



1 **Green Mountain Transit Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**
2 **April 18, 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, innovative, and*
6 *sustainable public transportation services in northwest and central Vermont that reduce*
7 *congestion and pollution, encourage transit-oriented development, and enhance the quality*
8 *of life for all.*
9

10 **Present:**

- 11 Commissioner Austin Davis, Winooski
- 12 Commissioner Paul Bohne, Essex Town
- 13 Commissioner Phil Pouech, Hinesburg
- 14 Alt. Commissioner Tom Derenthal, Burlington
- 15 Commissioner Bob Buermann, Grand Isle County
- 16 Commissioner Denis Barton, Shelburne
- 17 Alt. Commissioner Chapin Kaynor, Williston
- 18 Commissioner Catherine Dimitruk, Franklin County
- 19 Commissioner Henry Bonges, Milton
- 20 Commissioner Andrew Brown, City of Essex Junction
- 21 Commissioner Tasha Wallis, Lamoille County
- 22 Commissioner Amy Brewer, Williston
- 23 Commissioner Christian Meyer, Washington County
- 24 Commissioner Chapin Spencer, Burlington
- 25 Commissioner Matt Cota, South Burlington
- 26 Clayton Clark, General Manager
- 27 Jamie Smith, Dir. of Planning and Marketing
- 28 Tim Bradshaw, Director of Rural Operations
- 29 Stephanie Reid, Director of Human Resources
- 30 Tammy Masse, Controller
- 31 Nick Foss, Director of Finance
- 32 Debbie Coppola, Controller
- 33 Chris Damiani, Senior Transit Planner
- 34 Jon Moore, Assistant General Manager
- 35 Ross MacDonald, VTrans
- 36 Ed Adrian, Legal Counsel

37
38 **Members of the Public:**

- 39 Jake Hemmerick, Barre City Mayor
- 40



- 41 Michael Boutin, Barre City
- 42 Michael Deering, Barre City
- 43 Teddy Waszazak, Barre City
- 44 Samm Stockwell (Barre)
- 45 David Delcore (Barre)
- 46 Emel Cambel (Barre)
- 47 Jesse Rosado, (Barre)
- 48 Nicolas Storellicastro (Barre)

49

50 **Open Meeting**

51 Chair Davis opened the meeting at 7:31 AM.

52

53 **Adjustment of the Agenda**

54 None

55

56 **Public Comment**

57 Jesse Rosado gave a public comment about the return of service to Barre
58 City.

59

60 **Consent Agenda (Action Item)**

61 Commissioner Bohne made a motion to approve, Commissioner Dimitruk
62 seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

63

64 **Discussion: Barre City Council**

65 Mayor Hemmerick addressed the Board of Commissioners about the issue of
66 service reductions in Barre City noting that 15% of Barre City residents live
67 without a car. Mayor Hemmerick expressed interest in finding a path forward
68 together.

69

70 Barre City would like GMT to provide financial information for the
71 municipalities, and information on joining the Authority as a member
72 community.

73

74 Chair Davis and GM Clark addressed Mayor Hemmerick's questions and
75 committed to providing information and weekly updates to Barre City.

76

77 **VTrans Update**

78 Ross MacDonald spoke about the investments from the state, including a
79 microtransit service in Barre.

80



81 VTrans submitted the Low-No grant application last week which consisted
82 entirely of 17 large battery electric vehicles for GMT. VTrans was able to
83 provide a letter of assurance that the vehicles could be allocated to other
84 providers if GMT was unable to use them in Chittenden County.

85
86 Ross also gave an overview of Legislative testimony and said VTrans looks
87 forward to moving forward with updated fare policies and fare restoration.

88

89 **General Manager's Report**

90 Talked about the increased capacity

91

92 **Committee Reports**

93 Finance: Commissioner Bohne reported the committee met to discuss the
94 rebalancing of ADA assessments and the State Grant application. The
95 Committee will continue to discuss ADA Assessments at the May meeting
96 and noted that there may be an issue due to Charter language.

97

98 Chair Davis acknowledged that there are likely several Charter amendments
99 that need to be made and asked Commissioners to provide feedback and
100 ideas via email for future conversation.

101

102 Strategy: Commissioner Buermann reported the committee discussed the
103 recent strategic plan and the need for a Board retreat focused on the 2. 5.
104 10-year vision for GMT.

105

106 JEDI: GM Clark reported the committee met to discuss employee
107 engagement and the potential need for a DEI position on staff. Chair Davis
108 said the CCRPC just hired a person to focus on DEI and GMT should reach
109 out to see if there are ways to partner.

110

111 **Action: State Grant Application**

112 Director Kimball gave an overview of the state grant application.

113

114 Commissioner Dimitruk asked how the application addressed resolving LINK
115 Express service to Franklin County, St. Albans microtransit follow-up, and how
116 was the equity screen conducted. Commissioner Brewer expressed support
117 for the equity screen.

118



119 Director Smith noted that Franklin County connectivity and St. Albans
120 microtransit were both included in the planning section of the application
121 and would be a focus for FY24.

122

123 Commissioner Bohne made a motion to approve the State Grant Application
124 as presented, Commissioner Wallis seconded. All were in favor and the
125 motion carried.

126

127 **Discussion: Genfare Link Fare System Overview**

128 Director Smith gave an overview of the Genfare Link system, noting that GMT
129 doesn't yet have the answers to every question. Director Smith also gave an
130 overview of meetings with CDTA (Albany) and Vermont Foodbank. Staff is
131 committed to finding a path forward that has the least amount of impact on
132 riders.

133

134 **Discussion: Fair Fares**

135 GM Clark gave an update on the legislative process. GM Clark also talked
136 about the internal work being conducted, including the fair fare kick-off
137 retreat.

138

139 **Executive Session to Discuss Litigation**

140 Commissioner Brewer made a motion to enter executive session and invited
141 in GM Clark, Director Smith, Director Reid and Ed Adrian, Commissioner
142 Pouech seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. The Board
143 entered executive session at 9:24AM.

144

145 Commissioner Dimitruk made a motion to exit executive session,
146 Commissioner Barton seconded. All were in favor and the Board exited
147 executive session at 9:32Am with not action taken.

148

149 Commissioner Dimitruk made a motion to accept the settlement agreement
150 between GMT and Pamela Delphia in the amount of \$10,000 for full release,
151 Commissioner Brewer seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

152

153 **Board of Commissioner Comments**

154 Commissioner Barton found a replacement for his role on the board, Susan
155 Grasso. Susan is an active community member focused on transportation
156 and intermodal connection. Commissioner Barton will officially resign from
157 the board as of May 1, 2023.

158



159 Commissioner Brewer talked about recent bus riding adventures with a friend
160 and their kids. So far, the experience has been easy and very positive!

161

162 Commissioner Bohne recognized Commissioner Barton's contribution to the
163 board and to policy and procedure that still exist today. Many others offered
164 well-wishes to Commissioner Barton!

165

166 **Adjourn**

167 Commissioner Bohne made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Wallis
168 seconded. All were in favor and the meeting ended at 9:37AM.