

**MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (MART)
MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 5, 2015
MART MAINTENANCE FACILITY
1427R WATER STREET
FITCHBURG, MA 01420**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:43 a.m.

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: (constituting a quorum)

Mayor Mark Hawke (Chairman)	Gardner
Mayor Dean Mazzarella	Leominster
Mayor Lisa Wong	Fitchburg
Keith Bergman (representing Selectmen)	Littleton
Richard Hatch (representing Selectmen)	Shirley
Shaun Suhoski (representing Selectmen)	Athol
Francis Powers (representing Selectmen)	Boxborough
Robert Pontbriand (representing Selectmen)	Ayer
Kenneth F. Troup (representing Selectmen)	Bolton
Pauline Clark	Rider to Board
Selectperson Phyllis Luck	Lunenburg

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Selectperson Heather Billings	Westminster
Alexandra Turner (representing Selectmen)	Lancaster
Anita Scheipers (representing Selectmen)	Hubbardston
Alida Herring (representing Selectmen)	Winchendon
Laura Alger (representing Selectmen)	Royalston
Mark Carlisle (representing Selectmen)	Ashburnham
Alyson Toole (representing Selectmen)	Stow
Laura McIntye (representing Selectmen)	Hardwick
No Representative	Ashby
Robert Markel (representing Selectman)	Templeton
No Representative	Sterling
No Representative	Harvard

STAFF PRESENT:

Mohammed Khan, Bruno Fisher, James Sluss, Ray Garcia, Michelle LeBlanc, Jessica Lashua, Bonnie Mahoney, Benilda Martinez, Sue Gallien, Adam Gromelski, and Keary Connors

GUESTS PRESENT:

Thomas Schiavone	MassDOT
Trevor Bayard-Murray	MassDOT
Mark Goldstein	MART's Attorney
George Kahale	Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Phil Rocca	Management of Transportation Service
Andy Divoll	Management of Transportation Service
Melissa L'Ecuyer	Management of Transportation Service
Nick Hristodolu	ATU President
Cliff Clark	Sentinel & Enterprise

II. General Comments

III. Financial Matters

A. Review of 8 Month Expenditures and Revenue

J. Sluss informed the Board that the deficit at the end of February is about \$173,000, snow removal drove the number up about \$30,000.

B. FY2016 Budget

M. Khan informed the Board that there hasn't been any change in the budget from when he presented it back in March.

Thomas Schiavone of MassDOT informed the Board that whatever the deficit number is MassDOT will advance MART SCA funds to cover the deficit and FY2016 funds will decrease by the money we have to advance to cover the deficit. You will close FY2015 balanced.

M. Khan stated if we have a deficit I will do a revised FY2016 budget.

B. Fisher informed the Board that there is going to be an amendment to the HST contract which could eliminate the deficit. It is expected to be signed by the middle of May.

K. Bergman of Littleton stated we should reduce the FY2016 budget by some agreed upon realistic number to account for the deficit. We can't ignore the fact that there will be a deficit this year and it should be shown in the FY2016 budget.

The Board discussed the deficit and the FY2016 budget.

RESOLUTION-S. Suhoski of Athol moved that the Advisory Board of the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority approves the FY2016 budget as presented by the Administrator with a total local assessment not to exceed \$2,006,825 in accordance with Proposition 2 ½ and agree to meet again in July to revise the FY2016 budget. The motion was seconded and passed. (K. Bergman from Littleton voted no.)

IV. Administrative Matters

A. Nomination of Officers

R. Hatch of Shirley nominated Mayor Mark Hawke as Chairman and Mayor Dean Mazzarella as Vice Chair.

Elections will take place at the next Board Meeting.

B. Summary of Fare Increase/Public Hearing Process

B. Mahoney summarized the comments we received from the public hearings. She also discussed MART moving away from a flag down system and more towards a bus stop system. MART will also be adjusting the times on our schedules based on on-time performance.

RESOLUTION – R. Pontbriand of Ayer moved that the Advisory Board of the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority approves the fare increase and route changes as proposed by the Administrator to be implemented effective July 1, 2015, pending the close of the public comment period on May 8, 2015. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

V. Other Business

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.