



Green Mountain Transit Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2023 – 7:30 a.m.
101 Queen City Road, Burlington VT 05401

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

Present:

Commissioner Austin Davis, Winooski
Commissioner Henry Bonges, Milton
Commissioner Amy Brewer, Williston
Commissioner Susan Grasso, Shelburne
Commissioner Michael Scanlan, South Burlington
Commissioner Chapin Spencer, Burlington
Commissioner Paul Bohne, Essex
Commissioner Andrea Suozzo, Burlington
Commissioner Bob Buermann, Grand Isle County
Commissioner Christian Meyer, Washington County
Commissioner Phil Pouech, Hinesburg
Commissioner Tasha Wallis, Lamoille County
Alternate Commissioner Judy Rosenstreich, Shelburne
Alternate Commissioner Alice Peal, Washington County
Alternate Commissioner Chapin Kaynor, Williston
Connor Smith, Project Coordinator
Jamie Smith, Director of Planning and Marketing
Chris Damiani, Senior Transit Planner
Clayton Clark, General Manager
Jon Moore, Assistant General Manager
Nick Foss, Director of Finance
Stephanie Reid, Director of Human Resources
Tim Bradshaw, Director of Rural Transportation
Matt Kimball, Director of Grants and Project Development
Tammy Masse, Controller
Curtis Clough, President of Teamsters Local 597
Doug Moyes, Driver and Berlin Union Steward
Dan Currier, VTrans
Steve Falbel, Steadman Hill Consulting



41 Emel Cambel, Barre City
42 Jake Hemmerick, Barre City
43 Michael Deering, Barre City
44 Nicolas Storellicastro, Barre City
45 Teddy Waszazak, Barre City
46 Thom Lauzon, Barre City
47 Jesse Rosado, Barre City
48 Michael Boutin, Barre City
49 Samn Stockwell, Barre City
50 Marianne Ward, Member of the Public

51

52 **Open Meeting**

53 Chair Davis opened the meeting at 7:30AM.

54

55 **Adjustment of the Agenda**

56 Commissioner Bonges could like to discuss solar panels for cost savings, GM
57 Clark asked to add that to the agenda for next month.

58

59 **Public Comment**

60 Marianne Ward offered a public comment on some concerns she has with
61 bus service.

62

63 Jesse Rosado offered public comment on the bus service cuts, including
64 connections to Waterbury Commuter.

65

66 **Consent Agenda (Action Item)**

67 Commissioner Brewer made a motion to approve the consent agenda,
68 Commissioner Bohne seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

69

70 **Presentation: City Commuter Service Request – Barre City**

71 Nicolas Storellicastro made a request to restore the first and last trips on the
72 City Commuter and gave an update on the impacts of the service
73 reductions. Mayor Hemmerick thanked the GMT Board of Commissioners for
74 their consideration to restore these services.

75

76 **Discussion: City Commuter Service Request**

77 Chris Damiani gave a brief presentation on potential ridership increases.

78

79 Tim Bradshaw gave a brief presentation on the continued staffing
80 challenges.



Doug Moyes and Curtis Clough gave an update on the staffing challenges from the perspective of current drivers.

Director Foss gave a brief presentation on the estimated cost to return to service.

Dan Currier provided comment on route performance standards and expectation from VTrans.

GM Clark relayed a comment received via email from Commissioner Dimitruk, which was the consideration to restore previously cut service should be considered in the context of other service needs in the GMT service area.

Commissioner Meyer provided a comment about the importance of service, but noted that GMT is an operator as much as a provider and asked VTrans to weigh-in on what support would be available to help fund this service.

Dan Currier spoke about the transportation budget.

VTrans Update

Dan Currier had nothing further to add to the update in the last agenda item.

General Manager's Update

GM Clark gave a brief update on the VPTA non-federal match study.

Committee Reports

Many committees did not meet. Commissioner Bohne said the Finance Committee met about items on the agenda. Chair Davis said the Leadership Committee focused on items on the Board Agenda.

Action: FY24 Budget Adjustment

Director Foss summarized the budget adjustment memo.

Commissioner Bohne made a motion to approve adjustment as presented, Commissioner Brewer seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Action: ADA Assessment Methodology



Director Foss summarized the ADA Assessments for urban communities and the need to make updates to that methodology. Steve Falbel presented on the methodology.

Commissioner Bohne mentioned that Director Foss is requesting that the Board wait until the FY26 budget, which allows for time to communicate changes to the communities. Also re-balancing the fixed route assessments should be a priority.

Commissioner Spencer asked that Burlington's payments for foregone fares over the fare free years should be factored into the conversation.

Commissioner Buermann asked if the municipalities needed to approve the change? Director Foss replied that $\frac{3}{4}$ of the member communities would have to vote in favor of the change.

Commissioner Bohne made a motion that board approve the policy on urban ADA assessment to be implemented by FY26, and move to align fixed route assessments by FY25, Commissioner Spencer seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Action: Revisions to Draft Fare Plan

GM Clark summarized the three changes to the fare plan. 1) increase to \$50 monthly cap, 2) discuss ADA fares with SSTA to \$3, 3) simplify things by making the 116 Commuter free as a shared route with Tri-Valley. Staff will go back out to public meeting to discuss the changes.

Commissioner Brewer made a motion to approve the changes, Commissioner Pouech seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Executive Session to discuss Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA)

Commissioner Buermann made a motion to enter executive session inviting in GM Clark and identified staff. Commissioner Spencer seconded. All were in favor and the Board of Commissioners entered executive session at 9:11 AM.

Commissioner Susan Grasso made a motion to exit executive session, Commissioner Brewer seconded. All were in favor and the Board exited executive session at 9:24 AM with no action taken.

Action: Miscellaneous Adjustments to CBA



GM Clark gave an overview of three items staff would like to work with the union to change in the collective bargaining agreements.

Commissioner Buermann made a motion to approve staff to begin negotiating an update to the Collective Bargaining Agreements that would include union members retaining seniority for 90 days after changing to a non-CDL position in the event that they would like to rejoin the union workforce, and approval for staff to update the FGI non-CDL wage to \$22.00 per hour, and update maintenance fleet technician wages to \$23.50. Commissioner Spencer seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Pouech noted that Hinesburg is beginning to discuss budgets and how do they proceed with leaving the authority. Commissioner Pouech will continue to update the Board on developments.

Adjourn

Commissioner Spencer made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Brewer seconded. The meeting ended at 9:31AM.