

BATA Regular Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Location: BATA Transfer Station, 115 Hall St. Traverse City, MI

Date/Time: 1:00PM, Thursday, January 30, 2025

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Wayne Schmidt at 2:00 PM.

2. Roll Call

- John Somnavilla - PRESENT
- Lance Boehmer – PRESENT
- Gwenne Allgaier – PRESENT
- Joe Underwood – PRESENT
- Scott Sieffert - PRESENT
- Brad Jewett - PRESENT
- Wayne Schmidt - PRESENT

3. First Public Comment*

Linda Joppich addressed the Board and stated that on Overheard In Traverse City, people were posting that they were having to wake up around 3:00am in order to book their rides on the VIA system. Chris Davis commented that BATA is aware of this and working on a solution. Linda also stated that there were plenty of positive comments as well.

4. Approval of Agenda/Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Wayne Schmidt requested moving the closed session item number up to item 6b, following the consent calendar.

Moved by Lance Boehmer and supported by Brad Jewett to approve the January 30, 2025, Regular Meeting Agenda as amended.

- **Ayes: 7**
- **Nays: 0**
- **Motion Carries: 7-0**

5. Consent Calendar

The purpose of the consent calendar is to expedite business by grouping non-controversial items together to be dealt with in one Board motion without discussion. Any member of the Board, staff, or the public may ask that any item on the consent calendar be removed and placed elsewhere on the agenda for full discussion. Such requests will be automatically respected. If an item is not removed from the consent

calendar, the action noted in parentheses on the agenda is approved by a single Board action adopting the consent calendar.

Consideration of Approving the Following

- a. Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2024
- b. Ad HOC Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2024

Consideration of Accepting the Following Reports

- c. Local Advisory Council Minutes of January 21, 2025
- d. FY25 Q1 Ridership Report
- e. FY25 Q1 Turnover Report
- f. Correspondence - Staff Compliments
- g. BATA Board Tracker

Moved by Brad Jewett and supported by Joe Underwood to approve the January 30, 2025, Consent Calendar as amended.

- **Ayes:7**
- **Nays: 0**
- **Motion Carries: 7-0**

6. Any items removed from the consent calendar.

No items were removed from the consent calendar.

6b. Closed Session

Closed Session pursuant to MCL 15.268(e) To consult with attorney regarding trial and settlement strategy and in connection with pending litigation.

Moved by Brad Jewett and supported by Lance Boehmer to go into closed session at 2:10PM pursuant to MCL 15.268 (e) for BATA to consult with its attorney regarding trial and settlement strategy in connection with pending litigation.

Roll Call Vote:

- **Ayes: John Somnavilla, Gwenne Allgaier, Joe Underwood, Brad Jewett, Lance Boehmer, and Wayne Schmidt**
- **Nays:0**
- **Abstain: Scott Sieffert**
- **Motion Carries: 6-0**

Moved by Brad Jewett and supported by Lance Boehmer to adjourn Closed Session and reopen the Regular Meeting at 2:57PM.

- **Ayes: 6**
- **Nays: 0**

- **Motion Carries: 6-0**

Moved by Lance Boehmer and supported by Joe Underwood to direct attorney to move forward as discussed in closed session.

- **Ayes: John Somnavilla, Gwenne Allgaier, Joe Underwood, Brad Jewett, Lance Boehmer, and Wayne Schmidt**
- **Nays:0**
- **Abstain: Scott Sieffert**
- **Motion Carries: 6-0**

7. Executive Director's Report – Chris Davis

Chris reported that the education department of MIOSHA was brought in on 1/9/2025 to tour the facility and offered feedback and suggestions on a few items to be addressed around the facility. The new rebid for the drivers will take place next week. This is the first bid on the new Remix technology. BATA is looking forward to better help the community with the upcoming bids. TransPro Consulting has reported that they have 6 applicants being screened for the new Executive Director position within BATA. Once they have finished their screening, the applicants will be given to the Ad HOC Committee for further screening. Chris thanked Jerry Tomczak and Kurt Braun for getting items on the punch list complete. Also, thank you to the drivers and dispatch for doing a wonderful job navigating the current weather conditions.

a. HQ Facility/Owner's Representative Report – Jerry Tomczak, Program Manager, Cunningham-Limp

Jerry updated the Board the general conditions and requirements with the project have been settled with Christman. The budget for the solar panels was slightly reduced as it is believed that there is enough funds from the grant to cover the project. The solar panel project should be started in a couple of months. The punch list of items around the facility has come down.

8. Chairperson's Report

No report was given at this time.

9. Finance Reports –

Justin provided the FY Q1 Finance Reports, which included the income statements, net position, new facility reserve fund, operating and capital reserve funds. Key updates include:

- NTD reporting is due on January 31, 2025
- Auxiliary Trans Revenue ahead of budget
- Sale of the Diamond property is reflected.
- Interest investments are doing well.
- No longer receive State funding to replenish our fleet. 6 vehicles a year is a good refresh rate.

Moved by Joe Underwood and supported by Brad Jewett to accept the FY25 Q1 Finance Reports as presented.

- **Ayes:7**
- **Nays:0**
- **Motion Carries:7-0**

10. Old Business

No old business at this time.

11. New Business

a. FY26 Preliminary Budget and Resolution of Intent

Key Points Include:

- State funding down 10% since 2024.
- Ridership increase expected for FY2026.
- Advertising is going well. On target to reach budget.
- Local contract service is now with GTI. Added services and hours increased.
- Will be reporting FTA directly.
- Insurance has increased due to increasing the size of our fleet.

Moved by Scott Sieffert and supported by Lance Boehmer to approve the FY26 Preliminary Budget and Resolution of Intent as presented.

- **Ayes:7**
- **Nays:0**
- **Motion Carries:7-0**

b. FY26 Vehicle Accessibility Plan

Key Points include:

- The Vehicle plan was shared with the LAC last week.
- Almost the entire fleet has been equipped to service our Link service.

Moved by Joe Underwood and supported by Brad Jewett to approve the FY26 Vehicle Accessibility Plan as presented.

- **Ayes:7**
- **Nays:0**
- **Motion Carries:7-0**

12. Second Public Comment

Bruce Moore addressed the Board that when the closed session was moved to before second public comment and after first public comment, it could have been announced to give opportunity to let the public speak again.

Regarding the litigation Grand Traverse County objecting to potential change in the structure of the BATA Board, where one member was appointed by the BATA Board. The NRAA has a similar structure in that the out of county representative is appointed by the board. Believes that should be looked into. Mr. Moore expressed his dislike for how people were assigned to the board and believes that the Grand Traverse County commissioners made a bad faith effort in selecting BATA Board Members. Would also like to see board assignments made.

13. Director's Comments/Open Floor

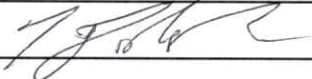
No comments were made.

16. Adjournment

Moved by Brad Jewett to adjourn the January 30, 2025, Regular Meeting of the BATA Board of Directors at 3:40 PM.

Meeting Minutes Submitted by: _____

Meeting Minutes Approved on: _____

Lance Boehmer, Secretary:  2/27/25