

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority
Minutes of the Finance/Audit Committee

May 19, 2016 at 3 PM
BRTA Intermodal Transportation Center
One Columbus Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201

MINUTES

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Finance/Audit Committee Members present:
Sandra Lamb, North Adams; Peter Gallant, Lanesborough; and Leonard Lipton, Pittsfield
Also present: Robert Malnati and Sarah Vallieres, BRTA staff

1. **Approval of Minutes for April 7, 2016 -VOTE**
Committee members reviewed the minutes of April's meeting. Mr. Lipton made the motion to accept the minutes, was seconded by Mr. Gallant, and approved by all.
2. **State Budget Update**
Mr. Malnati provided the same information as presented in the Administrator's Report for the Board Meeting. The State Budget may be either 81 or 84.1 Million, or somewhere in between.
3. **FY 17 Budget**
Mr. Malnati presented and explained each line item throughout the 2017 draft budget. The HST portion of the budget will remain as draft. Mr. Malnati has asked Boston to submit the HST budget. Until the numbers are received, the HST draft budget was composed of FY 16 brokered service numbers. This is a pass through system and will change this budget once BRTA receives FY 17 amounts. This page will be then issued. Mr. Malnati asked the Finance Committee to vote on the BRTA budget at the Board Meeting as presented and the HST budget as draft. Mr. Malnati asked for the Finance Committees recommendation for the FY 17 budget to the Advisory Board. There were no other questions or comments.
4. **Old Business**
Mr. Gallant asked when the new paratransit service is to start. Mr. Malnati said the Assistant General Manager would start next week and the service would start July 1.
5. **New Business**
Mr. Malnati shared that MassDOT will be conducting an audit as an oversight of all the RTA's and will be at PVTA and BRTA in June for 2 days; a portion of that time with BRTA's auditors. Mr. Malnati will disseminate the results after the completion. Mr. Malnati explained that BRTA is examining how to run later evening service as a pilot program. The surveys of BRTA customers continually come back with needing later evening and Sunday service. Operations is currently looking at the routes and associated costs. Ms. Lamb asked if the buses would still be on the hour and Mr. Malnati responded that Operations is working on this. Mr. Lipton asked if BRTA is transporting to cultural attractions like Tanglewood. Mr. Malnati said that the traffic from Tanglewood is tough; but BRTA is canvassing riders and workers of where they need to go.
6. **Next Meeting**
The next meeting will be September 29, 2016 at 2 PM, with the Board Meeting to follow, to discuss the 2016 Financial Statements with BRTA's auditor.

