MVRTD Board of Commissioners Minutes

July 14th, 2026

Commissioners, In-Person Attendance:

Albert Wenta, Town of Proctor Representative

Bailey Phillips, Residence Hall Director, VSU- Castleton

Chet Brown, Town of West Rutland Representative

Devon Neary, Chair of Board

Jim Haff, Town of Killington Representative

MVRTD Staff, In-Person Attendance:

Jade McClallen, Executive Director

Patti Johnson, Finance Director

Stacy Hall, HR Manager

Tyler D'Ambrosio, Sr. Marketing Coordinator

In-Person Attendance

Lori Borelli, Passenger

Commissioners, Virtual Attendance

Ethan Pepin, Interim Secretary

Sam Budusky, KPAA Representative

Call to Order Called to Order at 10:05 by Devon Neary

Motion to Approve Motion to Approve July 14th Agenda by Albert. Seconded by Chet. None opposed, Agenda is approved.

Motion to Approve Motion to Approve June 12th Minutes by Chet. Seconded by Albert. None opposed, Minutes are approved.

Open to the Public Lori shares that she has continued to clean the transit center on her own time and asks how often it's meant to be cleaned by paid employees. Jade replies that BGS takes care of the Transit Center Monday-Friday. Lori suggests adding a second trash can to the concourse for convenience. Patti and Devon discuss contacting Casella to get a smart garbage can for the concourse. Jade replies that she will look into it.

Lori goes on to say that some passengers are not fully aware of the return to fares. Jade replies that this was an expected turn of events, especially for less informed groups and MVRTD is actively working on spreading the word.

AI Policy Review Stacy shares that she and Jade have worked with SymQuest to develop an AI Policy for internal use at MVRTD.

She goes on to say that currently MVRTD staff are using the company login for Microsoft's Copilot but if any other AI software is requested for use, it must be approved by their supervisor or by the Executive Director.

Motion to Approve Motion to approve the AI Policy by Jim. Seconded by Albert, the motion is unopposed and is effective today.

P&L Report Patti shares the current financials through May. She shares that MVRTD is currently at -$94,000 and is projected to be at -$200,000 for the end of the fiscal year. Jim shares his analysis of the figures presented and suggest that we have time to correct the financial status of the organization, to which Patti agrees.

Devon asks if we have a minimum funding policy to which Patti replies that we currently have an investment policy but she has not seen a policy regarding keeping a certain level of reserve funding in the bank. Jim shares that he would be concerned about a policy that limits purchasing power for necessary and immediate purchases. To which Devon agrees and clarifies that the RRPC uses it more as a guideline rather than a strict policy.

ED Report Jade shares that we will be moving to a direct billing of expenses for Medicaid transportation. Unfortunately, the necessary reporting tools for this move are not yet ready to be implemented. The expectation is that these tools will be in place by October. Therefore, DVHA and Medicaid are willing to offer MVRTD a loan of these payments until the tools are ready in the fall. For clarity, Jade states that we will not be billing Medicaid until those tools are in place.

Moreover, Jade goes on to say that the Karr Group of restaurants on Killington would like to extend the service hours of the Rutland-Killington Route. Jade is currently in talks with the KPAA and has given them two service proposals and is awaiting their reply. Jim clarifies that the town of Killington is not involved in these negotiations.

Appointment of Commissioners The municipal representatives of Killington, West Rutland, and Proctor voted to approve Ethan Pepin, Sam Budusky, Devon Neary, and Bailey Phillips as At-Large Commissioners. The motion was put forward by Jim Haff and seconded by Chet Brown. With none opposed, the four are approved as At-Large Commissioners for MVRTD in FY27.

The board then went on to appoint the following members in the following positions:

Chair of Board – Devon Neary

Vice Chair of Board – Ethan Pepin

Treasurer – Ethan Pepin

Secretary – Bailey Phillips

Executive Committee At-Large Commissioner – Albert Wenta

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Devon thanks everyone and points out that we have at least three At-Large Commissioner positions that can be filled. Jim suggest that the board abstains from involving more members from Killington as it would leave the board with an inherent bias. Devon suggests that we should be looking for community-based organizational partners, especially medical and human service agencies. Finally, we should be looking to fill the position of municipal representatives for Fair Haven and the City of Rutland.

Other Business Patti shares that VTRANS has been lowered from High risk to moderate risk which means that we are now eligible for pre-paid billing if needed. She goes on to say that fare sales began in June and the collection of fares on vehicles began on July 1st. She explains that the system has worked smoothly so far and thanks Gloria for her great work at the transit center as well as Tyler for his efforts. We are currently on track to meet our projected sales figures.

Adjournment Meeting was adjourned at 10:41AM by Devon Neary