

# FLINT HILLS AREA TRANSPORTATION AGENCY BOARD MEETING

September 8, 2021 | 4:00 pm

Remote meeting via Zoom

## VOTING MEMBERS

Present	Aaron Estabrook – Manhattan City Commission – Chair Person
Absent	Kathryn Focke – Riley County Commission – Vice Chair Person
Absent	Derek Jackson – KSU Housing & Dining
Present	Stephanie Peterson – Flint Hills MPO
Absent	Jeff Barnes – Kansas State University
Absent	Dee McKee – Pottawattamie County Commission

## FHATA STAFF MEMBERS

Present	Anne Smith – Executive Director
Present	Melanie Tuttle – Director of Finance – Treasurer
Present	Merl Page – Director of Operations
Absent	Mike Wilson - Mobility Manager
Present	Daphne McNelly – Executive Administrator – Secretary
Present	Katey Cain – Director of Human Resources

## MINUTES:

**Call to Order** – Could not reach a quorum.

**Public Comment** – No public comment.

## Discussion –

- Discussion was had about the potential to move the meeting schedule to quarterly meetings with monthly written updates. Meetings should be scheduled to fit within the budget cycle. March, June, September, December would be feasible for the quarterly schedule. Does not have to be voted on, Bylaws state that meetings must be “regular.”
- Staff will work to make sure that moving forward, the information provided to the Board should be meaningful, digestible, and helpful. Anything that can be included that would provide good overview of data, the impact of other transportation information, etc. are things that were recommended to be included.
- Merl provided a brief overview of how the hiring process has been going:
  - Hiring of drivers has increased and there is hope that the trend will continue. Retention of current drivers has been rather healthy also. To be at an optimum level, ATA Bus is needing five more drivers but three would be helpful to transition to a more full service capability. The hires have been mostly sourced from Indeed and many are of good quality, including having already received their CDL, and ATA

Bus hopes to continue the CDL training program as it has been successful. ATA Bus will continue evaluating the number of drivers on a month to month basis as it directly correlates to the new route implementation in Manhattan.

- ATA Bus has debuted a new website and is encouraging the Board to share it with their peers to help garner more traffic. [www.flinthillsatabus.com](http://www.flinthillsatabus.com)

**Discussion concluded at 4:38 pm.**

**Next meeting is December 8, 2021 at 4:00 pm via Zoom or In Person for Board Members**