

BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MEETING OF THE ADVISORY BOARD

February 18, 2025

4:00 PM

BRTA Intermodal Transportation Center, Second Floor Board Room

One Columbus Avenue Pittsfield, MA 01201

**ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

**Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board Members Present:**

Sarah Fontaine, Adams; William Elovirta, Becket; Ray Killeen, Cheshire; John Boyle, Dalton; Mary Reilly, Lanesborough; Frank Abbott, Monterey; Sandra Lamb, North Adams; Mayor Peter Marchetti, Pittsfield; Jamie Minacci, Stockbridge; Douglas McNally, Windsor. Mindi Morin, Lenox arrived after the Minutes to vote.

**Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board Members Absent:**

Bruce Schreiber, Alford; Jeff Levanos, Clarksburg; Melanie Vicneire, Egremont; Neil Olsen, Florida; Benjamin Elliott, Great Barrington; Sherman Derby, Sr., Hancock; Raymond Huntoon, Hinsdale; Andrea Wadsworth, Lee; Brian Tobin, Mt. Washington; Sherri Youngkin, New Ashford; Stuart Lawrence, New Marlborough; Brandi Page, Otis; Terry Walker, Peru; Neal Pilson, Richmond; Justin Kaczowski, Savoy; Nadine Hawver, Sheffield; Michael Case, Washington; Andrew Potter, West Stockbridge; Brian O'Grady, Williamstown, Brian Morrison, and Rider Representative.

**Also, present:** Robert Malnati, Sarah Vallieres, and Barbara White, BRTA; Accem Scott and Bobby Quintos, BTM.

	Voting Shares	Present	
Adams	2.7600	2.7600	
Alford	1.0000	0.0000	
Becket	1.0800	1.0800	
Cheshire	3.6600	3.6600	
Clarksburg	1.0000	0.0000	38.5000 needed for quorum
Dalton	2.4700	2.4700	
Egremont	1.0200	0.0000	
Florida	1.0000	0.0000	
Great Barrington	3.6900	0.0000	44.35 when called to order.
Hancock	1.0000	0.0000	48.77 after Minutes vote.
Hinsdale	1.2900	0.0000	
Lanesborough	2.2900	2.2900	
Lee	3.5500	0.0000	
Lenox	4.4200	4.4200	
Monterey	1.0200	1.0200	
Mt. Washington	1.0000	0.0000	
New Ashford	1.0700	0.0000	
New Marlborough	1.0000	0.0000	
North Adams	6.1500	6.1500	
Otis	1.0000	0.0000	
Peru	1.0400	0.0000	
Pittsfield	20.9300	20.9300	
Richmond	1.0000	0.0000	
Savoy	1.0000	0.0000	
Sheffield	1.0500	0.0000	
Stockbridge	2.9500	2.9500	
Washington	1.0000	0.0000	
West Stockbridge	1.0000	0.0000	
Williamstown	2.5200	0.0000	
Windsor	1.0400	1.0400	
Rider Representative	1.0000	0.0000	
Disability Community	1.0000	0.0000	

1) **ROLL CALL**

D. McNally called the Advisory Board Meeting to order at 4:01 PM stating this meeting will be recorded for the purposes of the notes of the Board Minutes.

2) **ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

R. Malnati shared information about the Connectivity Grant between BRTA, PVTA, and FRTA. R. Caine-PVTA flew to the Pittsburgh area to look at six buses retiring from service. Four will be retiring next month and two near the end of June. These will be the six buses used for this service. Two buses will go to BRTA, two will go to FRTA, and two will go to PVTA. One additional vehicle will be from GATRA (Greater Attleboro Taunton RTA) and he received the title yesterday. This vehicle will be towed to BRTA from Springfield shortly. The final vehicle will come from the MassDOT pool once their procurement for refurbishing the buses is awarded and completed. He reviewed a draft of the grant contract today and the original budget amount needs to be verified. The Secretary of Transportation will fully execute the contract and then BRTA will be able to start using the funds for items like mobile lifts.

D. McNally discussed starting to publish the schedule a couple months in advance, to which R. Malnati agreed. BRTA's micro-transit study conducted by N-CATT has asked if any BRTA Advisory Board member would like to participate in the stakeholder meetings. This would be a remote meeting lasting about 60 minutes. If anyone is interested in participating, please let Bob know.

MassDOT informed BRTA last week that we have been selected for an audit. We are pulling the requested information together and will submit it to DOT in March. Once they receive the packet, they will review, and schedule a site visit.

3) **MINUTES OF JANUARY 30, 2025 MEETING-VOTE**

J. Boyle made a motion to accept the Minutes of January 30, 2025 meeting and J. Minacci seconded the motion. The Minutes of January 30, 2025 meeting were approved with the abstentions of S. Lamb and F. Abbott.

4) **RESOLUTION OF THE ADVISORY BOARD – VOTE**

Mr. McNally stated the Resolution of the Advisory Board was not on the agenda at the last meeting and BRTA needs to submit to FTA mid-March. The BRTA Administrator is able to file applications and execute awards for federal assistance, as well as annual certifications and assurances and other documents FTA may require. FTA informed all recipients that this document must be on file before any grant application will be reviewed. He was asked if it must be done annually. Mr. Malnati remarked, they didn't tell us that, but probably.

M. Morin made the motion to approve the Resolution of the Advisory Board and M. Reilly seconded the motion. All stated aye and the Resolution of the Advisory Board was unanimously approved. J. Minacci asked if this was just for the Federal grants to which R. Malnati remarked yes.

5) **NEXT MEETING DATE/TIME**

R. Malnati scheduled the next meeting for March 27, 2025 at 4:00 PM.

6) **ADJOURNMENT**

J. Boyle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by J. Minacci. All stated aye and the meeting ended at 4:13 PM.

**Meeting Materials:**

BRTA Advisory Board Packet

BRTA Ridership (11 Years)

<b>Town</b>	<b>3) Minutes of the January 30, 2025 Meeting-Vote</b>	<b>4) Resolution of the Advisory Board - Vote</b>	<b>6) Adjournment</b>
Adams	Yes	Yes	Yes
Becket	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cheshire	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dalton	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lanesborough	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lenox	Not Present	Yes	Yes
Monterey	Abstained	Yes	Yes
North Adams	Abstained	Yes	Yes
Pittsfield	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stockbridge	Yes	Yes	Yes
Windsor	Yes	Yes	Yes