



1 **Green Mountain Transit Board of Commissioners**
2 **Meeting June 15, 2021 - 7:30 a.m.**
3 **101 Queen City Road, Burlington VT 05401**
4

6 *The mission of GMT is to promote and operate safe, convenient,*
7 *accessible, innovative, and sustainable public transportation services in*
8 *northwest and central Vermont that reduce congestion and pollution,*
9 *encourage transit oriented development, and enhance the quality of life*
10 *for all.*
11

13 **Attendance**

14 **Board of Commissioners**

15 Bonnie Waninger, Board Chairperson
16 Austin Davis, Commissioner
17 Paul Bohne, Commissioner
18 Bob Buermann, Commissioner
19 Matt Cota, Commissioner
20 Catherine Dimitruk, Commissioner
21 Chapin Kaynor, Commissioner
22 Meg Polyte, Commissioner
23 John Sharrow, Commissioner
24 Chapin Spencer, Commissioner
25 Amy Brewer, Alt. Commissioner
26 Tom Derenthal, Alt. Commissioner
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31 **GMT Staff**

32 Jon Moore, General Manager
33 Nick Foss, Director of Finance
34 Trish Redalieu, Director of Human
35 Resources
36 Jamie Smith, Director of Planning and
37 Marketing
38 Matt Kimball, Capital Projects Manager
39 Kim Wall, Grant Manager
40 Ed Adrian, Legal Counsel
41 Chris Damiani, Transit Planner
42 Devin Mason, Transit Planner
43 Pam McDonald, Accounting Coordinator
44 Karen Plante, Staff Accountant

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45 **Open Meeting**

46 **Chairperson Waninger** opened the meeting at 7:31 AM.
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48 **Adjustment of the Agenda**

49 None.
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52 **Public Comment**

53 None.
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55 **Consent Agenda (Action Item)**

56 **Commissioner Dimitruk** motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. **Commissioner Wallis**
57 **seconded**, and the motion was unanimously approved.
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59 **South Burlington Commissioner Matt Cota Introduction**

- 60 • New Commissioner from South Burlington, replacing Commissioner Charlie Baker, who
61 moved out of South Burlington.
62 • Served on South Burlington’s Development Review Board for five years.
63 • Elected to South Burlington City Council in March and was appointed to the GMT board
64 in Former Commissioner Baker’s place.
65 • Runs a trade association based in Montpelier.
66 • **GMT Commissioners and Staff** introduced themselves to **Commissioner Cota**.

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68 **VTrans Update**

69 **Ross MacDonald** absent. No update given.
70

71 **General Manager Report – Updates and Opportunity for Questions on the Report (Cont.**
72 **Next Page)**

73 General Manager, Jon Moore, provided an update regarding Neighborhood Special services
74 and union negotiations.
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76 **Commissioner Bohne** was disappointed by the Proterra analysis and requested that Jon
77 Moore expand on Maintenance and Operations’ views on the buses. **Jon Moore:** Staff were
78 trained on the buses in May, but the buses are still experiencing some reliability issues. No
79 towing, however.
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81 **Alt. Commissioner Derenthal:** Is it practice to create an annual report? If so, what is in that
82 report? Lastly, would there be a comparison between this year and previous fiscal years? **Jon**
83 **Moore:** GMT compiles annual reports to share with municipalities in their annual Town
84 Meeting Day reports.
85

86 **Commissioner Sharrow:** Regarding electric buses rural areas, what are our options, as far
87 as manufacturers? **Jon Moore:** Currently, there are no small electric vehicles (cutaway or
88 Sprinter-type) that have undergone the Altoona testing required by the Federal Transit
89 Administration; however, several are scheduled to undergo such testing within the
90 approximately next 12 months. **Matt Kimball:** GMT issued an award to DATTCO, who
91 provides GMT with petroleum-powered buses. GMT is looking at an electric Turtle Top bus
92 that is currently undergoing Altoona testing. While there is one small electric bus currently
93 available, it is more expensive than the petroleum-powered buses.
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99 **General Manager Report – Updates and Opportunity for Questions on the Report (Cont.**
100 **from Previous Page)**

101 **Commissioner Kaynor:** Is the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) taking a role
102 in the procurement of the rural EVs, as they did with the Proterra buses? **Jon Moore:** Yes.

103
104 **Commissioner Kaynor:** How about with data analysis? **Matt Kimball:** Yes, though the
105 Proterra buses will likely need to accumulate more mileage for more meaningful results.
106 Reliability issues over the past year have also contributed to this lack of data. **Jon Moore:**
107 There will also be opportunity for cross-comparison between other manufacturers, as
108 Advance Transit purchased an electric Gillig, and the Marble Valley Regional Transit District
109 (dba “The Bus”) will also be purchasing an electric bus (manufacturer to be determined).

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111 **Commissioner Spencer** would like to have a subgroup of Burlington commissioners to meet
112 and manage this issue to the furthest possible degree.

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114 **Board Committee Reports (Cont. Next Page)**

115 **Chairperson Waninger – Leadership Committee:** Most May Leadership Committee work
116 will be discussed later in today’s meeting. One such item not on the agenda pertains to a
117 service request from the town of Milton, and how the request should be viewed in light of
118 GMT’s service expansion and reinstatement policies.

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120 **Commissioner Sharrow – Operations Committee:** Discussed the Transportation Asset
121 Management Plan, as well as GMT’s provision of student transportation.

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123 **Commissioner Bohne – Finance Committee:** Third-Quarter financial report will be
124 discussed later in today’s meeting.

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126 **Commissioner Buermann – Strategy Committee:** Took a month off after significant work in
127 the previous month.

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129 **Commissioner Polyte – Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee:** Was
130 absent for the June JEDI Committee meeting. **Devin Mason:** Committee discussed Advisory
131 Committee recruitment strategies and opportunities. **Chairperson Waninger:** Has the
132 Committee received any Advisory Committee applications? **Commissioner Polyte:** One
133 application has been received *. **Jamie Smith:** Two individuals from the Old Spokes Home
134 may also be interested.

135 **Commissioner Polyte** would like to see applicants from GMT’s rural service area, to help
136 balance representation on the Advisory Committee.

137 **Jon Moore** provided a brief update on the consultant’s work plan, including surveys and
138 upcoming trainings.



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Board Committee Reports (Cont. from Previous Page)

Commissioner Dimitruk: Could GMT advertise aboard its rural buses to recruit rural Advisory Committee members. **Jamie Smith:** Planning and Marketing are currently evaluating this potential.

Chairperson Waninger: Are we aiming for our Elderly and Disabled (federal categorization) as well as fixed-route passengers? **Jamie Smith:** Yes, all passengers.

*Devin Mason was informed by a coworker/colleague that the Committee may soon receive applications from two additional interested individuals, but no such applications have yet been received.

Board Officer Elections Discussion

Commissioner Kaynor: While board officer elections occur annually, members typically serve two consecutive terms, for continuity purposes.

Chairperson Waninger requested that the board extend Jon Moore’s contract by two months, to clear the union negotiation process.

Commissioner Polyte motioned that Jon Moore’s contract be extended by two months. **Commissioner Spencer** seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cota would be glad to serve on any committees on which Former Commissioner Baker served.

Commissioner Wallis: Does GMT have an August board meeting? **Chairperson Waninger:** Yes.

FY21 Quarter 3 Financials Review

Nick Foss, Director of Finance, provided a review of GMT’s third-quarter financials.

Commissioner Wallis: For operations expenses, how much of our net position is cost recovery, and can this be banked? **Nick Foss:** It is only cost recovery, which cannot be banked.

Chairperson Waninger: Will local assessments fall to the Strategy Committee, or the Finance Committee? **Jon Moore:** Likely both.



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Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan Update (Action Item)

Matt Kimball provided an overview of the Transit Asset Management Plan.

Commissioner Kaynor motioned for approval of the TAM Plan. **Commissioner Bohne** seconded.

Discussion:

Commissioner Spencer: Is there guidance on how we should consider our capital assets each year, prior to approving the annual capital budget? **Matt Kimball:** Not specifically, but given that the study period for the plan has been extended by one year, this is one potential and intended component.

TAM Plan approved unanimously, without further discussion.

Executive Session: 1 VSA 313(a) (1) (b), labor relations agreements with employees.

Is there a motion to find that premature public knowledge regarding Collective Bargaining negotiations would place GMT at a substantial disadvantage?

Commissioner Buermann motioned. **Commissioner Sharrow** seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Is there a motion to enter executive session pursuant to 1 VSA 313(a) (1) (b) to discuss labor relations agreements with employees inviting the General Manager, Jon Moore, the Director of Finance, Nick Foss, and Legal Counsel, Ed Adrian?

Commissioner Bohne motioned. **Commissioner Spencer** seconded.

Commissioner Kaynor: Does the list of people to invite into executive session reflect Jon Moore's wishes? **Jon Moore:** Yes.

Motion passed unanimously, without further discussion, and executive session began at 8:35 AM.

No action was taken.

Commissioner Wallis motioned to exit executive session. **Commissioner Davis** seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the Board exited executive session at 9:51 AM.

General Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Buermann: With the expiration of the Governor's state of emergency, GMT may no longer hold fully-remote meetings; there must be a designated physical location where members of the public may attend public meetings in-person.

Chairperson Waninger: Will GMT be ready to hold hybrid meetings beginning in July? **Jon Moore:** GMT is still testing the technology but anticipates being ready.

Commissioner Cota provided a link to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns' FAQ on the lifting of the state of emergency.



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Adjourn

Commissioner Davis motioned to adjourn. **Commissioner Spencer** seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:54 AM.

Next GMT Board of Commissioners Meeting Date: July 20, 2021

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