

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority  
Finance/Audit Committee Virtual Meeting

August 24, 2021 at 10:00 AM  
BRTA Intermodal Transportation Center  
One Columbus Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201

**Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Finance/Audit Committee Members present:**

Sheila Irvin, Pittsfield; Doug McNally, Windsor; and Sandra Lamb, North Adams  
Also present: Robert Malnati and Sarah Vallieres.

1. **Approval of Minutes for May 27, 2021 -VOTE**

The Finance Committee members reviewed the minutes of May's meeting. D. McNally made the motion to accept the minutes, was seconded by S. Irvin, and approved by all.

2. **FY 22 Budget Updates-Bob**

R. Malnati provided an overview of the proposed budget amendments, which are highlighted yellow from the attached paperwork. The Federal amount went down \$423,368.48 and the operating advance for fixed route went down \$435K. There were many unknowns with the first budget development, including insurance, operations, IT. The majority of the change is with the allocations as there is no longer an HST department. Paratransit's allocation went up due to this. Also in the budget is the PASS training for J. Davine's recertification. The net interest for the borrowing was 0.262% and this budget reflects the actual adjusting entry. This will be reviewed by the Advisory Board, with one caveat as the State budget is currently unknown. The Governor vetoed the budget (about \$200K for BRTA) and the State is waiting for the finalized budget. The net effect to BRTA's budget will be the same, adjusting the State and Federal line items either up or down.

D. McNally illustrated to B. Malnati the idea of presenting the budget to the Advisory Board as a budget with reductions and not as expensive, not losing any services at the beginning. This is a numbers reduction, not a service reduction. This will help stop any potential misinterpretations.

B. Malnati agreed. This budget was conservative with income.

3. **FY 22 Budget - VOTE**

D. McNally made a motion to approve budget as amended, was seconded by S. Lamb, and approved by all.

4. **Old Business**

None

5. **New Business**

B. Malnati discussed the Governor's EO 595 outlining the mandate for employment vaccinations policy creation. This could pose a problem as the RTAs contract out for the provision of service. There was a discussion of ramifications and D. McNally suggested waiting on this a bit as there may be a specific directive to follow.

6. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be September 23, 2021 at 10 AM to review the FY 21 financials. The auditor has requested this be an in-person meeting.