
**MINUTES OF PVTA'S
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
January 23, 2019**

The Advisory Board Meeting of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority was held on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority Administration Office located at 2808 Main Street in Springfield, MA, at 12:00 P.M.

1. ROLL CALL

	<i><u>Present (41.85 votes)</u></i>	<i><u>Not Present (20.14 votes)</u></i>
Agawam	Michael Squindo	
Amherst	Douglas Slaughter	
Belchertown	Brian O'Leary	
Chicopee	Monica Blazic	
East Longmeadow	Carolyn Brennan	
Easthampton		Brendan Rogers
Granby		Mark Bail
Hadley	David Moskin	
Hampden		Becky Moriarty
Holyoke		Mayor Alex Morse
Leverett		Peter D'Errico
Longmeadow	Mark Gold	
Ludlow		Brian Mannix
Northampton		Mayor David Narkewicz
Palmer	Paul Burns Johnson	
Pelham		William Martell
South Hadley		Marilyn Ishler
Springfield	Anthony Wilson	
Sunderland		Sherry Patch
Ware	John Carroll	
West Springfield	Jim Czach	
Westfield	Peter Miller	
Wilbraham	Paula Dubord	
Williamsburg	J.M. Sorrell	
ADA Representative		Jennifer Carbery
Rider Representative		Patrick Burke

A quorum of 31.01 majority vote being present, Vice Chairman Paul Burns called the meeting of PVTA's Advisory Board to order at 12:00 PM; majority vote of 41.85 present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chairman Paul Burns opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were made.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairman Paul Burns asked for a motion from the Advisory Board to approve the meeting minutes from the November 14, 2018 Regular Advisory Board Meeting.

Motion: Moved and seconded (O’Leary/Slaughter) to approve the meeting minutes from the November 14, 2018 Regular Advisory Board Meeting.

Vice Chairman Burns asked if the Board had any discussion. Hearing none. Vice Chairman Burns asked all those in favor to say aye.

Carolyn Brennan abstained.

Motion passed by a majority vote.

4. REPORT OF THE ROUTE COMMITTEE

Brian O’Leary, Chairman of the Route Committee, reported that the Route Committee met today at 11:00am prior to the Board meeting. The committee received an update on the RTA Task Force regarding performance and funding. The committee voted to approve the minutes of May 23, 2018.

The committee received a report on the proposed G2 changes; these changes will provide more service options to the Industrial Park while improving operational efficiency by reducing dead head miles when PVRTA relocates the bus storage facility to Cottage Street. The proposed changes do not require any additional funding and would be implemented when the spring bid service starts on March 17, 2019 and aligning with PVRTA’s move to Cottage Street. The committee voted to approve the proposed G2 changes as presented.

Vice Chairman Burns asked if the Board had any questions.

Vice Chairman Burns asked for a motion from the Advisory Board to approve the report of the Route Committee.

Motion: Moved and seconded (Slaughter/Squindo) to approve the report of the Route Committee.

Vice Chairman Burns asked if the Board had any discussion. Hearing none, asked all those in favor to say aye.

Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

5. G2 ROUTE ADJUSTMENTS

Vice Chairman Burns stated that we have a recommendation from the Route Committee to approve the proposed G2 route adjustments. Information on the proposal was included in your packet.

Vice Chairman Burns asked for a motion from the Advisory Board to approve the proposed G2 route adjustments as presented.

Motion: Moved and seconded (Wilson/Sorrell) to approve the proposed G2 route adjustments as presented.

Vice Chairman Burns asked if the Board had any discussion. Hearing none, asked all those in favor to say aye.

Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

6. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

PVTA Administrator, Sandra Sheehan, reported the following:

MassDOT release a Request for Applications for discretionary funding under Section 74 of the FY19 State Budget. PVTA submitted four applications. A joint application between FRTA and PVTA for improved connections between Greenfield and Amherst at the Whately Park and Ride; a joint application with Quaboag Connector for a pilot micro-transit program; Express service for the B7 and P20 as well as scheduling improvements for the G1 route.

Commission on the Future of Transportation: The report *Choices for Stewardship: Recommendations to Meet the Transportation Future* was submitted by the Commission to the Governor on December 14, 2018. The task of the Commission was to provide recommendations to the Governor on how to best account for potential changes in transportation between 2020 and 2040. The report includes suggested initial steps to take to prepare for that future. It consists of eighteen (18) recommendations in five key areas. The first recommendation is to prioritize investment in public transit as the foundation for a robust, reliable, clean and efficient transportation system. The members of the Commission elected to lead with this recommendation because high frequency, high capacity public transit is the most efficient and sustainable way to move large numbers of people as they go through their daily lives. Most of the report is directed to achieving a public transit system that by 2040 has become so consistently reliable, efficient and robust that it can effectively compete with the other modes to attract a significantly greater number of riders than what it does today. Only by attracting and retaining riders can we see the benefits that transit can provide for GHG emissions, congestion, economic growth and community revitalization.

Farebox Revenue for the first quarter is over budget by almost 7% despite ridership being down by 5% for the fixed route service and 11% for the paratransit service. Cash fares are close to even with the budget. It is the Pass sales at the Information Center that have seen large increases. Sales have exceeded budget by \$120K across all types of media (monthly, weekly, daily).

In November and December, PVTA's fixed route service provided 1,001,017 and 871,202 trips, respectively. This represents a 6.1% decline for the first five months of FY19 compared to FY18.

PVTA's paratransit service transported 24,329 paratransit passengers in October and 21,212 in November. This was a 1.15% decline overall from 2017.

7. RTA TASK FORCE ON PERFORMANCE AND FUNDING

The Task Force Legislation requires recommendations for the establishment of service standards, appropriate ridership, financial performance indicators and best practices for the RTAs. Twelve meetings have taken place since the Task Force was convened. There has been a lot of discussion on data collection, performance standards regionally and nationally; as well as best practices and innovations, and funding. The Task Force is working on finalizing a vision statement and goals that acknowledges the uniqueness of the regions served and identifies a path for reliable funding. Public

listening sessions have been postponed. A letter was submitted to MassDOT from the Western Mass Delegation requesting a meeting take place in Western Massachusetts.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Administrator Sheehan stated that we will be going on a tour of PVTA's Operations & Maintenance facility located at Cottage Street for anyone who is interested in joining.

9. OLD BUSINESS

Vice Chairman Burns reported that there is no old business to discuss.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Advisory Board adjourned (O'Leary/Slaughter) at 12:35 P.M.

A TRUE RECORD

ATTEST: 
BRANDY PELLETIER

Documents filed with Board Meeting packet:

- Regular Advisory Board Minutes of 11-14-18
- Proposed G2 Route Adjustments

Minutes Approved on March 27, 2019