

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority
Minutes of the Finance/Audit Committee

May 8, 2019 at 10 AM
BRTA Intermodal Transportation Center
One Columbus Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201

MINUTES

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Finance/Audit Committee Members present:

Peter Gallant, Lanesborough; Sandy Lamb, North Adams; and Doug McNally, Windsor
Also present: Robert Malnati and Sarah Vallieres, BRTA staff

1. **Approval of Minutes for March 28, 2019 -VOTE**

The Finance Committee members reviewed the minutes of March's meeting. Mr. McNally made the motion to accept the minutes, was seconded by Mr. Gallant, was abstained by Ms. Lamb, and approved by all.

2. **State Budget Update- Bob**

Mr. Malnati shared that last night he received word that the Senate proposed a \$90.5M budget, with \$4.5 of this going to performance grants. This would include a CPI but the base level is \$86M. The House proposed \$86M with no CPI or performance grants, while the Governor proposed \$86M, with \$4M for performance grants, with the base level at \$82M. Mr. Malnati has a call this afternoon to discuss this. The Senate will be discussing this on May 21. Mr. Malnati recommended the Finance Committee meet again before the Advisory Board meeting for the final budget review.

3. **FY 20 Draft Budget- Bob**

Mr. Malnati discussed the Budget 2020 Notes and Assumptions that was passed out to the Committee. In preparation of the budget, BRTA was recommended to use the \$87M funding level. This will be revisited.

Mr. Malnati reviewed the FY20 draft budget line by line. This new budget is a different format, more consistent with the budget year to date financial statements reviewed at the Advisory Board meetings.

Mr. Malnati shared that Ms. Davine has been providing outreach for the Route 11N. She has gone to various supermarkets and will continue to provide outreach which will help increase ridership. Mr. McNally said that word of mouth works well.

Mr. Malnati stated the Advisory Board will vote on a draft HST budget, as HST has not submitted to BRTA their numbers. This is an in and out budget and will balance.

Mr. Gallant asked about interest on credit cards; does BRTA pay them off monthly. Mr. Malnati responded yes. The credit card line item is the cost of the customers paying BRTA with a credit card. There was fraudulent charges on the credit card recently.

BRTA put in a claim and there were no charges.

Mr. Malnati explained at the next Advisory Board meeting this budget will be balanced. There will be minutes, cash reports, budget, taxi ticket program, Administrator's contract, and election of officers. The new innovation ideas will be discussed. MassDOT recently met at the BRTA and they liked the ideas on the board.

4. **Old Business**

No old business.

5. **New Business**

No new business.

6. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be May 23, 2019 at 3:15 PM.