

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority
Finance/Audit Committee

May 23, 2024

In Person

BRTA Boardroom, 2nd Floor, 1 Columbus Avenue, Pittsfield, MA

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Finance/Audit Committee Members present:

Sandra Lamb, North Adams; Sheila Irvin, Pittsfield, and Doug McNally, Windsor.

Also present: Robert Malnati and Sarah Vallieres, BRTA.

R. Malnati called the Finance/Audit Committee meeting to order at 3:15 PM.

1. Approval of Minutes for March 28, 2024 -VOTE

The Finance Committee members reviewed the minutes of the March 28, 2024 meeting. D. McNally made the motion to accept the minutes, was seconded by S. Irvin, and was approved by all.

2. FY 25 Draft BRTA Budget Review

R. Malnati reviewed the FY 25 Budget Assumption and the BRTA FY25 Draft Budget documents with the Finance Committee. The budget is conservative using the Governor's January level-funded budget and the decrease in the Federal apportionment based upon the 2020 census. The grants BRTA was awarded is reflected in the budget (Try Transit, BRTA/PVTA/FRTA Connector, and 2 paratransit grants). For these grants, BRTA will be hiring 2 new fixed route operators and 5 new paratransit operators. BTM ratified the Collective Bargaining Agreement which showed an increase in Operating. This is a 3-year contract and has a more competitive wage. The Fair Share Act funding will cover this increase in costs. Fuel and insurance also contributed to the budget increase. The interest rate for borrowing is programmed at 4.5% based upon research. This budget is a 17.5% increase and includes 4% increase to BRTA Administrative Staff.

Discussion:

It was noted that BRTA is increasing costs, but also increasing service.

3. FY 25 Draft BRTA Budget- VOTE

After discussion on the draft budget review by R. Malnati, D. McNally made the motion to approve and recommend the FY 25 draft budget to the BRTA Advisory Board as presented. This motion was seconded by S. Lamb and was approved by all.

4. Next Meeting

September 26, 2024 at 2 PM

The Finance Committee adjourned at 3:32 PM.

Town	1) Minutes of March 28, 2024	3) FY25 Draft BRTA Budget
North Adams	Yes	Yes
Pittsfield	Yes	Yes
Windsor	Yes	Yes

Meeting Materials

- BRTA Finance/Audit Committee Agenda
- BRTA Finance/Audit Committee Minutes- March 28, 2024

- **BRTA FY25 Budget Assumptions**
- **BRTA FY25 Draft Budget**

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