

Eastern Upper Peninsula Transportation Authority

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, April 6, 2009

PLACE: 4001 I-75 Business Spur
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rodney Richards Frank Sasso Ted Postula
Dennis Robinson Jack Kibble

MEMBERS ABSENT: None absent

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: Chuck Moser Akemi Gordon Lyn Rairigh
Lynda Schexnayder Jim Dunn, Attorney

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF ABSENT: None absent

OTHERS PRESENT: See attached sign in sheet.

I. - II. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:00p.m. by Chairman Sasso. All directors were present.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –March 2, 2009

With regard to Regular Board Meeting Minutes for March 2, 2009; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Richards; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT-P.E.-February 28, 2009

BUSSING

Finance Director Akemi Gordon reported overall rider ship is up 7% or just over 1,600 passengers. Chippewa is up 12% with Luce County down 20%. Total revenue has increased 6.72% and expenses have also increased 8.37%.

FERRIES

Gordon reported YTD vehicle traffic is down over 10,000 or 6% with passengers down over 13,000 or 5%. The month of February was not a good month for traffic, all three ferry systems experienced decreases in vehicles and passengers. Neebish's decrease had a lot to do with it being shut down most of February this year, where last year it ran all winter with the exception of a few days. In addition, there was one extra day in the month of February last year.

Overall, the ferry system is carrying a loss of slightly over \$50,000 through the end of February.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

BUSSING

Director Moser updated the board on the status of MDOT Bus contract for replacing two buses. Once ordered the wait time is approximately 6 months.

Moser gave a progress update on MPTA/MASSTrans meetings. These meetings have been specifically on the issue of how the formula comes out of the Comprehensive Transportation Fund. MASSTrans has been trying to get formula changes.

FERRIES

Moser reported with regard to RFP for consultant; he has been working with John Drury (MDOT) to procure the services of a consultant that has proven experience with commercial ferry vessels, as well as vessel facilities such as docks to come in and do a thorough inventory and analysis of our ferries and docks so that we will be better prepared in regards to capital planning. The consultant or firm selected will be required to update all vessel surveys and to prioritize potential capital projects. It is Moser's hope to award the work by the end of April and have the project completed by late summer. This will give him enough time to prepare grant requests in the next annual application cycle.

Moser gave an update on the proposed "Little Rapids Project" at the causeway to Sugar Island. Apparently NOAA has stimulus money available to increase the flow under the causeway to improve the habitat for fish spawning, etc. Moser is checking into what effect this would have on EUPTA's operation.

VII. ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Dunn reported he met with Attorney Dobias prior to this meeting and believes we are close to a resolution with regard to current lawsuit.

Attorney Dunn spoke briefly on available funding for ferries and small vs. larger systems.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 4:37pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 4, 2009, at 4:00p.m

Ted Postula, Sec. /Treas.

Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder