

Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, March 5, 2012

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

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: All present

**ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF PRESENT:** Chuck Moser Akemi Gordon
Lynda Schexnayder

**ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF ABSENT:** James Dunn, Attorney

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 4:00p.m. by Chairman Sasso. All Directors were present. Attorney Dunn was absent.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –February 6, 2012

With regard to Regular Board Meeting Minutes for February 6, 2012; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

V. AUDITOR'S REPORT-Amber Mack-Anderson Tackman

Amber Mack thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with EUPTA again. Amber gave a brief description of the audit process and distributed and went over graphs. EUPTA received an "unqualified opinion", which is the highest opinion possible. Amber reported the audit went very well.

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT-P.E.-January 31, 2012

Finance Director Gordon presented and recommended approval of Resolution for Project Authorization No. 2012-0077/P3 FY 2012 Marine Capital in order to record agreement of utilization of funds provided by MDOT. Funds shall be in the amount of \$222,222; \$200,000 being State and \$22,222 being Local Match. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Robinson; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

Gordon reported we have completed our 2013 Application for Ferry Operating Assistance and Capital. Gordon presented and recommended approval of Resolution of Intent to apply for this assistance. We've applied for \$1,355,363 in State operating assistance and \$420,000 in capital for various vessel system upgrades, of which \$378,000 state funds and \$42,000 will be our local match. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Kibble; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

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BUSSING

Gordon reported a 3% increase in fares for the month of January and an increase of 316 passengers. YTD overall revenue increased 2.06% but expenses increased 3.36%.

Gordon reported submitting the 2013 JARC application for Luce County, requesting \$30,938. That should allow us to provide up to 25 hours of service per week.

FERRIES

Gordon reported traffic on the ferries was down slightly by 460 vehicles and 1,240 passengers.

Drummond's vehicles were up by 50, passengers were down by 158

Sugar's vehicles were down 744 with passengers down by 1,372

Neebish's vehicles were up 234 with passengers increasing 290

Gordon reported Maritime Escort is in an extended season and transfer has been made for the operation of the Neebish Island Ferry.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Moser updated the board on the requirement from the EPA to report to them in regard to vessel discharges. Moser began the process by registering all four of our vessels. They recommended that we do this online, which he did and has received confirmation as such to verify that we are in compliance.

Moser reported we have two employees retiring in March; Peggy Kerridge from Luce County Dial-A-Ride and Mike Kelly from Drummond Island Ferry.

Moser updated the board on the St. Mary's River project. Matt (AECOM) is waiting for final approval from FHWA to issue requests for proposals/bids. Moser asked for the board's help in evaluating proposals/bids. Moser also asked board members to check their calendars for April 11th in regard to pushing back monthly board meeting for the purposes of considering/awarding contract on St. Mary's River Dock Project.

There was a short discussion on fuel prices and whether or not to pursue "locking in" fuel purchasing for specific periods or pre-buying fuel. Moser will keep an eye on prices.

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Moser updated the board on the Michigan Public Transit Association's (MPTA) Mid-year legislative conference held in February. 17 transportation related bills have been introduced thus far in this legislative session. Moser encouraged the Board members to read House Bill 5306. In its current form this bill would result in very significant changes to Public Act 51. MPTA's legislative committee is meeting regularly to analyze this bill.

Moser reported on this year's bus capital request we submitted funds in the amount of 1.5 million for a new energy efficient "green" building. According to MDOT submitting our request thru the "state of good repair" program might be our best chance to get approval for the foreseeable future. We are going to renew our request thru this program as there has been a very recent call for projects. Also, Moser has increased the overall amount as given our recent experience with federal oversight on our stimulus project; he would like to turn this project into a "turn key" project. He is proposing that \$200,000.00 would be used for property acquisition and design with the balance used for construction. Moser will propose EUPTA's local match to be 10% of the \$200,000 or \$20,000 and ask MDOT to match the balance of \$1.65 million or \$165,000.

VIII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

No report given. Attorney Dunn absent.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Herbst to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 4:58pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday April 2, 2012 at 4PM.

Ted Postula, Sec. /Treas.

Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder