



Public Works Department

Wayne Sandberg, P.E.
Public Works Director, County Engineer

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Deputy Director

**GOLD LINE JOINT POWERS BOARD
MINUTES
April 23, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Karwoski called to order the Gold Line Joint Powers Board (JPB) meeting at 10:37 a.m. The meeting was held in a Conference Room at the Gold Line Project Office, located at 121 7th PI E #102, St. Paul, MN 55101.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chair -- Stan Karwoski, Washington County Commissioner
Vice Chair -- Mai Chong Xiong, Ramsey County Commissioner
Michelle Clasen, Washington County Commissioner
Rafael Ortega, Ramsey County Commissioner

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sara Allen, Mike Rogers, Lyssa Leitner, Aaron Zellmer, Sara Favreau, Patrick Collins, Scott Schwahn, Hoang Truong, Aaron Zellmer

Others Present: Alicia Vap, Steve Barrett, Elizabeth Jones, Morgan Abbott, Stephen Smith, Kathleen Murphy, Jennifer Jordon

Announcements

None.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Action Items

Election of Officers

Chair Karwoski requests nominations for Chair. Commissioner Ortega made a motion to nominate Commissioner Xiong. Commissioner Ortega made a motion to approve the nomination of Commissioner Xiong for Chair. Seconded by Commissioner Clasen. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chair Xiong called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair.

Commissioner Karwoski nominated Commissioner Clasen, seconded by Commissioner Ortega. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was moved by Commissioner Ortega, seconded by Commissioner Clasen. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2024, Meeting was made by Commissioner Clasen, seconded by Commissioner Karwoski. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Approval of the 2025 Gold Line Joint Powers Board Financial Services Agreement

Patrick Collins, Gold Line Joint Powers Board legal counsel, provided an overview of the agreement and offered to answer any questions. No questions were asked.

Commissioner Ortega made a motion to approve the 2025 Gold Line Joint Powers Board Financial Services Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Clasen. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Amendment #1 to the 2025 Gold Line Joint Powers Board Administrative Budget

Aaron Zellmer, Washington County Accounting Division Manager, gave an overview of Amendment #1. The 2024 Administrative Budget is now closed, and as a result of underspending in 2024, a remaining fund balance of \$93,200 remains. The fund balance will reduce the 2025 contributions of each county from \$129,000 to \$82,400. No questions were raised.

Commissioner Clasen made a motion to approve Amendment #1 to the 2025 Gold Line Joint Powers Board Administrative Budget, seconded by Commissioner Ortega. All in favor. Motion carried.

Resolution GLJPB #2025-01, Resolution Recognizing Gold Line Project Director Alicia Vap

Washington County staff, Sara Allen, read the resolution of recognition.

Members of the Gold Line JPB provided congratulations and commendations for Ms. Vap's leadership, bringing the Gold Line through construction and operation. Mary Richardson complemented Ms. Vap, stating that she was one of the best directors she had ever worked with in over 30 years of work with transit projects.

Commissioner Clasen made a motion to approve Resolution GLJPB #2025-01, seconded by Commissioner Ortega. All In favor. Motion carried.

Gold Line Joint Powers Board Communications and Government Relations Update

Brian McClung, of McClung PR, provided an update. The Chambers will continue to be a resource to promote ongoing interest and public engagement. Group rides are also an option, during the summer. Commissioner Karwoski encouraged Mr. McClung to continue utilizing resources for public engagement. Chair Xiong suggested that he use the press, as there are numerous business hubs along the route. Commissioner Clasen would like to see more stories about people using the Gold Line regularly, and feels these stories have a significant impact.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting – August 27, 2025, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM, at the Gold Line Project Office, 121 7th PI E #102, St. Paul, MN 55101.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Favreau, Clerk
