



**Benzie Transportation Authority
Millage Committee Meeting
August 8, 2023
14150 US 31 Beulah, MI 49617
Minutes approved as presented September 15, 2023**

1. **Call to Order** Meeting called to order at 5:30PM
2. **Roll Call** Present: Brian Halliday, Jeannette Feeheley, John Morse (ex officio), Dorene Strang
Absent: Anne Noah
3. **Welcome and Recognition of Visitors** None
4. **Correspondence** None
5. **Amendments/Additions to Agenda** Halliday added item a. Election of Officers to item New Business
6. **Public Comment** None
7. **Approval of Agenda** *Motion* by Feeheley to approve the agenda as amended. Support by Strang. All ayes, motion carried.
8. **Call for Conflict of Interest** None
9. **New Business**
 - a. **Election of Officers** Motion by Feeheley with support by Strang to elect Halliday as Chair of the Millage Committee. All ayes, motion carried. Motion by Halliday with support by Strang to elect Feeheley as Vice Chair. All ayes, motion carried.
 - b. **Committee Goals** The goals of the committee were determined to be as follows:
 - i. Decide on whether the committee will recommend to the Board: the millage be allowed to expire; request a millage decrease; request a millage renewal; request a millage renewal with Headlee override; request a millage increase
 - ii. Identify the date the millage request will occur
 - iii. Identify the “why” of the request
 - c. **Millage History @ BTA** Carland provided millage results from previous requests.
 - d. **Millage Timeline** Carland provided estimated timetables for August and November 2024 millage requests, including when the petition to place the millage question on the ballot must be filed.
 - e. **Data Requirements** The committee identified the following data requirements that must be prepared for the next committee meeting:
 - i. Five-year financial forecast
 - ii. Passenger trends
 - iii. Capital and Operating needs
 - iv. 5-year property taxable value trends at both the County and Village/Township levels

- v. Fund balances of similar transit agencies
- vi. Fare comparisons of similar transit agencies
- vii. Future local ballot measures
- viii. Millage requests and results of similar transit agencies

The committee also requested that Carland find out if other transit agencies create 5-year plans to aide with millage preparations

- f. **Campaign Rules** Carland reviewed rules regarding staff and board members advocating for a BTA millage request. As long as staff/board members are not getting paid, they may advocate for “yes” votes. If staff/board members are acting on behalf of BTA, they may educate community members about the millage, but may not advocate.
- g. **Friends of BTA** Halliday asked that each committee member ask at least two people if they would be willing to volunteer on the Friends of BTA. The Friends group will act as the primary advocacy group for any mill request.
- h. **Future Meeting Schedule** TBD

10. Public Comment None

11. Roundtable None

12. Adjournment Adjourned at 7:05PM

Recording Secretary

Date