

ETHRA Board Meeting
ETHRA Executive Office
9111 Cross Park Drive, Suite D-100, Knoxville, TN 37923
July 14, 2026

The members of the East Tennessee Human Resource Agency Board of Directors held their regular board meeting on July 14, 2026, at the ETHRA Executive offices, 9111 Cross Park Drive, Suite D-100, Knoxville, Tennessee, 37923.

The following Board members were present:

Richard Briggs	State Senator
Joe Brooks	Claiborne County
Mike Byrd	Grainger County
Wade Creswell	Roane County
Chris Cutshaw	Hamblen County
Elaine Davis	State Representative
Trey Dykes	City of Newport
Terry Frank	Anderson County
Jerried Jeffers	Scott County
Scotty Kitts	City of LaFollette
Rob Mathis	Cocke County
Mark Potts	Jefferson County
Larry Waters	Sevier County

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Board Chair, Trey Dykes, opened the meeting and asked if there were any public comments. There were no public comments.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Trey Dykes, called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Chair, Trey Dykes, asked for the roll call to be conducted. After roll call, the meeting proceeded.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR JULY 14, 2026 WAS MADE BY JOE BROOKS AND SECONDED BY SCOTTY KITTS. THE MOTION PASSED.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the previous meeting were mailed and e-mailed to members as part of the agenda package.

MOTION: APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 12, 2026 MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN. MOTION WAS MADE BY JOE BROOKS AND SECONDED BY ELAINE DAVIS. THE MOTION PASSED.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer, Terry Frank, was late arriving, so Secretary Wade Creswell presented the financial report for the period ending MAY FY 2026. County Executive Creswell asked if there were any questions regarding the financial report; there were no questions.

MOTION: TO ACCEPT ETHRA'S FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY FY 2026. MOTION WAS MADE BY WADE CRESWELL AND SECONDED BY SCOTTY KITTS. THE MOTION PASSED.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director, Gary Holiway, reminded the board members that our new fiscal year began in June, so Conflict of Interest forms are due now if not already turned in. He then introduced Keri Daugherty as the newest manager in Transportation, heading up our Job Access & Reverse Commute (JARC) program. He also introduced Brent Gagley as Mike Patterson's replacement as our Senior Transportation Director.

Director Holiway then introduced Cheryl Dillman to discuss the '26- '27 Child Care Food Program Application process. Cheryl shared information about our work programs designed to help Day Care Centers and At- Risk Supper Programs with meal planning and monthly food expenses.

MOTION: APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR THE HOME DAY CARE FOOD PROGRAM. MOTION WAS MADE BY JOE BROOKS AND SECONDED BY ELAINE DAVIS.

MOTION: APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR AT RISK/AFTER SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM. MOTION WAS MADE BY SCOTTY KITTS AND SECONDED BY JOE BROOKS. THE MOTION PASSED.

Director Holiway introduced Brent Gagley to discuss two current projects underway in our Transportation Department. The first project discussed was a Fixed Route Expansion in Morristown and Jefferson City. Slides were provided showing fixed routes 5+ years ago, demographic areas affected, with a focus on the Merchants Green area which has 80 acres of commercial and medical development. The project will require at least 3 additional buses, which are awaiting approval. The second project is the Micro Transit Project. ETHRA on Demand will be similar to uber or Lyft options and will service Morristown from 7a.m. to 6 p.m. Costs will be based on different zones, but can be \$6/ one way or \$8/one way, depending on the demographic area requested. Clients may pay on the app, use a credit card, or pay cash to the driver.

Director Holiway then solicited anyone interested in attending the Annual TAHRA Conference being held September 15 -18 at Park Vista or the TPTA Conference November 3-6 in Chattanooga to let us know.

OTHER BUSINESS

Terry Frank was impressed by Brent's presentation of what we are doing in the Morristown area, and stated that she and Wade Creswell may need to get together to discuss setting up the Micro Transit in their prospective counties.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Dykes asked if there was any further business and asked for a motion to adjourn. **The motion was made by Joe Brooks and seconded by Mark Potts.** The meeting concluded at 11:03 a.m.

X Roland Dykes III

8/11/2024