026/27 Operating & Capital Budget; seconded by Vice Chair Wright, motion passed by Roll Call Vote (7-0).

7.4 Passenger Code of Conduct

Cheri recommended that the Board adopt the proposed Basin Transit Passenger Code of Conduct, which clarifies what offenses could lead to suspension of service.

> **ACTION:** Board Member Mintz moved to adopt the proposed Basin Transit Passenger Code of Conduct; seconded by Vice Chair Wright, motion passed by Roll Call Vote (7-0).

7.5 Advertising Policy – Policy No. 208

Cheri requested that the Board adopt Policy 208, which would authorize paid advertising content on the existing infotainment display systems installed on the buses.

ACTION: After a detailed discussion, Chair Abel motioned to table the new advertising policy until Cheri and the legal team can address points raised during the discussion; seconded by Vice Chair Wright, motion passed by Roll Call Vote (7-0).

8.0 CLOSED SESSION

8.1 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Gov. Code §54957.6)
Basin Transit designated representatives: General Manager, Cheri Holsclaw, and General Counsel, Patrick Munoz
Unrepresented employee: Director of Cooperative Purchasing and Grants.

8.2 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(2): (1 case)

Chair Abel announced that no reportable action was taken.

9.0 GENERAL MANAGER UPDATE

Cheri shared that the “Pack the Bus” event went very well and that the “Unpack the Bus” event was scheduled with the Boys and Girls Club for July 28, 2026.

10.0 FUTURE BOARD INITIATED AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

11.0 BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

The following Board Members made comments:

Chair Abel	Board Member Drozd
Board Member Mintz	Board Member Harrington

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m., Thursday, July 23, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

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Michal Brock, Assistant Board Secretary