



MINUTES

**Meeting of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority
 Board of Directors**

June 9, 2022 AT 8:30 A.M.

This meeting was held virtually in accordance with the law signed by the Governor permitting public bodies to continue to hold meetings remotely. Public participation and comment occurred via written communication, voice message and live public comment through conference call.

This meeting was broadcast virtually.

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| BOARD MEMBERS PARTICIPATING REMOTELY: | Chair Betsy Taylor, Director Robert Butler, Director Scott Darling, Director Thomas Koch, Director Travis McCreedy, Director Mary Beth Mello, Secretary Jamey Tesler |
| Others Presenting and/or Participating for Various Portions of the Meeting: | General Manager Steve Poftak, MBTA Advisory Board Executive Director Brian Kane, Chief Financial Officer Mary Ann O’Hara |
| Others Present: | General Counsel Marie Breen, Chief Counsel Kevin Scanlon, Managing Attorney- Corporate & Regulatory Eileen Fenton, and Noah Potash, Esq. |

OPEN OF MEETING

Call to order by the Chair

Chair Betsy Taylor called the meeting of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (“MBTA”) Board to order at 8:33 a.m. Noah Potash called the roll of the MBTA Board of Directors participating remotely, being a quorum of the MBTA Board:

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|-------------------------|------------|
| Chair Taylor | Yes |
| Director Butler | Yes |
| Director Darling | Yes |
| Director Koch | Yes |

Director McCready	Yes
Director Mello	Yes
Secretary Tesler	Yes

Before turning to public comment, Chair Taylor expressed dismay at the recent Green Line collision and said that more work remains on safety issues. The Chair said she has confidence in the Safety Management Plan, MBTA leadership and staff. She challenged staff and leadership to do more on safety and to report on how the MBTA can improve its safety culture. Secretary Tesler highlighted recent Board-approved investments to accelerate and build the Green Line Train Protection System. Mr. Tesler said that he expected staff and the General Manager to bring the Board all safety-related opportunities for investment. Director Darling said that people at all levels of the organization are critical to building a world class safety culture. Director Mello said that people, not just technology and investments, are key to safety. Director McCready said he supported the other directors' comments. Director Butler said that the Board is on the same page for safety issues.

Public Comment

Kenneth Mung, a rider of the Lowell commuter rail line, noted that the closure of the Mishawum station had reduced access to Woburn and requested that the MBTA re-open the station or build an overpass at the Anderson/Woburn station to improve pedestrian access.

Caitlin Allen Connolly of A Better City commented on the FY23 Budget,

suggesting that the MBTA prioritize safety and urging additional capital investments.

REPORT

1. Audit & Finance Subcommittee Report

Chair Taylor reported on the activities of the Audit & Finance Subcommittee. She said that the subcommittee had unanimously recommended approval of the FY23 Budget and supported updates to the Debt Management and Derivatives Policies.

PRESENTATIONS AND ACTIONS

2. Approval of Minutes

Chair Taylor requested a motion to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2022 MBTA Board Meeting.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was by roll call:

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the MBTA Board Meeting held on May 26, 2022.

Chair Taylor	Yes
Director Butler	Yes
Director Darling	Yes
Director Koch	Yes
Director McCready	Yes
Director Mello	Yes
Secretary Tesler	Yes

3. MBTA Advisory Board FY23 Budget Analysis

Brian Kane, Executive Director of the MBTA Advisory Board, presented the MBTA Advisory Board's FY23 Budget Analysis. He expressed support for

approving the budget while also noting concerns about the rate of spending growth. Mr. Kane asked the Board to advocate for increased subsidies while also working to slow spending in non-core areas. Director Butler and Mr. Kane discussed the difficulty of slowing spending in non-core areas. Director Mello expressed interest in specific recommendations for slowing spending growth. Director Koch, who chairs the MBTA Advisory Board, said the recommendations were the result of robust discussions with many MBTA communities and reiterated that the communities want to work with the MBTA to provide reliable service. Director Darling and Mr. Kane discussed how the Board could fulfill the request to advocate for increased subsidies. Director McCready said that in addition to safety, equity is a core principle of the Board and of the MBTA and said that service cuts usually impact disadvantaged communities. Secretary Tesler thanked Mr. Kane for synthesizing a range of opinions and said it was important to stay cognizant of the spending trend and other factors in the current uncertain environment.

4. Final FY23 Budget

Chief Financial Officer Mary Ann O'Hara presented on the final budget for Fiscal Year 2023, summarizing major investments and emphasizing new safety initiatives. Director Mello expressed gratitude for Ms. O'Hara's professionalism and depth of knowledge regarding the complicated financial issues. Chair Taylor thanked Ms. O'Hara for funding safety, maintenance and operations in the budget and discussed the challenge of hiring to fill budgeted positions. Director

McCready echoed the previous comments and added that the presentation explained complexity in a digestible form. He noted that there is a significant human capital risk. Secretary Tesler said he hoped there would be an update on human capital at a future meeting and emphasized the importance of closely attending to the changing situation. General Manager Poftak said he would be happy to provide that update and noted the Authority is doing significant internal work on hiring. Secretary Tesler said it is important to be mindful that we're in a different place from where we predicted a year ago. Director Koch stressed that the budget addresses safety and maintenance needs and said the MBTA is in a better place than it has been in for a few years. The General Manager thanked the finance team for their work.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was by roll call:

VOTED:

To approve the Authority's itemized budget of current operating expenses and debt service costs, for a one-year period from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$2,553,539,284, as presented June 9, 2022; and

That the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to submit the approved itemized budget, in the name and on behalf of the Authority, to the MBTA Advisory Board no later than June 15, 2022 in accordance with Section 20 of Chapter 161A of the Massachusetts General Laws; and

To authorize the transfer of surpluses, defined as total revenues less total expenses, above the amounts identified in the adopted FY23 budget, as may be amended, to the Operating Budget Deficiency Fund to mitigate the projected deficit in FY24 or FY25 and any other current or future obligations.

Chair Taylor	Yes
Director Butler	Yes

Director Darling	Yes
Director Koch	Yes
Director McCready	Yes
Director Mello	Yes
Secretary Tesler	Yes

Adjournment

On motion duly made and seconded, it was by roll call:

VOTED: to adjourn at 9:39 a.m.

Chair Taylor	Yes
Director Butler	Yes
Director Darling	Yes
Director Koch	Yes
Director McCready	Yes
Director Mello	Yes
Secretary Tesler	Yes

Documents relied upon for this meeting:

- June 9, 2022 Agenda
- Minutes of the May 26, 2022 MBTA Board Meeting
- FY23 Final Itemized Presentation – V4