



**March 18, 2026 at 1PM  
Open Session Minutes**

**Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)  
Advisory Board Meeting  
Taunton City Hall  
Silver City Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
15 Summer Street, Taunton, MA 02780  
and  
Zoom**

**1. Open Session Convenes**

Chair Mayor Shaunna O’Connell, Taunton called the meeting to order at 1:06PM. A roll call vote was taken.

The following board members were present:

Bellingham (2.62), Josie Dutil (remote)  
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly (remote)  
Duxbury (2.28), Joanne Moore (remote)  
Foxborough (2.38), Catherine Feerick  
(remote)  
Hanover (1.98), Tammy Murray (remote)  
Kingston (2.00), Patti Waitkevich (remote)  
Lakeville (1.60), Lori Fahey (remote)  
Marshfield (3.09), Greg Guimond (remote)  
Medway (1.98), Cathy Cebrowski (remote)  
Pembroke (2.56), Diane Picot (remote)

Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson  
Plympton (1.24), Colleen Thompson  
(remote)  
Raynham (2.08), Erin Medeiros (remote)  
Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle (remote)  
Seekonk (2.13), Brittney Faria (remote)  
Taunton (5.58), Mayor Shaunna O’Connell  
Wareham (3.25), Alan Slavin (remote)  
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond  
(remote)

The following board members were absent:

Attleboro (5.49), Mayor Cathleen DeSimone  
Berkley (1.39), Mark Horsfall  
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell  
Franklin (3.62), Morena Zelaya  
Halifax (1.35), Bill Smith  
Mansfield (2.84), Josh Reinke  
Middleboro (2.83), Mark Germain

Norfolk (2.27), Karen Edwards  
North Attleboro (3.30), Tony Morabito  
Norton (2.13), Alec Rich  
Plymouth (5.42), Lindsay Reik  
Scituate (2.35), Linda Hayes  
Wrentham (1.94), Janet Angelico

Also present:

Mary Ellen DeFrias, Dan Burgess, Kylie Araujo

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## 2. February 18, 2026 Open Session Minutes

A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve February 18, 2026 Open Session Minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Bellingham (2.62), Josie Dutil- aye  
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye  
Duxbury (2.28), Joanne Moore- aye  
Foxborough (2.38), Catherine Feerick- aye  
Hanover (1.98), Tammy Murray- aye  
Kingston (2.00), Patti Waitkevich- aye  
Lakeville (1.60), Lori Fahey- aye  
Marshfield (3.09), Greg Guimond- aye  
Medway (1.98), Cathy Cebrowski- aye  
Pembroke (2.56), Diane Picot- aye

Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye  
Plympton (1.24), Colleen Thompson- aye  
Raynham (2.08), Erin Medeiros- aye  
Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle- aye  
Seekonk (2.13), Brittney Faria- aye  
Taunton (5.58), Mayor Shaunna O'Connell- aye  
Wareham (3.25), Alan Slavin- aye  
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond- aye

**Motion to approve February 18, 2026 Open Session Minutes passed.**

## 3. Administrator Report & Financial Report

Mary Ellen DeFrias reviewed the March 2026 Administrator Report. She noted the ridership numbers are included. Demand Response and Fixed Route has been a little stagnant and she is hoping for an increase in those numbers. She also noted that the Gateway Link has taken off and proves that it is a critical service to connect multiple service areas. Mary Ellen also noted that the recent blizzard was a challenging time, but GATRA was able to get service back on the road pretty quickly. Mary Ellen also noted that GATRA is going out to bid for security services to address security concerns at the Taunton Terminal and on the buses.

Mary Ellen also noted that the World Cup is coming up within the next few months. She will be at the friendly match in March to observe traffic patterns.

The East Maintenance Facility in Wareham is moving along and is currently 94% completed. After April 1, contractors can cut the street to get gas to the building, which will help final projects be completed.

There are no changes to the Civil Rights section of the report. Mary Ellen noted the next Regional Public Meeting is April 23, 2026.

Dan Burgess reviewed the March 2026 Financial Report, noting that the trends are pretty consistent with other months. Dan said that GATRA will plan to bring a budget adjustment to a meeting this spring to address the discrepancies in the budget. He also noted that GATRA has received the state Fare Free funds, but they came in after January. Since the report shows the budget through January, the funds are not reflected on the report, however, will be reflected in next month's report. Dan also noted that Brokerage expenses and revenues continue to exceed expectations, but they offset each other, so it is not of concern.

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There were no questions on either report.

A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the above-stated reports. A roll call vote was taken.

Bellingham (2.62), Josie Dutil- aye  
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye  
Duxbury (2.28), Joanne Moore- aye  
Foxborough (2.38), Catherine Feerick- aye  
Hanover (1.98), Tammy Murray- aye  
Kingston (2.00), Patti Waitkevich- aye  
Lakeville (1.60), Lori Fahey- aye  
Marshfield (3.09), Greg Guimond- aye  
Medway (1.98), Cathy Cebrowski- aye  
Pembroke (2.56), Diane Picot- aye

Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye  
Plympton (1.24), Colleen Thompson- aye  
Raynham (2.08), Erin Medeiros- aye  
Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle- aye  
Seekonk (2.13), Brittney Faria- aye  
Taunton (5.58), Mayor Shaunna O'Connell- aye  
Wareham (3.25), Alan Slavin- aye  
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond- aye

**Motion to approve the above-stated reports passed.**

**4. Fiscal Year (FY) 27 Draft Budget Presentation**

Mary Ellen DeFrias and Dan Burgess reviewed the FY27 Draft Budget. This is the first draft, high level view of the FY27 budget. At this time, GATRA is projecting conservative increases from both state and federal sources. Mary Ellen noted that, because there is a Union contract in place this year, GATRA can better plan for demand response and fixed route expenses.

Josie Dutil, Bellingham asked about the line for administrative expenses being level funded. Mary Ellen confirmed that that was for the Brokerage line, which is a level funded contract.

Mary Ellen reviewed the timeline for the budget approval. The Board will receive the budget in May and have the month to sit with it until the June meeting. It will be voted on by the Board in the June meeting.

**5. Confirm Executive Compensation Committee**

Mayor O'Connell, Taunton explained the purpose of the Executive Compensation Committee. The Committee will meet in late April/early May and review the Administrator's performance. The Committee will make a recommendation to the Board regarding any changes in compensation. The Board will vote on any Administrator compensation changes in the May Board meeting, effective July 1, 2026.

The Executive Compensation Committee is proposed as follows:

Joanne Moore, Duxbury  
Tammy Murray, Hanover  
Brenda Watkinson, Plainville

Mayor O'Connell, Taunton  
Alan Slavin, Wareham

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A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the Executive Compensation Committee as outlined above. A roll call vote was taken.

Bellingham (2.62), Josie Dutil- aye  
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye  
Duxbury (2.28), Joanne Moore- aye  
Foxborough (2.38), Catherine Feerick- aye  
Hanover (1.98), Tammy Murray- aye  
Kingston (2.00), Patti Waitkevich- aye  
Lakeville (1.60), Lori Fahey- aye  
Marshfield (3.09), Greg Guimond- aye  
Medway (1.98), Cathy Cebrowski- aye  
Pembroke (2.56), Diane Picot- aye

Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye  
Plympton (1.24), Colleen Thompson- aye  
Raynham (2.08), Erin Medeiros- aye  
Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle- aye  
Seekonk (2.13), Brittney Faria- aye  
Taunton (5.58), Mayor Shaunna O'Connell- aye  
Wareham (3.25), Alan Slavin- aye  
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond- aye

**Motion to approve the Executive Compensation Committee passed.**

## 6. Adjournment

Mayor O'Connell, Taunton thanked the Board members for being present and for their commitment to GATRA by being an active member of the Advisory Board.

A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken.

Bellingham (2.62), Josie Dutil- aye  
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye  
Duxbury (2.28), Joanne Moore- aye  
Foxborough (2.38), Catherine Feerick- aye  
Hanover (1.98), Tammy Murray- aye  
Kingston (2.00), Patti Waitkevich- aye  
Lakeville (1.60), Lori Fahey- aye  
Marshfield (3.09), Greg Guimond- aye  
Medway (1.98), Cathy Cebrowski- aye  
Pembroke (2.56), Diane Picot- aye

Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye  
Plympton (1.24), Colleen Thompson- aye  
Raynham (2.08), Erin Medeiros- aye  
Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle- aye  
Seekonk (2.13), Brittney Faria- aye  
Taunton (5.58), Mayor Shaunna O'Connell- aye  
Wareham (3.25), Alan Slavin- aye  
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond- aye

**Motion to adjourn passed.** The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:22PM.

## Documents & Exhibits Discussed in this Meeting:

- 3.18.26 GATRA Advisory Board Meeting Agenda
- 2.18.26 GATRA Advisory Board Open Session Minutes
- March 2026 Administrator's Report
- March 2026 Financial Report
- FY27 Draft Budget Overview

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