

MISSOULA URBAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

Board of Directors Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2025

APPROVED

Committee Members Present: Jason Weiner, Lisa Sheppard, Sebastian Strauss

Committee Members Absent: None

Board Members Present: None

Staff Present: Jordan Hess, Colin Woodrow, Allison Segal, Jasmine Blumenbach, Teddy Mierze

Guests: None

1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

11:01 p.m. Strauss called the meeting to order and asked for roll call.

2.0 Public Comment

None.

3.0 Approval of Minutes & Financial Statements

3.1 May 22, 2025, Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Sheppard moved to approve the minutes, Strauss seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

3.2 June 26, 2025, Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Strauss moved to approve the minutes, Sheppard seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

3.3 July 24, 2025, Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Strauss moved to approve the minutes, Sheppard seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

3.4 June Financial Statements

Segal reported that the statements are unaudited, and the county has not closed out June. The \$2.2 million under budget will be adjusted according to the annual audit. The surplus is partially due to larger one-time FY25 budgeted projects not being completed. In addition, fourth quarter property tax entitlements have not been posted. The teamsters audit refund and the Veterans Administration stop reimbursement also attributed to the higher-than-expected miscellaneous revenues. The investment interest income has recovered to 90% of budgeted (up from 60-65% of budgeted earlier in the year). Strauss questioned whether ending up consistently under budget reflected errors in budgeting and said the goal should be to post actual numbers closer to the budget. Segal pointed out that close to \$500,000 of one-time projects in FY25 had been moved to FY26. Sheppard moved to recommend approval of the unaudited June financial statements, Wiener seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4.0 Reports and Presentations

4.1 Debt Policy Draft Review

Segal asked for feedback on the draft policy, especially with respect to how the debt manager should be titled. Hess recommended setting a specific role for managing the debt to avoid engaging the board every time a title changes. Segal emphasized that the board would be responsible for ensuring that all debt proposals would be valid and viable. The draft policy would be finalized as policy ahead of issuing debt and reviewed every couple of years for compliance with the state statutes. Strauss requested clarifying the terminology related to the words “assessed” and “taxable” property values to avoid any ambiguities.

Segal noted that serving the debt would be affordable as long as the duration of debt does not exceed the assets of useful life. Strauss observed that the word “affordable” bears further discussion. Wiener suggested that the board would determine assuming debt service in proportion to the net benefit to operations. Segal said debt would not be issued longer than the useful life of the capital asset. Strauss suggested that the staff consider how the debt policy could be misused in the future.

Segal said the policy warrants a revision that defines debt structure, policy practices, proceeds investment and overall debt management. The policy will be revised and presented for adoption prior to issuing any debt.

4.2 Board Reserve Policy Review

Segal said the reserve policy needs to be edited to align with the debt policy and the revisions focus on timing for fleet acquisition and building the new facility forecasted out to ten years. Wiener said the policy dictates that the board needs to think about its facilities long term. Strauss recommended supporting the revisions to the reserve policy, while noting he would be more comfortable with keeping the facilities reserve horizon at a minimum fifteen years.

5.0 Adjournment

Strauss adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.