



**Special Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 5, 2026**  
**3:00 p.m.**  
**269 Melrose Street, Providence**  
**Transportation Board Room**

**Members Present:** James Lombardi, Board Vice Chair; James Leach, Board Treasurer; Patrick Crowley, Board Secretary; Vincent Masino; and Heather Schey.

**Absent Members:** Director Alviti, Board Chair; Bernard Georges; Normand Benoit; and Marcy Reyes.

**Also Present:** Christopher Durand, CEO; Christopher Fragomeni, Esq., Board Counsel; Jacqueline Weidinger, Executive Assistant to CEO; members of RIPTA staff; and members of the public.

**Call to Order:** James Lombardi calls the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m., indicating that a quorum is present.

**Agenda Item 3: Executive Session**

Executive Session to consider, discuss and act upon such matters as may be closed to the public pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) (Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation).

Mr. Leach makes a motion to enter into Executive Session. Ms. Schey seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Crowley, Mr. Masino and Mr. Lombardi.

The Board enters into Executive Session to consider, discuss and act upon such matters as may be closed to the public pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) (Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation).

The Board and Counsel enter into Executive Session at 3:06 p.m.

The Board and Counsel enter public session at 3:16 p.m.

Attorney Fragomeni reports that only one vote was taken during Executive Session, a vote to adjourn Executive Session.

Mr. Crowley makes a motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session. Mr. Masino seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Leach, Mr. Lombardi, and Ms. Schey.

Mr. Crowley makes a motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement, as ratified by the Local 618 Union. Mr. Lombardi seconds the motion, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Leach, Mr. Masino, and Ms. Schey.

**Agenda Item 2: Approval of Expenditures to INIT (RIPTA's fare technology provider) to implement open payments on the fleet, and outfit the paratransit fleet with Wave validators.**

Christopher Durand makes the request.

Mr. Crowley makes a motion to approve. Ms. Schey seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Leach, Mr. Masino, and Mr. Lombardi.

Mr. Crowley exits the meeting at 3:21pm.

**Agenda Item 1: Public Comment**

1. Walter Melillo

- Gives his sincere thanks for approving the 618 Union Contract, states that this is a testament to the respect for one another, the shared goal and a fair path forward. The Union Members also thank you for the shared support.

2. Randall Rose – Rhode Island Transit Riders

- States that any break down in technology, vendors should not be paid for or during that time.

- Discusses how dangerous the bus stops are due to the snow storms with riders waiting in the street.

**Agenda Item 4:      **Adjournment – 3:27 p.m.****

The meeting adjourns at 3:27 p.m. No vote is taken.

Respectfully submitted,

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Patrick Crowley, Secretary