



1                   **Green Mountain Transit Board of Commissioners Minutes**  
2                                   **February 21, 2023 - 7:30 a.m.**  
3                                   **101 Queen City Road, Burlington VT 05401**

4  
5       *The mission of GMT is to promote and operate safe, convenient, accessible,*  
6       *innovative, and sustainable public transportation services in northwest and*  
7       *central Vermont that reduce congestion and pollution, encourage transit-*  
8       *oriented development, and enhance the quality of life for all.*  
9

10  
11       **Present:**

12       Commissioner Bob Buermann, Grand Isle County  
13       Alternate Commissioner Chapin Kaynor, Williston  
14       Jamie Smith, Director of Planning and Marketing  
15       Clayton Clark, General Manager  
16       Commissioner Paul Bohne, Essex  
17       Jon Moore, Assistant General Manager  
18       Alternate Commissioner Tom Derenthal, Burlington  
19       Chris Damiani, Senior Transit Planner  
20       Stephanie Reid, Director of Human Resources  
21       Tammy Masse, Controller  
22       Debbie Coppola, Controller  
23       Ash LaBombard, Marketing Coordinator  
24       Commissioner Denis Barton, Shelburne  
25       Tim Bradshaw, VTrans  
26       Commissioner Henry Bonges, Milton  
27       Nick Foss, Director of Finance  
28       Erika Osorio, Transit Data Analyst  
29       Commissioner Chapin Spencer, Burlington  
30       Commissioner Amy Brewer, Williston  
31       Matt Kimball, Director of Grants and Project Development  
32       Commissioner Eric Covey, Winooski  
33       Commissioner Catherine Dimitruk, Franklin County  
34       Commissioner Christian Meyers, Washington County  
35       Commissioner Phil Pouech, Hinesburg  
36       Miranda MacDonald Bushey, Rom Smith and Associates



40 **Open Meeting**

41 Commissioner Bohne opened the meeting at 7:34AM.

42

43 **Adjustment of the Agenda**

44 GM Clark requested that an executive session related to personnel be added  
45 to the agenda.

46

47 Commissioner Spencer made a motion to accept the adjustment,  
48 Commissioner Barton seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

49

50 **Public Comment**

51 None

52

53 **Consent Agenda (Action Item)**

54 Commissioner Spencer made a motion to accept the consent agenda and  
55 expressed appreciation for the staff contributions, Commissioner Barton  
56 seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

57

58 **VTrans Update, Including Route Performance**

59 Tim Bradshaw said VTrans recently conducted a deep dive into the budget  
60 with the legislature and it's looking unlikely that there is funding for zero fare  
61 to continue. VTrans and GMT are working actively on getting fares in place,  
62 and VTrans is working on a number of potential options to assist GMT.

63

64 Tim Bradshaw then gave an update on the route performance report.

65

66 Commissioner Barton asked if there was any way to describe the push back  
67 received from the House Transportation Committee? Tim Bradshaw noted  
68 that there was nothing specific to GMT.

69

70 Alternate Commissioner Kaynor thanked staff for the update on the route  
71 improvements made so far, and gave a brief update on some low income  
72 housing that is planned along Route 10.

73

74 Commissioner Spencer thanked VTrans for the update and noted that this  
75 seems like an ideal time to gain House Transportation support on a regional  
76 funding model.

77

78 **General Manager Report**

79 GM Clark gave an update on a number of items in the written GM report.



80

81 **Board Committee Reports**

82 Strategy Committee: Commissioner Buermann reported the committee  
83 discussed the transit strategic plan and next steps for the committee.

84

85 Operations Committee: AGM Moore reported the committee discussed the  
86 maintenance lift RFP, farebox replacement plans, and a staffing/recruitment  
87 plan.

88

89 JEDI: GM Clark reported the committee met and reviewed ADA and Title VI  
90 programs and discussed revisiting the committee idea list.

91

92 Leadership: Commissioner Brewer reported the committee reviewed the GM  
93 Report, Board Agenda and the organizational assessment.

94

95 Finance: Commissioner Bohne reported the committee discussed items in the  
96 packet and the Medicaid program.

97

98 **Action: Auditor's Report**

99 Miranda MacDonald presenting the audit report. Commissioner Bohne made  
100 a motion to approve the audit, Commissioner Dimitruk seconded the motion.  
101 All were in favor and the motion carried.

102

103 **Legislative Strategy Regarding Zero-Fare**

104 GM Clark gave an update on GMT's Legislative strategy. Commissioner  
105 Dimitruk asked what support GMT needed from Board members. GM Clark  
106 said that it would be helpful for Commissioners to use existing relationships  
107 and connections to help keep GMT's message consistent.

108

109 Commissioner Barton asked at what point is GMT at the point of no return?  
110 GM Clark noted that GMT is past the point of no return.

111

112 Commissioner Spencer noted that the City of Burlington has an interest in  
113 continued fare free service, but Commissioner Spencer agrees with GMT and  
114 VTrans leadership on the path forward. Commissioner Spencer also asked for  
115 GMT and Board leadership to focus on larger funding issues.

116

117 Commissioner Pouech said that long term fare free is hard sell, but there  
118 seems to be support for delaying the reinstatement of fares in an effort to find an  
119 equitable path forward.



120

121 **Recruitment of Commissioners/Alternates**

122 This should be postponed due to Austin not being at the meeting.

123

124 **Executive Session**

125 Commissioner Dimitruk made a motion to enter executive session pursuant to  
126 1 VSA 313(a)(3) to discuss a personal matter, inviting in Clayton Clark and  
127 Stephanie Reid, Commissioner Pouech seconded. All were in favor and the  
128 Board entered executive session at 8:56AM.

129

130 Commissioner Bohne made a motion to exit the executive session,  
131 Commissioner Spencer seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

132

133 The board exited the executive session at 9:17AM with no action taken.

134

135 **General Commissioner Comments**

136 Alternate Commissioner Kaynor asked about the Commissioner bios and  
137 encourages Board Commissioners to ride the bus. Alternate Commissioner  
138 Kaynor also noted that attendance has been low at meetings and encouraged  
139 Commissioners to continue participating!

140

141 Commissioner Brewer stated intention to start riding buses with kids in an  
142 effort to become more familiar with the system and service.

143

144 Alternate Commissioner Derenthal complimented the Org assessment  
145 document and noted that GMT might want to consider adding a part stating  
146 GMT's goals for the future.

147

148 Commissioner Barton echoed Alternate Commissioner Kaynor's suggestion to  
149 ride the bus and said encouraging state and town leaders to ride the bus is  
150 also important.

151

152 **Adjourn**

153 Commissioner Dimitruk made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Barton  
154 seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting ends at  
155 9:24AM.