

## **BATA Regular Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Location:** Leelanau Governmental Center 8527 E Government Center Dr. Suttons Bay, MI

**Date/Time:** 1:00PM, Thursday, May 22, 2025

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Wayne Schmidt at 1:11 PM.

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

### **3. Roll Call**

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

### **4. First Public Comment\***

No public comment was made at this time.

### **5. Approval of Agenda/Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Moved by Lance Boehmer and supported by John Sommovilla to approve the Agenda/Declaration of Conflict of Interest as presented.

- **Ayes: 4**
- **Nays: 0**
- **Motion Carries: 4-0**

### **6. 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 April 17, 2025

### **Consideration of Accepting the Following Reports**

- b. Monthly Income Statement
- c. FY25 Q2 Strategic Plan Update
- d. Correspondence - Staff Compliments
- e. BATA Board Tracker

Moved by John Somnavilla and supported by Joe Underwood to approve the April 17, 2025, Consent Calendar as presented.

- **Ayes:4**
- **Nays: 0**
- **Motion Carries: 4-0**

### **7. Any items removed from the consent calendar.**

No items were removed from the Consent Calendar.

### **8. Jerry Tomczak, Program Manager, Cunningham Limp**

Chris Davis gave an update to the Board regarding the Hall St Transfer Station Project List and the Solar Panel Project.

Key Points Include:

- Snow melt zone 5 replacement completed, underground conduit work finalized on 5/21/25
- Project expected to be completed before the Cherry Festival.

Solar Panel Update:

Key Points Include:

- Keen installation and wiring of solar panels are complete.
- Inspections scheduled over the next two weeks.
- Anticipated operational date: late May to early June.
- Estimated annual savings of \$63,000

### **9. Executive Director's Report – Chris Davis**

Chris informed the Board that there was a 0% turnover rate for the month of April. The Airport Shuttle Pilot program has been averaging one ride a day in the early morning. The numbers are expected to increase with the summer tourism picking up. Chris thanked Erik Falcon and the OPS team for their great

job on the latest rebid. The infrastructure for the EV chargers has been started. Chris and the Ad HOC committee have two interviews scheduled for the executive director's position on 5/23/25. The NTD final report has been submitted.

#### **10. Chairperson's Report**

Chairman Wayne Schmidt reported to the Board that the Ad Hoc Committee will be meeting Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> to meet with two candidates for the executive director's position.

#### **11. Old Business**

No old business at this time.

#### **12. New Business**

a. 2025 Tax Rate Request Resolution, L4029 for Grand Traverse and Leelanau Counties. – Justin Weston

Moved by Joe Underwood and supported by Lance Boehmer to approve the L-4029 Tax Rate Request Resolution as presented.

- Ayes: 4
- Nays: 0
- Motion Carries: 4-0

b. Technology Roadmap Update – Eric Lingaur and Paul Clausen

Key Points Include:

- The current fare system has reached its end of life, and the Team will be presenting new fare options to the board.
- The Windows 11 updates complete.
- GMV tablet replacements
- The NTD recertification for the passenger counter, the FTA approved 5/22/25
- Marquee integration will now be automatic.
- Cradlepoint vehicle router replacement.
- Technology services now fully managed in-house by Paul Clausen and team.

Moved by Lance Boehmer and supported by John Sommovilla to accept the Technology Roadmap Update as presented.

- Ayes: 4
- Nays: 0
- Motion Carries: 4-0

c. Public Transit Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) – Erik Falcon

Erik Falcon updated the Board on the changes that were made to the PTASP/

Key Points Include:

- Chris Davis's name was added to the form as the Interim Executive Director.
- Inclusion of Safety Committee; plan shared with MDOT.
- Increase from 7 to 14 FTA – required safety performance targets, all of which BATA has tracked.

Moved by Lance Boehmer and supported by Joe Underwood to approve the Public Transit Agency Safety Plan as presented.

- Ayes: 4
- Nays: 0
- Motion Carries: 4-0

**15. Second Public Comment**

No public comment was made at this time.

**16. Director's Comments and Announcements/ Open Floor**

Director Joe Underwood raised the following inquiries:

- **Regional Workforce Partnerships:** Asked if BATA collaborates with other counties to support workforce transportation. Eric Lingaur confirmed partnerships with Benzie, Wexford, and Kalkaska Counties, helping bring riders from across the region.
- **Employee Commutes:** Inquired about where BATA staff travel from. Chris Davis will follow up with this data.
- **AI & Autonomous Vehicles:** Asked about the use of AI in dispatching and driverless bus technology. Eric Lingaur and Erik Falcon noted a meeting is scheduled to explore AI dispatch applications and will report findings at a future meeting.
- The administrative team recently experienced an autonomous shuttle demo at the sand dunes. While impressive, the current cost remains too high for implementation.

**17. Adjournment**

Moved by John Somnavilla to adjourn the April 17, 2025, Regular Meeting of the BATA Board of Directors at 2:07 PM.

Meeting Minutes Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Minutes Approved on: June 16, 2025

Lance Boehmer, Secretary: 