



Bay Area Transportation Authority Board of Directors

Board Study Session Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

9:00 a.m.

Hall Street Transfer Station - Conference Room

115 Hall Street, Traverse City, MI 49684

Draft Study Session meeting minutes for approval on September 24, 2026

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Lance Boehmer at 8:09 a.m. With a quorum not physically present, Vice Chair Boehmer stated the formalities of the meeting agenda won't be followed but asked that staff proceed with the Study Session presentation for Board members attending virtually. The Study Session presentation was also video recorded for the public to access on BATA's website.

Board Member Attendance:

- Lance Boehmer – PRESENT
- Gwenne Allgaier – PRESENT VIRTUALLY
- John Somnavilla – PRESENT VIRTUALLY
- Fern Spence – PRESENT VIRTUALLY
- Sarah Bye – ABSENT
- Wayne Schmidt - ABSENT
- Janice Wyant – ABSENT

2. New Fare System: Demonstration and Project Update

Eric Lingaur, Director of Communications and Development, Erik Falcon, Operations Manager (Fixed-Route), Adam BeVier, Operations Manager (Demand-Response) & Dispatch Supervisor, Paul Clausen, IT Manager, and Executive Director Patrick Preusser provided the Board with a presentation on the new fare system. The presentation included: directions on how to create an account, how to add funds to an account or purchase mobile tickets, locations where funds can be added to an account using cash, various payment options for passengers riding with the new fare system (use the mobile app, purchase an EZfare card, tapping a credit card or mobile app, or paying with cash), fare transfers, the advantages of fare capping, reduced fare options, and how the system works with families with multiple accounts. The presentation also highlighted the benefits of the new fare system's travel activity platform related to customer service and strategic outreach to passengers. In addition, the presentation provided an overview of the hardware that will be used with the new fare system. Staff also provided a timeline for the new fare system roll-out as follows: September – October BATA will focus on communication and education, November's focus will be staff training, and December the system is scheduled to go live. March will be the last opportunity for passengers to use GenFare passes.

The Board provided feedback for staff to consider and thanked staff for the informative presentation.

3. Next meeting

Thursday, September 24, 2026

1:00 p.m.

Suttons Bay Library

416 N. Front Street, Suttons Bay, MI 4968

4. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

Meeting Minutes Submitted by: Kelly Walter

Meeting Minutes Approved on: _____

Gwenne Allgaier, Secretary: _____