



**June 26, 2024  
Open Session Minutes**

**Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)  
Advisory Board Meeting  
Taunton City Hall  
Silver City Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
15 Summer Street, Taunton, MA 02780  
and  
Zoom**

**1. Open Session Convenes**

Due to technical difficulties the meeting was called to order by Mayor O'Connell at 1:19 pm. The following board members were present:

Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil (remote)	North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito (remote)
Berkley (1.40), Tabitha McCrohan (remote)	Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly (remote)	Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson (remote)
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell (remote)	Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros (remote)
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore (remote)	Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes (remote)
Franklin (2.39), Cobi Frongillo (remote)	Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria (remote)
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad (remote)	Taunton (5.64), Mayor O'Connell
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich (remote)	Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin (remote)
Lakeville (1.61), Lori Fahey (remote)	ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond (remote)
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas (remote)	
Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond (remote)	
Middleboro (2.85), Mark Germain (remote)	

The following board members were absent:  
Attleboro (5.55), Mayor Cathleen DeSimone  
Foxborough (2.01), Marc Craig  
Hanover (3.66), Tammy Murray  
Medway (1.99), Courtney Riley  
Norfolk (2.28), Karen Edwards

Norton (2.15), Alec Rich  
Pembroke (2.59), Marie Vitale  
Plymouth (5.48), Derek Brindisi  
Rehoboth (1.21), Richard Panofsky  
Wrentham (1.95), Janet Angelico

Also present:  
Mary Ellen DeFrias (remote), Dan Burgess, Sharon O'Brien

**2. May 15, 2024, Open Session Minutes**

A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve May 15, 2024, Open Session. A roll call vote was taken.

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Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil- aye  
Berkley (1.40), Tabitha McCrohan- aye  
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye  
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell- aye  
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore- aye  
Franklin (2.39), Cobi Frongillo- aye  
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad- aye  
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich- aye  
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas- aye  
Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond- aye

Middleboro (2.85), Mark Germain- aye  
North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito- aye  
Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye  
Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson- aye  
Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros- aye  
Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes- aye  
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria- aye  
Taunton (5.64), Mayor O'Connell- aye  
Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin- aye  
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael  
Raymond- aye

**Motion to approve May 15, 2024, Open Session Minutes passed.**

### **3. Administrator's Report, Civil Rights Report, and Financial Report**

Mary Ellen DeFrias reviewed the Administrator Report. While at the Northeast Passenger Transportation Association meeting there was an opportunity to meet with the Region 1 Administrator. Discussed were the open civil rights issues on GATRA's Tri-Annual. The issues should be addressed in the coming months and therefore the issues should be closed out.

In other big news GATRA was awarded the pilot grant to run service between Brockton, Taunton, and Fall River. Partnering with Brockton Area Transit (BAT) and Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA) this express service will tie Bristol County together. There will be opportunities to receive transportation to all four campuses of the community college along with the courthouses in the four districts.

GATRA has recently received two new diesel buses. Shout out to Angie Constantino, GATRA who created the new design. The vehicles are due to be out in service in the Attleboro and Taunton area the week of July 1, 2024. These are the first new vehicles since Mary Ellen joined GATRA.

Congratulations to Halifax for running Dial-A-Ride since April. It is exciting to see the service has taken off.

Dan Burgess covered the Financial Report. The report was the budget to actual for July through April. The activity both on the expense and the revenue side is consistent with expectation. There are some differences. Amendment 3, the final budget has taken into consideration some of

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these differences and addressed them to put the budget back in line. Nothing significant outside of expectations on the actuals through April.

A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the June 2024 Administrator's Report, Civil Rights Report, and Financial Report. A roll call vote was taken.

Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil- aye  
Berkley (1.40), Tabitha McCrohan- aye  
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye  
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell- aye  
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore- aye  
Franklin (2.39), Cobi Frongillo- aye  
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad- aye  
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich- aye  
Lakeville (1.61), Lori Fahey- aye  
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas- aye  
Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond- aye

Middleboro (2.85), Mark Germain- aye  
North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito- aye  
Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye  
Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson- aye  
Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros- aye  
Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes- aye  
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria- aye  
Taunton (5.64), Mayor O'Connell- aye  
Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin- aye  
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael  
Raymond- aye

**Motion to approve the June 2024 Administrator's Report, Civil Rights Report, and Financial Report passed.**

#### **4. Financial Report**

##### **a. Amendment 3 to FY24 Budget**

Dan Burgess discussed the fiscal report pertaining to Amendment 3 to FY24 budget. The form presents the history of the FY24 budget through amendments 1 and 2 and now proposed amendment 3. Most lines are final adjustment with actuals through May. There will be a slight increase in Brokerage expenses and revenue. GATRA is slightly reducing the federal operating money that was projected for the year, which is good.

Josie Dutil, Bellingham had asked if there were any adjustments made to the FY25 draft. This will be discussed next, 4b.

A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken.

Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil- aye  
Berkley (1.40), Tabitha McCrohan- aye  
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye  
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell- aye  
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore- aye

Middleboro (2.85), Mark Germain- aye  
North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito- aye  
Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye  
Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson- aye  
Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros- aye

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Franklin (2.39), Cobi Frongillo- aye  
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad- aye  
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich- aye  
Lakeville (1.61), Lori Fahey- aye  
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas- aye  
Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond- aye

Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes- aye  
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria- aye  
Taunton (5.64), Mayor O'Connell- aye  
Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin- aye  
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael  
Raymond- aye

**Motion to approve the Financial Report, Amendment 3 to FY24 Budget passed.**

**b. Final FY25 Budget Approval**

Dan answered Josie Dutil's question which was there were not any changes to the budget. The budget was reviewed at the last meeting and there weren't any follow-up questions from the board on any specific items.

Alan Slavin, Wareham is on the MBTA advisory board and budget committee. He said that if you haven't seen or heard of the deficit income/year in three years, there will be a 1-billion-dollar deficit. It's projecting cut back in services etc. We will all be affected if they can't fix it. The municipalities or state do not have the financial ability to fix it which means it is up to the federal government. The MBTA is close to failing due to lack of funds and we need to watch very carefully what goes on.

A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken.

Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil- aye  
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye  
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell- aye  
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore- aye  
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad- aye  
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich- aye  
Lakeville (1.61), Lori Fahey- aye  
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas- aye  
Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond- aye  
Middleboro (2.85), Mark Germain- aye

North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito- aye  
Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye  
Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson- aye  
Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros- aye  
Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes- aye  
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria- aye  
Taunton (5.64), Mayor O'Connell- aye  
Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin- aye  
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael  
Raymond- aye

**Motion to approve the Financial Report, Final FY25 Budget Approval passed.**

**5. Meeting Dates for FY'25**

Mary Ellen discussed the meeting dates for FY25. The same format will be followed as what was done this past year. It is a full calendar of meetings, and the ones in bold are needed for various reasons. The others are placeholders if a meeting is required. The Administrator's Report will continue to be sent out monthly.

**6. FY25 Orientation (held in September)**

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Mary Ellen spoke about the FY25 orientation which will be held at September's Board meeting. This will be a discussion on the Board's roles and responsibilities. Kylie will be back on August 12. Shortly thereafter she will send out a reminder on the paperwork needed to reaffirm (conflict of interest and ethics) which will be reviewed at September's Board meeting. Mayor O'Connell, Taunton added the importance for everyone to attend, especially new members.

## 7. Adjourn

A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken.

**Motion to adjourn the meeting passed. Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:40PM.**

Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil- aye  
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye  
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell- aye  
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore- aye  
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad- aye  
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich- aye  
Lakeville (1.61), Lori Fahey- aye  
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas- aye  
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Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros- aye  
Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes- aye  
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria- aye  
Taunton (5.64), Mayor O'Connell- aye  
Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin- aye  
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael  
Raymond- aye

## Documents & Exhibits Discussed in this Meeting:

- 6.26.2024 GATRA Advisory Board Meeting Agenda
- 5.15.2024 GATRA Advisory Board Open Session Minutes
- June 2024 Administrator's Report
- June 2024 Civil Rights Report
- Financials FY2024, July – April
- FY24 Consolidated Budget, Amendment 3
- FY25 AB Meeting Schedule

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