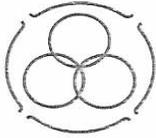


MULTI - MODAL  
TRANSPORTATION



## EASTERN UPPER PENINSULA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

4001 I-75 Business Spur

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Phone: (906) 632-2898 Fax: (906) 632-0988

E-mail: [euptatrans@lighthouse.net](mailto:euptatrans@lighthouse.net)

Web: [www.eupta.net](http://www.eupta.net)

# Regular Board Meeting

**DATE:** Monday, October 1, 2007

**PLACE:** Luce County Courthouse (small courtroom)  
407 W. Harrie Street  
Newberry, Michigan

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dennis Robinson      Ted Postula      Rodney Richards  
Frank Sasso                      Aaron Hopper

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None absent

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
STAFF PRESENT:** Akemi Gordon                      Jim Dunn, Attorney  
Lynda Schexnayder

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
STAFF ABSENT:** Chuck Moser

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Luce County residents  
Sugar Island residents

## **BOARD MEETING**

Page 2

October 1, 2007

### **I. - II. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 4:03p.m. by Chairman Sasso. All directors were present with the exception of Chuck Moser.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A resident of Newberry spoke regarding the possibility of Dial-A-Ride transportation for her sister. The resident lives approximately three miles from the farthest point DAR travels in Luce County. Chairman Sasso told her it would be checked into. This resident was also at the Public Hearing June 20, 2007 and made the same request.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –September 5, 2007**

With regard to Regular Board Meeting Minutes for September 5, 2007; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

### **V. FINANCIAL REPORT - P.E. August 31, 2007**

#### **IN GENERAL**

Finance Director Gordon reported October operating funds are delayed due to the State's budget not being approved.

Gordon reported she has received a registration and delegate certification form that will need board action. The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual MERS Premier Health board meeting will be held October 23<sup>rd</sup>. This certification will allow Gordon to vote on behalf of EUPTA on any issues that will need the membership's approval. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Hopper; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula to continue with Gordon as the representative for EUPTA. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

#### **BUSSING**

Gordon reported we received preliminary funding allocation results for our FYE 2008 JARC request. Because the funding is limited especially in the non-urban areas, and the funding requests far exceeded the amount available for 08, the department considered the information in the applications, coordinated plans as well as priorities that were stated in the application instructions. They ultimately decided to fund those agencies that received JARC funding in 07 and allowed a 10% cost

## **BOARD MEETING**

**Page 3**

**October 1, 2007**

of living increase. This will tentatively bring our funding to \$17,600 for operating. What that means to EUPTA is that we will not be able to add any additional service as previously requested in our application. In addition to the operating request, we also requested capital money for the purchase of a new van. That funding is also tentatively in the process of getting approved. MDOT stresses that these are "DRAFT FUNDING RESULTS" and no funding commitments are being made at this time. They wanted to let the agencies know how the JARC monies would be allocated when and if the State application is approved by the feds. Just to let you know how competitive this funding is, there is approximately a little over 1.2 million available state-wide. The requests that MDOT received with the applications was a million more than what was available.

Gordon reported the bus system is showing a \$3,500 loss so far. At the same time last year we were a little over \$15,000 in the red. A good estimate of our bottom line for September was not yet available. With it being our year end, there are too many accruals that will need to be made that may swing the financials in either direction. (Vacation, sick leave, wages, accounts payable)

Gordon reported Ridership for August is up 248 passengers in total, and for the year we are 199 passengers behind last year at this time.

### **FERRIES**

Gordon reported the month of August was a pretty decent month for the ferries. Even though the vehicles were down slightly (244) our passenger counts were up and the financial statements show a very small profit of \$2,300 YTD through the end of August. At this time last year we had an operating loss of (\$32,655).

Preliminary counts for September are unavailable at this time.

## **VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **FERRY SYSTEM**

Finance Director Gordon reported on behalf of Director Moser using his report. Gordon reported John Drury is reviewing the bid specs for the Radar Replacement Project. As soon as we get MDOT's approval to request bids we will do so.

## **BOARD MEETING**

**Page 4**

**October 1, 2007**

Gordon reported the number of mechanical issues needing repairs and rainy weather is causing the Drummond Islander IV to be out of service longer than usual. It should be ready to go back into service by mid week. We are waiting for non-skid deck paint and weather permitting, the vessel should be in the water this afternoon. It will be available in case of emergency late this afternoon.

Gordon reported a starter failed on Drummond III on Wednesday of last week. The starter did not disengage after being used, which caused further damage to the ignition wiring. Repairs were not complete until approximately 3:30p.m. This left Drummond without service for about 8 hours as Drummond IV was in dry-dock. Overall our customers were very understanding. To further complicate the issue, we did not have cellular service making communications difficult during the down time.

Gordon reported problems with hydraulic pumps on board the Neebish II which have caused a few delays in service there as well.

Gordon reported we were quite busy keeping up our regular traffic as Payne & Dolan was hauling asphalt for four days to Sugar Island. Some ramp and cable repairs were necessary during this project.

## **VII. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**IT WAS MOVED** by Director Richards; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula that officers remain the same. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

## **VIII. ATTORNEY REPORT**

Attorney Dunn reported there is a State Budget and there is also a 30 day continuation budget. The three things that basically raised revenue were the income tax increase from 3.9 to 4.35; the 6% sales tax to some services and changes in the teacher's health care. Dunn explained the way transportation is affected. There will be some adjustments made. More details will be available next month.

**BOARD MEETING**

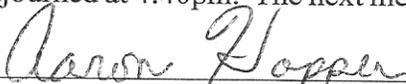
Page 5

October 1, 2007

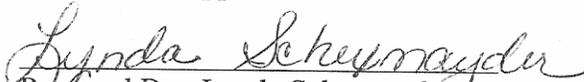
In closing, Dunn reported two policies will be brought back to the board meeting next month for adoption; the Elderly and Handicap Policy and the Advertising Policy.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Hopper; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 4:40pm. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday November 5, 2007, at 4:00p.m.



Mr. Aaron Hopper, Sec. /Treas.

  
Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder