
**MINUTES OF PVTA'S
REMOTE FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING
May 18, 2026**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Finance & Audit Sub-Committee Meeting of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority was held on Monday, May 18, 2026 at 11:00 A.M. remotely as allowed by Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025, an act extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the State of Emergency which, among other things, further extends temporary provisions pertaining to the Open Meeting Law to June 30, 2027.

MEMBERS' PRESENT:

Members: Steve Huntley, Chicopee; Stephen Fay, Holyoke; David Moskin, Hadley;

NOT PRESENT:

J.M. Sorrell, Williamsburg;

Call to Order: Steve Huntley, Chairman of the Finance & Audit Committee stated that the committee has a quorum and called the meeting to order at 11:05 A.M.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Huntley opened the floor for public comments. No Public Comments were made.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2026.

Chairman Huntley asked for a motion from the Finance & Audit Committee to approve the meeting minutes of March 9, 2026.

MOTION: Moved and seconded (Fay/Moskin) to approve the minutes of PVTA's Finance & Audit Committee meeting held March 9, 2026.

Chairman Huntley asked if there was any discussion, hearing none, asked for a roll call vote.

Stephen Fay: Yes

David Moskin: Yes

Steve Huntley: Yes

Motion passed, 3-0 vote.

4. APPROVAL OF FY27 BUDGET

Administrator Sheehan indicated that the FY27 budget has been prepared using the Governors FY27 proposed budget breakdown for RTAs. This is the most conservative figure available currently. The likelihood of a budget amendment is high as there is a supplemental budget currently in conference:

RTAs Total Funding	\$217.5M
CTF	\$94M
Fair Share	\$123.5M
	\$66M Operations
	\$8.5M Workforce Development/etc.
	\$10M Connectivity Grants
	\$4M CTGP
	\$35M Fare Free Program

2026 Supplemental	\$60M
	\$35M RTA
	\$10M Connectivity Grants
	\$15M Microtransit

Lori Brodeur, PVTA's Director of Finance, presented the FY27 Budget:

EXPENSES

Administration

Wages/Fringe 3% salary increases for all Admin employees except Travel Training.
Two part-time employees for Travel Training have been added, so that line is a 10% increase. Travel Training is grant funded.

Additional funding of the pension reserve for FY27 has been removed due to budget constraints.

The budget includes an 8% increase for health insurance, but those rates are not finalized yet.

Overall Wages and Fringe are decreasing 13% due to no pension reserve funding for FY27.

Services/Utilities Janitorial and security costs are contracted costs, remaining relatively flat, except for an increase in administration janitorial to bring back in line with original FY26 budget due to timing.

Service Charges Mobile Fares and Admin are both credit card fees, still affected by fare free service. This is increasing 14% due to additional Link413 route that we are charging fares for.

Overall Services increase is 1%.

Overall Supplies have a 4% increase due to market costs.

Electric Gas & Water is increasing by 13% due to unsure market conditions.
Overall Utilities increase is 5%.

Lease charges increase at 4% every year.

Miscellaneous

Administrative travel is adjusted for additional staff seminars, increasing by 19%.

Interest expense is expected to decrease around 27% due to lower interest rates, as well as a lower RANS note in FY27.

Overall Admin expenses are decreasing by 38%, due to not paying down RANS in FY27 and no additional pension funding for FY27.

Paratransit Operations

Contractors

The Paratransit Operator budget is increasing by 16% due to the new CBA agreement and additional salary increases for those employees, based on the Union agreement.

Several of the shuttle contractors have significant increases due to additional service, including weekend service.

Fuel costs are increasing significantly and very volatile and difficult to forecast in this environment. We estimated gasoline costs at an average of \$3.75 per gallon, in hopes that per gallon costs will go down over the year.

Overall Paratransit expenses are increasing at 17%.

Fixed Route Operations

SATCo/VATCo

There is a 3% decrease in subsidy costs due to hiring more drivers and incurring less overtime.

Fuel costs are increasing significantly. Our contractor is forecasting diesel fuel at \$3.22 per gallon, an increase of around \$1M, 42% over FY26.

Overall, the budget is showing a decrease in SATCo/VATCo costs of 1%. This factors in additional grant funded projects as well as significant decreases in printed tickets and security costs due to a favorable contract.

UMass Transit

The PVRTA subsidy to UMass is increasing by 8%.

Fuel is increasing by \$115K or 29%.

Overall, there is a 9% increase in total expenses over FY26.

Shuttles

There is a 12% increase in Shuttle costs, due mostly to fuel cost increases.

Overall Fixed Route is decreasing by less than 1%.

Total Expenditures are decreasing slightly by ½%.

REVENUE

Fare Revenue

Service is budgeted as fare free for FY27. Fares are being collected at the Amherst/Worcester and Link413 routes. There is a slight increase in revenue on these two routes over FY26.

Other Revenue

Interest revenue is decreasing by 18%, due to lower interest rates received on our investment accounts.

Overall Other Revenue is decreasing by 15%.

Transportation Subsidies

Operating Subsidy-Federal is ARPA funds, which are depleted as of FY26.

Operating Subsidy-Local are local assessments, increasing by 2.5%.

Operating Subsidy- State is decreasing by 9%. This is level funded to FY26, without additional supplemental funds. This funding may change after the state budget is finalized.

Operating Subsidy- Try Transit funding is decreasing by 15% to \$8.85M in FY27.

Other Federal- Cares of \$5.3M to cover the budget shortfall for FY27.

Other Operating Subsidy is increasing by 60% due to additional Operating grants for state funded routes, as well as Travel Training, ADA, and Five College funded route.

Total Transportation Subsidies are decreasing very slightly, less than ½% due to the Federal funding/Cares Funds. Without these Federal Funds, there would be an 8% decrease in Transportation Subsidies.

PVTA FY27 Budget Overview:

Pioneer Valley Transit Authority	Approved Revised FY26 Budget	% Increase FY27 over FY26	Proposed FY27 Draft Budget
EXPENSES			
Administration Wages/Fringe	3,124,255	-12.5%	2,732,777
Administration Services/Utilities	3,406,492	-61.3%	1,316,719
Fixed Route Service	52,357,915	0.3%	52,492,277
Paratransit Service	11,156,365	17.4%	13,101,096
Allocated Insurance	984,660	7.1%	1,054,137
Allocated IT Support, Towers	220,007	10.0%	242,000
Total Expenses	71,249,694		70,939,005
REVENUES			
Farebox	1,170,039	0.5%	1,176,243
Advertising	285,000	0.0%	285,000
Interest and Insurance Recoveries, Misc.	1,226,926	-17.9%	1,006,926
Operating Subsidy, Other	1,303,126	60.4%	2,089,655
Operating Subsidy - Fare Free	10,358,445	-14.6%	8,850,000
Federal Operating Grants ARPA	667,352	-100.0%	0
State Contract Assistance	45,602,581	-9.0%	41,480,070
Local Assessments	10,636,225	2.5%	10,902,130
Total Revenue	71,249,694		65,790,025
Net Profit (Loss)	0		-5,148,981
Additional Federal Operating Grant	0		5,148,981
Adjusted Budget Deficit	0	0	0

MOTION: Moved and seconded (Fay/Moskin) to approve PVTA's FY27 Budget as presented.

Stephen Fay: Yes
David Moskin: Yes
Steve Huntley: Yes

Motion passed, 3-0 vote.

5. ADMINISTRATOR'S SALARY COMPENSATION

Chairman Huntley reported that this agenda item will be tabled for discussion as there are no members present from the Compensation Committee.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Huntley reported that there is no other business to discuss.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Steve Huntley asked for a motion from the Finance & Audit Committee to adjourn.

MOTION: Moved and seconded (Moskin/Fay) to adjourn.

Stephen Fay: Yes

David Moskin: Yes

Steve Huntley: Yes

Motion passed, 3-0 vote.

The meeting of the PVTA Finance & Audit Committee adjourned at 11:33 A.M.

A TRUE RECORD

ATTEST: _____
BRANDY PELLETIER

Documents filed with Finance & Audit Committee Meeting packet:

- March 9, 2026 Finance & Audit Committee Minutes
- PVTA's FY27 Budget

Minutes Approved: September 28, 2026