

**BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MEETING OF THE ADVISORY BOARD**

September 18, 2025

4:00 PM

BRTA Intermodal Transportation Center, Second Floor Board Room, 1 Columbus Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201

**ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

**Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board Members Present:**

Sarah Fontaine, Adams; Ray Killeen, Cheshire; Mindi Morin, Lenox; Sandra Lamb, North Adams; Mayor Peter Marchetti, Pittsfield; Rene Wood, Sheffield; and Douglas McNally, Windsor.

**Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board Members Absent:**

William Elovirta, Becket; Charles Ketchen, Alford; Ron Boucher, Clarksburg; John Boyle, Dalton; Melanie Vicneire, Egremont; Joan Lewis, Florida; Phillip Orenstein, Great Barrington; James Rodda, Hancock; Margaret Gregory, Hinsdale; Mary Reilly, Lanesborough; Andrea Wadsworth, Lee; Frank Abbott, Monterey; Keith Torrico, Mt. Washington; Sherry Youngkin, New Ashford; Stuart Lawrence, New Marlboro; Brandi Page, Otis; Verne Leach, Peru; Alan Hanson, Richmond; Justin Kaczowski, Savoy; Jamie Minacci, Stockbridge; Stephen Deloye, Washington; Andrew Potter, West Stockbridge; Brian O'Grady, Williamstown; and Brian Morrison, Rider Representative.

**Also, present:** Robert Malnat and Sarah Vallieres, BRTA; Anuja Koirola, BRPC; and Brittany Polito, iBerkshires.

|                      | Voting Shares | Present |                            |
|----------------------|---------------|---------|----------------------------|
| Adams                | 2.76          | 2.76    |                            |
| Alford               | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |
| Becket               | 1.08          | 0.00    |                            |
| Cheshire             | 3.66          | 3.66    |                            |
| Clarksburg           | 1.00          | 0.00    | 38.50 needed for quorum.   |
| Dalton               | 2.47          | 0.00    | 40.01 when called to order |
| Egremont             | 1.02          | 0.00    |                            |
| Florida              | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |
| Great Barrington     | 3.69          | 0.00    |                            |
| Hancock              | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |
| Hinsdale             | 1.29          | 0.00    |                            |
| Lanesborough         | 2.29          | 0.00    |                            |
| Lee                  | 3.55          | 0.00    |                            |
| Lenox                | 4.42          | 4.42    |                            |
| Monterey             | 1.02          | 0.00    |                            |
| Mt. Washington       | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |
| New Ashford          | 1.07          | 0.00    |                            |
| New Marlborough      | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |
| North Adams          | 6.15          | 6.15    |                            |
| Otis                 | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |
| Peru                 | 1.04          | 0.00    |                            |
| Pittsfield           | 20.93         | 20.93   |                            |
| Richmond             | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |
| Savoy                | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |
| Sheffield            | 1.05          | 1.05    |                            |
| Stockbridge          | 2.95          | 0.00    |                            |
| Washington           | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |
| West Stockbridge     | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |
| Williamstown         | 2.52          | 0.00    |                            |
| Windsor              | 1.04          | 1.04    |                            |
| Rider Representative | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |
| Disability Community | 1.00          | 0.00    |                            |

1) **ROLL CALL**

D. McNally called the Advisory Board Meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

2) **INTERVIEW ADMINISTRATOR CANDIDATE WINGER-WITHDREW**

D. McNally explained when and why Administrative Candidate Winger withdrew from the Selection due to her mother's health issues. She regretfully withdrew her candidacy. He shared there are now 3 recommendations: Quintos, Lambert, or Neither (Q L N). The Advisory Board wrote their preferences anonymously on an index card and was collected by S. Vallieres. The tally was: Quintos-3; Lambert-2; Neither-1; and Tie-1. M. Morin inquired about the press at this meeting regarding the candidate chosen may hear about this prior to a phone call. D. McNally said this will be done in open session.

3) **DISCUSSION OF CANDIDATES QUALIFICATIONS**

D. McNally said the Advisory Board needs to vote for the appointment of BRTA Administrator by weighted vote. Because of the nature of a weighted vote, he indicated that we should strive for consensus; we need to all decide who we could live with for the candidate selected.

Discussion:

S. Fontaine said she is slightly leaning towards 1; both are qualified; 1 interviewed better; but would be happy with either.

R. Killeen discussed that both candidates were excellent, his selection was Quintos, which has the BTM union support behind him as Administrator. He was great vision with his projects that will improve the quality of Berkshire County. He has created a great team at BTM.

M. Morin agreed with Quintos' forward thinking of the future and he is proactive with a variety of ways for Berkshire County. She was concerned with Quintos moving from GM to Administrator and having to then fill the role of BTM GM.

S. Lamb mentioned that she was not here for any of the interviews.

P. Marchetti shared both interviewed well but Lambert had more experience, and he was concerned with Quintos' answers of the budget management and financial questions.

R. Wood said both were good and she was the tie between the two but was concerned that Lambert couldn't get the interview questions answered in the allotted time. She was impressed with Lambert's micro-transit experience and felt like the synergy with Lambert as the Administrator and Quintos as the GM would be a powerful team and they should work closely together.

R. Killeen mentioned that Quintos does have financial talents as well as grant writing experience at BRTA.

D. McNally felt that Lambert had the necessary skills as Administrator: budget and finance, grant writing, transit planning. As BRTA is facing a fiscal cliff in FY27, her grant writing skills with outside of transit sources would be needed. BRTA would be better served with Lambert's appointment and Quintos remaining as GM.

S. Fontaine was concerned that Lambert has had a couple of different positions over the past 10 years.

D. McNally explained that she left the position down south to move back to the East Coast. She was Deputy Administrator of MEVA and had a 4 to 4 tie vote for her to become Administrator there.

There was a discussion of a probation period written into the contract and how long would be appropriate.

There was a discussion of how the BRTA Administrator and BTM GM work together. R. Malnati explained there are weekly meetings between the 2 positions currently. R. Wood wanted that information conveyed to the Board and more information on microtransit discussions. S. Fontaine said the Board needs to trust the Administrator to bring that information to the Board. M. Morin feels like R. Malnati does this at the meetings and has specific agenda items that are discussed. She doesn't want to get "too into the weeds" and trust in the Administrator. She felt that as Board Members, they could bring transit concerns within their communities.

R. Wood made a motion to develop the contract and offer the position of Administrator to Kathleen Lambert with a 6-month probationary period. P. Marchetti seconded the motion. Sarah read roll call and documented the results. The motion passed.

4) **ADMINISTRATOR CANDIDATE NEXT STEPS**

D. McNally will contact Kathleen Lambert to make the offer before contacting Bobby Quintos.

P. Marchetti made a motion that if Kathleen Lambert turns down the position, it would go to Bobby Quintos as Administrator. R. Killeen seconded the motion and passed unanimously.  
There was discussion on the Administrator Contract. D. McNally as Board Chair will work with the lawyer on the contract and then the Board can approve it. The CFO recommended the start date as 12/15/25 as crafted in the budget.

R. Killeen noted that he was disappointed with so few Advisory Board members attending these interview meetings, to make a big decision for the BRTA.

**5) RECOMMEND CANDIDATE FOR ADMINISTRATOR- VOTE**

See item 3 above.

**6) NEXT MEETING DATE**

September 25, 2025 at 4 PM.

**7) ADJOURNMENT**

R. Wood made a motion to adjourn. S. Fontaine seconded the motion and was unanimous. The BRTA Advisory Board Meeting ended at 4:41 PM.

**MEETING MATERIALS**

BRTA Advisory Board Agenda 9/18/25

| <b>Town</b> | <b>3)<br/>Develop contract and offer position to K. Lambert</b> | <b>4)<br/>If K. Lambert turns down position, R. Quintos would be offered the position</b> |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adams       | Yes                                                             | Yes                                                                                       |
| Cheshire    | No                                                              | Yes                                                                                       |
| Lenox       | Yes                                                             | Yes                                                                                       |
| North Adams | Yes                                                             | Yes                                                                                       |
| Pittsfield  | Yes                                                             | Yes                                                                                       |
| Sheffield   | Yes                                                             | Yes                                                                                       |
| Windsor     | Yes                                                             | Yes                                                                                       |