

**MARCH 19, 2026**

**AMES TRANSIT AGENCY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Ames Transit Agency Board of Trustees met on March 19, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. in the CyRide Conference room. President Boland called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m., with Trustees Junck, Lee, and Neal present.

**APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 18, 2025, AND JANUARY 15, 2026, MINUTES:**

Trustee Norton made a motion to adopt the December 18, 2025, and January 15, 2026, Transit Board minutes as presented; Trustee Neal seconded the motion. (Ayes: 5 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**40' DIESEL BUS PURCHASE CHANGE ORDER:**

Director Neal requested board approval of a change order for the purchase of two 40' diesel buses. In October 2024, the board approved the purchase of two 40' diesel buses from Gillig using the State of Washington contract with a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,256,996. After the contract was awarded, new federal tariff policies and some operational design revisions affected the final vehicle pricing. The combined increase for both buses is \$32,497.82, which is 2.59% of the overall project budget. To address this issue, staff recommended using available STBG funding; therefore, no additional local funding would be required.

Director Neal requested board approval of Alternative #1, to approve the cost-related change order and establish a new total contract amount of \$1,289,493.82 for the purchase of two 40' heavy-duty diesel buses from Gillig LLC of Livermore, California. Approving the change order would be necessary to complete acceptance of the vehicles into the fleet.

Trustee Norton made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Junck seconded the motion. (Ayes: 5 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

**AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF 40' DIESEL BUSES:**

Director Neal requested board approval to purchase six 40' diesel buses. CyRide has been awarded several grants to replace six buses that are 23 years old and past their useful life. Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds were reallocated to support this purchase. Pricing was received from Gillig at \$726,911 per bus for a total contract amount of \$4,361,466.

Director Neal requested board approval of Alternative #1, to approve the award of contract for six 40' heavy-duty diesel buses to Gillig LLC of Livermore, California, for an amount of \$4,361,466, contingent upon approval of the 2026 STBG grant. Replacing the obsolete buses will improve service reliability, reduce fleet emissions, and support CyRide's federal Transit Asset Management plan goals.

Trustee Norton made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Neal seconded the motion.  
(Ayes: 5 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

#### **MONTHLY REPORT:**

**Spring Semester Ridership Update:** Ridership has closely mirrored last year's spring service patterns, with overall system usage trending upward. Total ridership for the first four weeks was up 4.8% compared to the same period last year.

**Dial-A-Ride Survey and Contract:** CyRide is currently conducting the annual Dial-A-Ride survey to gather customer feedback.

**Fuel Update:** Fuel prices have experienced increased volatility recently. CyRide currently anticipates remaining within the overall adopted fuel budget, but will continue to monitor fuel closely and bring action items to the board should fuel pricing approach the budgeted level.

**Ames Intermodal Facility Leases:** The monthly lease rate is based on the Producer Price Index (PPI), with rent adjustments effective July 1. The PPI increased 2.0%, and the FY 2027 lease rates will reflect the 2.0% adjustment.

**Public Transit Management System (PTMS) Bus Replacement Funding:** At the May 12, 2025, Transit Board meeting, the Board approved CyRide's state grant application to replace up to nineteen 40' buses that have exceeded their useful life. The state is currently working with transit systems to finalize project funding allocations, and it will be brought to the board once final award information is available.

**Second Quarterly Report:** The second quarterly report was reviewed.

#### **Spring/Summer meeting dates:**

- April 16, 2026, 4:30 p.m.
- May 21, 2026, 4:30 p.m.
- June 18, 2026, 4:30 p.m.
- July 16, 2026, 4:30 p.m.

**Adjourn:** Trustee Norton made a motion to adjourn at 4:43 p.m.; Trustee Junck seconded the motion.  
(Ayes: 5 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

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Emily Boland, President

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Cheryl Spencer, Recording Secretary