

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, March 7, 2011

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ted Postula Jack Kibble Frank Sasso
Dennis Robinson Michael Herbst

MEMBERS ABSENT: None absent

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

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF ABSENT: None absent

OTHERS PRESENT: See attached sign in sheet.

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I. - II. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:10p.m. by Chairman Sasso. All Directors were present.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jesse Knoll asked if the lawsuit with Doreen Freeborn had ever been settled. Attorney Dunn responded that it was withdrawn sometime last summer.

Jesse reported that the pile cluster at Sugar is relocated and believes emergency funds are available to take care of this. Director Moser responded that he is aware of the relocation and it will be taken care of.

Mr. Willis reported that the garbage can in the waiting area is overflowing. We will check into this.

Mr. Willis noted he sees a new sign at the Sugar ferry crossing and asked if these were now permanent fares. Response: Surcharge was rolled into the regular fare at November, 2010 meeting.

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –January 3, 2011

With regard to Regular Board Meeting Minutes for February 14, 2011; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT-P.E.-January 31, 2011

BUSSING

Finance Director Gordon reported there has been a 4% increase in YTD fares for both Chippewa and Luce County. Going back 5 years, the fares tend to fluctuate from year to year. 2007 was the lowest year in the past 5 for fares, in 08 and 09 we gained some revenue but in 2010 it stated to decline again. With the fuel prices increasing recently, ridership is beginning to increase as well.

Gordon reported submitting 2012 JARC application for Luce County, requesting \$27,938. EUPTA requested additional funds to expand service to 5 days a week instead of the current 3. We have been requesting increases in the past several years but have only been funded to provide for 3 days.

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FERRIES

Finance Director Gordon reported completing the 2012 Application for Ferry Operating Assistance and Capital. Gordon presented and recommended approval of Resolution of Intent to apply for this assistance. EUPTA has applied for \$1,414,955 in State operating assistance and \$222,222 in capital for various vessel system upgrades, of which \$200,000 state funds and \$22,222 will be our local match. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

Gordon reported fare revenue is down 3% for the year, vehicles are down 2% and passengers are down 5%.

Gordon reported the ferry system is experiencing a loss of \$91,500 which is almost \$43,000 more than a year ago. By the end of the fiscal year, we were able to recover and come out ahead by \$23,194 as a whole.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Moser reported he has received notice that the Dial-A-Ride office in Newberry will need to vacate their present office space. There was a short discussion and Director Robinson will look around to see if there is any space available anywhere else in the community. Director Herbst also said that the county may be able to furnish some space. He will check.

Moser reported EUPTA is currently accepting bids on the old van that was replaced at Newberry, a set of floor jacks and some Motorola radio equipment. Bid opening is set for Friday, March 11th.

Moser reported the Governor's transportation budget is a very good positive for transportation, and explained that Attorney Dunn has certainly contributed to the good news with his efforts on behalf of transit.

Director Moser presented and recommended approval of Resolution 2007-0204/Z24 2011 Section 5311 Operating in order to record agreement of utilization of funds provided by the Federal Transit Administration, United States Department of Transportation and MDOT in the amount of \$62,650. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

At this time Director Moser updated new board member, Michael Herbst on the stimulus project with AECOM and Matt Drewek gave an update on how the project is coming along. Matt reported the drawings are currently good enough for Funding Agency Review. He reported that drawings are nearing completion, and is working on a cost estimate. Matt reported most of the

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work to be done will be at the Barbeau site. He is trying to use as much of existing docks as possible to keep costs down. When asked for time frame; he is hopeful to go out to bid in early April with construction to begin in June.

VII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dunn reiterated that the Freeborn lawsuit was withdrawn last summer. Dunn spoke briefly on the current Mackinac Island Ferries lawsuits and the role of the Public Service Commission with regard to fares. The City of Mackinac Island Charter can set fares. Dunn reported the Governors commitment for Public Transportation is good. At 4:55pm there was a brief break.

At 5:05PM Chairman Sasso called for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Union negotiations. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Robinson; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble that this board go into Executive Session. A Roll Call vote was taken at 5:05PM

Director Robinson: yes	Director Postula: yes	Director Kibble: yes
Director Herbst: yes	Chairman Sasso: yes	

UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE

IT WAS MOVED by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble that this board return to General Session. A Roll Call Vote was taken at 5:45M.

Director Robinson: yes	Director Postula: yes	Director Kibble: yes
Director Herbst: yes	Chairman Sasso: yes	

UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE

At 5:45PM Chairman Sasso called the meeting back to order in "General Session".

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Kibble; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 4, 2011 at 4PM.

Ted Postula, Sec. /Treas.

Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder