



GMT Special Board Minutes

Date: January 29, 2018
Time: 7:30 AM
Place: GMT Board Room
15 Industrial Parkway
Burlington, VT 05401

Present:

Tom Chittenden, Chair, South Burlington
Bonnie Waninger, Vice Chair, Washington County
Paul Bohne, Treasurer, Essex
Chapin Kaynor, Commissioner, Williston (via telephone)
Bob Buermann, Commissioner, Grand Isle County
John Sharrow, Commissioner, Milton
Catherine Dimitruk, Commissioner, Franklin County
Tasha Wallis, Commissioner, Lamoille County
Phil Pouech, Commissioner, Hinesburg
Chapin Spencer, Commissioner, Burlington
Ray Coffey, Alternate Commissioner Winooski (via telephone)
Denis Barton, Commissioner, Secretary

Mark A. Sousa, General Manager
Michelle Daley, Director of Finance and Grants
Patricia Redalieu, Director of Human Resources–
Jon Moore, Director of Transportation
Jamie Smith, Marketing and Public Affairs Manager
Kimberly Wall, Grants Manager
Matt Kimball, Capital Projects Manager
Matthew Young, HR Coordinator
Cari Whittemore, Executive Assistant

Members of the Public:

Ross MacDonald, VTrans
Barbara Donovan, VTrans

1. Open Meeting-

Chair Chittenden opened the meeting at 7:30 AM. A quorum of the Board was present.



2. Adjustment to the Agenda-

Chair Chittenden would like to leave more time for the Executive Session. Chair Chittenden reads opening remarks which included an apology to the stakeholders for any surprise that the budget shortfall may have caused due to lack of communications. Looking forward, Chair Chittenden intends to focus on improving communications and relations with all parties. Chair Chittenden supports further analyzing and considering lower administrative and overhead cost opportunities at GMT. He stated he would also welcome any support, guidance or leadership VTrans might have on their priorities in the coming year. Chair Chittenden commended on the talented General Manager, executive team, administrative staff, drivers and all the employees of GMT.

Mr. Sousa addressed a letter from VTrans dated January 24, 2019 and that a very positive and productive conversation with Michele Boomhower had occurred. Mr. Sousa stated that GMT currently meets monthly with VTrans staff and will continue to do so and work to facilitate a more cohesive partnership.

Commissioner Wallis asked that the Board review each paragraph of the VTrans letter. Chair Chittenden acknowledged Commissioner Wallis's concern and stated that he would rather wait until the February 12th meeting as he would like to leave time for the Executive Session. Commissioner Wallis agreed.

3. Public Comment -

No Public comment

7:39 Commissioner Buermann entered.

5. FY20 Budget Discussion*-

Mr. Sousa explains that the board needs to vote on the budget on February 12th. Commissioner Spencer asked if the vote would be to freeze the Barre shuttle or would the vote be to start the process of freeze service. Mr. Sousa stated that the vote would be to freeze service.

Ms. Daley presents and explains the updated memo that was requested at the last board meeting.

Commissioner Wallis would like a line item added for efficiency savings. She noted that she doesn't need an actual number for the savings but would like it there as a reminder of GMT's goal for efficiency savings. Chair Chittenden suggested a line for efficiencies and NextGen savings. Ms. Daley added discussed line items.

Commissioner Spencer requested an explanation of the 10 hour rule. Mr. Moore gave a brief description.



Mr. Moore stated that he hopes to have a NextGen summary available at the February 12th board meeting. Mr. Moore explained that NextGen will be a plan with phases.

8:23 am Attorney Ed Adrian entered

Conversation regarding the fare increase opened. Commissioner Waninger asked if the board would have to officially vote for the fare increase. Mr. Moore explained that the process would be to go through the regular public process by warning a meeting, taking in public opinion and then bringing the fare increase to the board.

Atty. Ed Adrian, stated that the 10 hour rule is actually an Attachment A to the charter and never officially adopted. However, Atty Adrian's position is that GMT and the board proceed as the attachment is written. He suggested that GMT could reach out to the public, warn a meeting and then bring that input back to the board for a vote.

Commissioner Dimitruk asks if there is anything that VTrans would like to add. Barbara Donovan, representing VTrans stated her concern that she did not see any mention of increasing ridership in the memo presented by Ms. Daley. Ms. Donovan stated that she did not want it to be assumed that VTrans will cover any shortfall that GMT has. They are a state wide funding source and GMT's request would be considered as any other. Ms. Donovan stated that any alternative funding GMT could get would be helpful.

Chair Chittenden added that UVM is interested in becoming more involved with GMT's ridership program and trying to get their students to utilize the bus for their transportation needs.

Commissioner Dimitruk made a motion to endorse the budget memo direction authored by Ms. Daley with changes made in today's meeting to propose the FY20 budget for the February 12th board meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Waninger. Motion carried.

6. GM Evaluation (Executive Session) -the following minutes were provided by Commissioner Waninger:

8:45 am Catherine Dimitruk moved to enter Executive Session with inclusion of attorney Ed Adrian; Tasha Wallis seconded. Motion carried

Paul Bohne moved to exit Executive Session at 9:45 am; Chapin Spencer seconded. Motion carried. No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

Next GMT meeting date: February 19th, 2019 @ 7:30 am at GMT



11. Adjourn – the following minutes were provided by Commissioner Waninger:

Paul Bohne moved to adjourn at 9:47 am; Denis Baron seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Denis Barton, Secretary