



RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY

**Joint Pension Board**  
**Thursday, January 22, 2026**  
**12:30 p.m.**  
**269 Melrose Street, Providence**  
**Transportation Board Room**

**Members Present:** Steven Sousa, Chairperson; Normand Benoit; Walter Melillo; Teri Fossa; Maureen Alexander; and Jenny Williford.

**Absent Members:** None.

**Also Present:** Christopher Durand, CEO; Christopher Fragomeni, Esq., Board Counsel; Maureen Ruzzano, HR Chief Compliance Officer; Jacqueline Weidinger, Administrative Assistant-Executive Office; and RIPTA staff.

**Call to order:** Mr. Sousa calls the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m., indicating that a quorum was present.

**Agenda Item 4:** **To Consider for Election the Joint Pension Board Chairperson**

Mr. Sousa moves this agenda item to the first order of business.

Mr. Sousa nominates Mr. Benoit as Chairperson; Mr. Melillo, Ms. Alexander, Ms. Fossa, and Ms. Williford agree. No vote is taken.

**Agenda Item 1:** **Approval of December 4, 2025, Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Melillo makes a motion to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2025, meeting. Mr. Sousa seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Alexander, Ms. Fossa and Ms. Williford.

**Agenda Item 2:** **Approval of December 4, 2025, Executive Session Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Sousa makes a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes of the December 4, 2025, meeting. Mr. Melillo seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Alexander, Ms. Fossa, and Ms. Williford.

**Agenda Item 3:      Public Comment**

None.

**Agenda Item 5:      Convene as Pension Benefit Subcommittee**

**Consideration Of Benefit Requests for Local 618 & 618A Employees**

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for Michael Andreoni – Building and Ground Worker – Active Employee. Mr. Andreoni requested his early pension benefits become effective on January 1, 2026, in the amount of \$800.29 per month.

Mr. Melillo makes a motion to approve. Mr. Sousa seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Williford, Ms. Alexander, and Ms. Fossa.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for Erminio Conte – Principal Marketing Specialist – Active Employee. Mr. Conte requested his late pension benefits become effective on February 1, 2026, in the amount of \$4658.86 per month.

Mr. Sousa makes a motion to approve. Mr. Melillo seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Alexander, Ms. Fossa and Ms. Williford.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for Sabrina Arruda – Mechanic – Active Employee. Ms. Arruda requested her late pension benefits become effective on February 1, 2026, in the amount of \$3067.48 per month.

Mr. Sousa makes a motion to approve. Mr. Melillo seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Alexander, Ms. Fossa and Ms. Williford.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for Vital DaRosa – Utility Worker – Active Employee. Mr. DaRosa requested his pension benefits become effective on February 1, 2026, in the amount of \$3003.03 per month.

Mr. Melillo makes a motion to approve. Mr. Sousa seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Alexander, Ms. Fossa and Ms. Williford.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for Deborah Andreozzi – Paratransit Coordinator – Active Employee. Ms. Andreozzi requested her late pension benefits become effective on February 1, 2026, in the amount of \$1906.93 per month.

Ms. Williford makes a motion to approve. Mr. Sousa seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Melillo, Mr. Benoit, Ms. Alexander and Ms. Fossa.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for Matthew Maraia – Bus Operator – Active Employee. Mr. Maraia requested his late pension benefits become effective

on March 1, 2026, in the amount of \$4377.29 per month.

Mr. Sousa makes a motion to approve. Mr. Melillo seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Alexander, Ms. Williford and Ms. Fossa.

- Ms. Ruzzano presents the pension application for William Felci – Bus Operator – Active Employee. Mr. Felci requested his late pension benefits become effective on April 1, 2026, in the amount of \$2979.17 per month.

Ms. Williford makes a motion to approve. Mr. Sousa seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Melillo, Mr. Benoit, Ms. Alexander, and Ms. Fossa.

**Agenda Item 6:**            **Board Discussion/Approval Pension Audit**

Ms. Erica Olobri from CBIZ CPAs reviews the draft for the Pension Audit. Board discussion.

No vote is taken.

**Agenda Item 7**            **Adjournment 1:12 p.m.**

Mr. Sousa makes a motion to adjourn. Ms. Williford seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Melillo, Mr. Benoit, Ms. Alexander and Ms. Fossa.

Respectfully submitted,

---

RIPTA Joint Pension Board