

Seth Boyd called the meeting to order at 10:02 am. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were as follows:

**Board Members:**

Randy Capitani  
Seth Boyd  
Sue Fillion  
Jason Rasmussen  
Joel Bluming  
Brendan McNamara  
Chris Company

**Members of the Public:** None

**Staff Present:**

Randy Schoonmaker, CEO, SEVT  
Keith Johnson, Finance Manager, SEVT  
Christine Howe, General Manager, SEVT

**Invited Guests:**

Jeremy Whiting, VTrans

**Public Input:** None

**Amendments to the Agenda:** Eliminate Route Changes, Add Hermitage Club

**Minutes of July 15, 2025 meeting:** Seth asked about the draft of the Safety Plan and if that is coming back to the Board. It is on today's agenda.

**Ridership, unaudited Budget vs Actual:** Randy S. presented FY25 ridership. Any ridership in a box is a record from when the SEVT was formed. There were 14 records set, all in the Rockingham region. In demand response we were down on Medicaid rides but up in O & D. The Rockingham location increased almost 10% over the previous year and the best year yet. The Wilmington location was down and had some route cuts. The company overall increased by 2%. SEVT set a record for fixed route rides. The FY26 Ridership Summary was presented with notes on some reasoning for the ridership numbers. Discussion ensued regarding ridership habit changes and increasing ridership. Jason asked if one vehicle for Springfield Microtransit will be enough based on the ridership already showing for the Intown bus. Randy S explained we need to get it going first to see how it does but may need to find other funding to add a vehicle at peak times. Jeremy noted that VTrans had done incentives with GoVermont to increase membership and noted that grocery cards were the most often reward people were signing up for. Randy C noted that with the short-term rental registry could that list be utilized for marketing.

Unaudited financials were presented to the Board. Remote work for the audit has begun. The income shows a deficit in Medicaid income, which also will translate into some savings on expenses. There is more income in the O &D because that expense was higher. We are owed over \$175,000 from Medicaid but will not know if we will be trued up for that money. Federal Operating shows less income but again offset by lower expenses. Savings in expenses were reviewed, with the overall operating surplus at \$127,000 after capital gross surplus of \$3,949. Randy C commented that the management team did a great job managing financials. Keith explained the increase in state help, foundations and grants, plus additional town appropriations helped. Seth reiterated the support for

the team managing financials. Randy S explained at the next meeting there will be an update on the Medicaid income.

**VTrans Update:** Jeremy stated that FY27 from a budget standpoint the federal level looks level funded, however the state funding looks like there may be a 10% reduction in public transportation funds. The 10% is not set in stone yet, but that is what all indications point to. Randy C asked if it is legislation or administration. Randy S stated that it is directed from the administration. Jeremy explained just recently they were told no out of state travel to help save money. Jeremy also said that state remote workers will be brought back into offices as well. That actually might help in the state for ridership as well. Jeremy explained the volunteer/community driver recruitment program statewide to help recruit and retain volunteer drivers.

**Springfield Bus Shelters:** Randy S explained that SEVT owns three shelters in Springfield, and they will not be bus stops once microtransit is in place. The Board should think about what they would like to do with the shelters once microtransit begins. Randy S would lean toward keeping them if the decision was made today, however does SEVT want to maintain ownership. Randy C noted they would be good to promote microtransit. Sue noted that if they stay in place, we deed the shelter over to the businesses they are located on. Seth agreed with Sue to deed them to another owner. Jason said to leave them in place for the first year and then transfer ownership. Sue agreed that we see how the microtransit performs first. Randy S confirmed we will leave the shelters as is and revisit in the future, with the bus fixed route schedule signs removed.

**Springfield Microtransit:** Randy S gave an update on the outreach that has been completed in Springfield. Randy S is meeting with the Springfield School Board to see if the microtransit service will be allowed on campus. This may also prove a capacity issue. There will be a special reach out to our current fixed use riders. We are still trying to begin the service at the beginning of October pending the executed grant agreement.

**Hermitage Club:** Randy S explained the Hermitage Club contacted us for employee housing transportation from Rt 9 to the entrance of their location. This is service that is along the route that already runs. This would be additional income with no additional expense. Randy C is in complete agreement to move forward with this offer. Sue asked at what point does this become charter service. Randy S explained charter service is a defined group of people, not open to the public, on a certain day and time. This is an open to the public route that is advertised. This request is not time specific or date specific. Sue asked about the July 4<sup>th</sup> Wardsboro parade. Randy S explained those are open to the masses. **Motion 1: Randy C motioned to authorize the CEO to negotiate with the Hermitage Club for up to \$10,000, Chris second. Randy C amended to allow the CEO to negotiate the contract, Chris accepted the amendment motion passed 5-0.**

**Safety:** Christine asked for some slight changes to be reviewed to the Safety Plan. Randy S noted the plan is already approved and does the Board wish to review changes. Randy C and Seth agree that some language changes can just be reviewed as this is a live document. Christine asked for confirmation that this can be rolled out to the staff, Seth confirmed. Any changes that are needed in the future will be brought to the board.

**Executive Session to discuss employee and contractual matters:** None needed

**Meeting adjourned at 11:11, after quorum was lost.**