

**MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (MART)
MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2021
IN PERSON/REMOTELY**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:36 a.m.

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: (constituting a quorum)

Michelle Nadeau (representing Mayor Dean Mazzeola)	Leominster
Mayor Stephen DiNatale	Fitchburg
Mayor Michael Nicholson	Gardner
Dick Maki (representing Selectmen)	Sterling
Kenneth F. Troup (representing Selectmen)	Bolton
Joe Layden (representing Selectmen)	Littleton
Jan Robbins (representing Selectman)	Ashburnham
Robert Pontbriand (representing Selectman)	Ayer
Michael-Ray Jeffreys	Lunenburg
Mitchell Grosky (representing Selectmen)	Athol
Adam Lamontagne (representing Selectman)	Templeton

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Alexandra Turner (representing Selectmen)	Lancaster
Selectperson Heather Billings	Westminster
Joe Layden (representing Selectmen)	Littleton
Corey Harju (representing Selectman)	Ashby
Ryan Ferrara (representing Selectmen)	Boxborough
Tim Bragan (representing Selectman)	Harvard
Ryan McLane (representing Selectmen)	Hubbardston
Roland Hamel (representing Selectmen)	Royalston
Alyson Toole (representing Selectmen)	Stow
Keith Hickey	Winchendon
Jessica Sizer (representing Selectman)	Barre
No Representative	Shirley
No Representative	Hardwick

STAFF PRESENT:

Bruno Fisher, James Sluss, Bonnie Mahoney, Benilda Martinez, Ryan Josti, Stephen Oldfield, Sherry Corcoran, and Keary Connors.

GUESTS PRESENT:

Andy Divol	MTS
Melissa L'Ecuyer	MTS
Phil Rocca	MTS

II. General / Public Comments

III. Approval of May 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes

RESOLUTION- Dick Maki of Sterling moved that the Advisory Board of the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority approves the May 25, 2021 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

IV. Financial Updates

A. State Funding

1. SFY22 State Contract Assistance – Projected

Bruno Fisher informed the Board the MART will receive an additional \$175,000 in State Contract Assistance.

2. SFY21/22 JARC Discretionary Grant

MART is having trouble finding companies to do the JARC work.

B. Federal Funding

1. FFY20 / FFY21 Section 5307

FY2020 5307 funding is fully used, in FY2021 MART will carry over \$2.5 million in 5307 funding.

2. CARES / CRRSAA / ARPA Stimulus Grants

CARES - \$4.3 million left to cover shortfalls in budget

CRRSAA- \$2.35 million left to use on capital or operational expenses

ARPA - \$9.6 million for operational money

3. Discretionary Capital Grants

All buses and vans have been delivered except for 1 van.

\$1 million to replace fare boxes and ACP/vehicle tracking with app for smartphones to track where is the bus.

C. Finance / Audit Committee

1. SFY21 Audit Presentation / Recommendation

2. Board Vote – Audit Recommendation

3. SFY22 Financial Update

Ken Troup of Bolton informed the Board that there was no finding in this year's audit and no outstanding items.

RESOLUTION- Ken Troup of Bolton moved that the Advisory Board of the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority accept the Auditor's Report. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. (Vote was done by roll call see attached)

V. Administrative Matters

A. Administrator Search Committee Presentation / Recommendation

Mayor DiNatale informed the Board that Fitchburg, Ayer and Gardner formed the search committee for MART's Administrator. July 2, 2021, the job was advertised, and resumes were due on August 2, 2021. There were 14 applicants. The committee met on August 31, 2021, to review the resumes and found 11 did not meet the qualifications. Three applicants were interviewed. The Committee recommends Bruno Fisher be appointed Administrator of MART.

1. Board Vote – Search Committee Recommendation

RESOLUTION- Mayor DiNatale of Fitchburg moved that the Advisory Board of the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority approves to appoint Bruno Fisher as Administrator. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. (Vote was done by roll call see attached)

B. COA Transportation Updates

1. Barre Service Update – September 7th Startup

Bruno informed the Board that Barre started Council on Aging services, there are still further discussions needed with Barre to make sure they get the service they need.

2. Shirley / Ayer Service Changes

MART will start providing service to Shirley and Ayer Council on Aging.

VI. Operational Updates

A. Transit Operational Update:

1. FY21 Revenue / Ridership Data

FY2021 Ridership is at 60%

2. MBTA CR Weekend Service Resumption – July 3rd

MBTA to rezone weekend service, going to a 1-hour schedule.

B. Brokerage Operational Update

1. FY21 Ridership / Revenue Data

Brokerage is at 70 of last year's trips but vendors are having trouble getting drivers.

VII. Other Business

A. Items Not Reasonably Anticipated to be Discussed

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Name	Community	Audit Vote	Administrator Vote
Richard Maki	Sterling	Yea	Yea
Adma Lamontagne	Templeton	Yea	Yea
Mayor Nicholson	Gardner	Yea	Yea
Ken Troup	Bolton	Yea	Yea
Robert Pontbriand	Ayer	Yea	Yea
Michael Rey Jeffreys	Lunenburg	Yea	Yea
Joseph Layden	Littleton	Yea	Yea
Michelle Nadeau	Leominster	Yea	Yea
Mayor DiNtale	Fitchburg	Yea	Yea
Jan Robbins	Ashuburnham	Yea	Yea
Mitchell Grosky	Athol	Yea	Yea