Minutes pending approval until the January 28, 2027 Board Meeting.

SPRTD BOARD MEETING
Cagle Steaks & BBQ, 8732 4th St., Lubbock, TX 79424
October 29, 2026
MINUTES

I. **Call to Order** **6:05PM**
The meeting was called to order by Judge Marty Lucke.

Board Members Present	Board Members Absent
Judge Marty Lucke - Board Chair - Floyd County **Commissioner Eric Sowder** – Bailey County **Commissioner John Hawthorne -** Lynn County **Commissioner Terry Williams -** Scurry County **Commissioner Alan Wisdom -** Hockley County **Judge Tony Serbantez -** Terry County	**Judge Mike Redwine -** Mitchell County **Judge David Mull** – Hale County
Staff Present	**Guest Present**
Brian Baker - Transportation Director **Ashley Bautista -** Business Manager **Janie Corrales**- Transit Supervisor **Samantha Mendoza –** SPCAA Communications Director **Stephanie Rodriguez**-SPCAA Intern	

II. **Acknowledgement of Quorum by Chair**
A quorum was established.

III. **Consideration for Approval of the August 20, 2026 Minutes of the SPRTD Meeting**

A motion was made to approve the August 20, 2026 meeting minutes by Commissioner Alan Wisdom and was seconded by Judge Tony Serbantez.
Motion passed.

IV. **Public Comments**
None

V. **Executive Director's Report**
Mr. Powell was unable to attend this meeting.

VI. **Action Items**
Judge Marty Lucke stated that all action items would be presented and then one motion be made for all 12 of them.

Action Items

1. **Consideration for approval of SPCAA SPARTAN FY 2026 TxDOT PTN 4th Qtr. Financial Monitoring**

   Eric Garcia, TxDOT PTC, came out to SPARTAN for in-person financial monitoring on September 22nd. Mr. Garcia reviews all open grants with the state and he included a note that said the agency has a history of expending all funds before the expiration date. Mr. Garcia also reviewed $76,953.10 worth of expenses. There were no issues and no findings.

2. **Consideration for approval of SPCAA SPARTAN & TxDOT Project Grant Agreement RD 2701 (05) 083_25**

   Brian Baker said this action item is a result of last year's TxDOT coordinated call for projects and it's a competitive call for projects. SPARTAN applied for $469,000 for hardware and compute updates on all IT equipment, not only in our SPARTAN office but our satellite offices as well. SPARTAN described and explained what will be done with the infotainment screens. The application also talks about upgrading the DVRs on the buses. They wrote the contract for $388, 616 and will send the other $80,000 later.

3. **Consideration for approval of SPCAA SPARTAN & TxDOT Project Grant Agreement RUR 2702 (05)**

   The state funds award amount is $920,687. This amount includes the addition of the service expansion dollars as well as the fuel impact money. State funds are very important because they are used to match federal funds.

4. **Consideration for approval of SPCAA SPARTAN & TxDOT Project Grant Agreement RPT 2702 (05) 093_26**

   The federal grant award is $3.7 million dollars. Mr. Baker said SPARTAN will use $774,931 of state dollars to match that award as well as $911,864 of local funding. SPARTAN earns that revenue through broker contracts.

5. **Consideration for approval of SPCAA SPARTAN & TxDOT Project Grant Agreement ED 2701 (05) 081_26**

   Section 5310 funding is transportation funding focusing on elderly and disabled. This agreement is year two funded in the amount of $332,564 and $193,000 of that will be used to pay SPARTAN's mobility managers. $100,000 will go towards preventive maintenance for the fleet and then about $40,000 will fund our five senior citizens centers. Mr. Baker said Cochran County has their vehicle now and is using it to deliver meals and has already provided a few trips.

6. **Consideration for approval of SPCAA SPARTAN & TxDOT Project Grant Agreement DIS 2701 (05) 039_2**

   Section 5339 funding is basically formula funds. This award amount, $162,743, will be for vehicle purchases.

7. **Consideration for approval of SPCAA SPARTAN & TxDOT Project Grant Agreement BBF 2701 (05) 098_26**

   This is also a section 5339 formula grant and the award in the amount of $343,804 will be used for fleet as well.

8. **Consideration of approval of SPCAA SPARTAN Section 5339 Discretionary Application for funding – 2025 Cycle**

   This application for funding is for $180,000. Brian Baker received a call from TxDOT asking if SPARTAN could use an extra $180,000. He said he would use the money to purchase a new vehicle.

9. **Consideration for approval of SPCAA SPARTAN Vehicle Purchase and Procurement Method**

   Brian Baker is requesting approval to purchase 4 revenue vehicles and 1 support vehicle. Two buses will be to replace existing fleet, two vans to expand fleet, one support vehicle, and adding extended warranties for 3 existing fleets. SPARTAN will use the state of Oklahoma contract to purchase vehicles. Masters Transportation is a company that has moved into Texas and SPARTAN will purchase a couple of vans from them. The support vehicle will be purchased using Tx SmartBuy and/or bids.

10. **Consideration for approval of SPCAA SPARTAN Title VI Plan**

    Title VI is a plan that SPCAA SPARTAN maintains and updates every three years. Any entity that receives federal money must ensure that they will not discriminate based on race or national origin. The notice to the public is posted in our facilities and on our vehicles. You also must list any lawsuits or complaints in the last three years and the three years before that. There have been no complaints that meet the criteria for Title VI.

11. **Consideration for approval of SPCAA SPARTAN NEMT Broker Report Cards**

    SPARTAN received an OTP report from SafeRide for the month of August and that percentage was 98% and 99% for the month of September. Ashley Bautista said neither MTM nor Modivcare sent report cards.

12. **Consideration for approval of 2027 Meeting Dates of the South Plains Rural Transit District Board of Directors**

    There were no comments or date change requests at this time.

Judge Marty Lucke entertained a motion for approval of the twelve action items presented.
Judge Tony Serbantez motioned to approve of the twelve action items presented.
Commissioner John Hawthorne seconded the motion.
All in favor motion passed.

VII. Program Reports/Updates and Discussion

1. **Texas Transportation Code – Transit Authority Formation Framework**

Back in 2005 under the Geroge W. Bush administration, there were some federal regulations and laws passed that public transit would coordinate with health and human service entities. What the mandate said was that all health and human service entities helping with low income, children, elderly, unemployed and homeless get together at a frequency that our local group decides and coordinate to reduce duplication and to make sure that you're providing transportation in the most efficient way possible. SPARTAN has participated in coordination groups since 2005. For a while, Citibus was the lead agency and for the last 8-10 years SPAG has been the lead agency. Every five years the coordination group has to update a five-year plan. SPAG hired a consultant called KFH Group. Samantha Mendoza, SPCAA Communications Director, has been participating in these meetings. At the last workshop, a proposal was discussed that this region set up a Regional Transit Authority (RTA). RTAs are generally taxing entities that include metropolitan areas like Dallas or Denver, CO. This transit district is set up under Chapter 458, Rural and Urban Transit Districts.

2. **Outreach Updates and SPARTAN Bus demo**

SPARTAN has received their new fleet and installed infotainment screens. Ms. Mendoza has been working hard on getting content on them. Samantha has also been working with community colleges in the region. She went and visited with staff from Western Texas College in Snyder. They are open to and aware of SPARTAN services. They have a good number of international students at that campus. Given that the students are athletes, the majority of their schedule is classes and then practice. For non-athletes our transportation service is ready and available. However, they were interested in airport trips since students fly out around Thanksgiving where they will finish the semester remotely. Samantha also visited Wayland Baptist in Plainview and SPARTAN's Same Day vehicle was there. SPARTAN currently transports the campus staff as well. As for the infotainment screens, Ms. Mendoza uploaded some basic content. The information on the screen will be very specific to the route that the bus is on. Samantha invited the board members to see a live demo on the bus.

3. **Next SPRTD Meeting: January 28, 2027**

VIII. **Adjourn**

Judge Marty Lucke adjourned the meeting. All members were in favor. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:09PM.

Judge Marty Lucke, Chair SPRTD	*Date*
Commissioner Alan Wisdom, Vice-Chair SPRTD	*Date*