



1                                   **Leadership Committee Meeting Minutes**  
2                                   **September 11, 2023 | 11:00 AM**  
3                                   **101 Queen City Road, Burlington VT 05401**  
4                                   **Hybrid in-person and Zoom**

---

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

---

10   **Present:**

11   Jamie Smith, Director of Planning & Marketing  
12   Nick Foss, Director of Finance  
13   Commissioner Paul Bohne, Essex  
14   Clayton Clark, General Manager  
15   Commissioner Austin Davis, Winooski  
16   Matt Kimball, Director of Grants & Capital Projects  
17   Commissioner Bob Buermann, Grand Isle County  
18   Ash LaBombard, Marketing and Outreach Coordinator  
19   Jon Moore, Assistant General Manager  
20   Commissioner Amy Brewer, Williston  
21   Commissioner Catherine Dimitruk, Franklin County

23   **Open Meeting**

24   Chair Davis opened the meeting at 11:02 AM.

26   **Adjustment of the Agenda**

27   None

29   **Public Comment**

30   None

32   **Approval of Committee Minutes**

33   Commissioner Brewer made a motion to approve the July minutes with edits;  
34   Commissioner Bohne seconded. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

36   **Feedback on Fare Plan**

37   GM Clark provided an overview of public feedback staff received during the  
38   series of meetings held in August regarding the resumption of fares.

39   Generally, people were receptive of the proposed changes. GM Clark went  
40   onto explain that fares won't be able to resume in January as proposed due  
41   to delays with getting specific functionalities and systems live. Additionally,



42 GM Clark and Director Smith provided recommendations and nuisances that  
43 were not a part of the draft plan including:

- 44 • SSTA recommendation to have their rate set at \$3 a trip instead of \$4
- 45 • Having the 116 Commuter, a route shared with Tri-Valley Transit, to  
46 remain fare free
- 47 • The City of Burlington's resolution to make the City Loop fare free prior  
48 to the pause in fare collection

49

#### 50 **Board Retreat**

51 GM Clark provided a brief overview of the board retreat agenda including  
52 an icebreaker, a tour of the facility, and internal discussion topics.

53

#### 54 **Battery Buses**

55 Chair Davis opened this item by providing concerns he received from  
56 employees and the Board regarding the transition to battery electric buses.  
57 GM Clark opened the discussion by speaking to specific challenges we face  
58 looking at this transition, including:

- 59 • Having the required electricity to the building to charge buses
- 60 • Having necessary fire safety systems in place in case of fire, including  
61 water retention due to toxic runoff associated with battery fires
- 62 • Needing to increase fleet size due to lower reliability, and if we have  
63 the space and required staff to accommodate this

64

65 Commissioners shared concerns about fire safety and the political pressure  
66 for climate friendly solutions. Leadership feels it is necessary to hold those  
67 pushing for electrification to be involved in finding solutions to these  
68 challenges moving forward.

69

#### 70 **Board Meeting Agenda**

71 GM Clark provided an overview of the board agenda for September 19,  
72 2023. Chair Davis asked for items related to Board elections and the Board  
73 retreat agenda to be added.

74

#### 75 **Executive Session to Discuss Contract Negotiations**

76 Commissioner Bohne made a motion to enter executive session to discuss  
77 contract negotiations inviting in GM Clark, AGM Moore, Director Kimball,  
78 Director Foss, and Director Smith. Commissioner Brewer seconded. All were in  
79 favor and the committee entered executive session at 11:54AM.

80

81



82 Commissioner Buermann made a motion to exit executive session.  
83 Commissioner Bohne seconded. All were in a favor and committee exited  
84 executive session at 12:02PM with no action taken.

85

86 **Commissioner Comments**

87 None

88

89 **Adjourn**

90 The meeting ended at 12:02 PM.