

Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, January 7, 2013

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

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None absent

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: Chuck Moser Akemi Gordon
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 4:30p.m. by Chairman Sasso. All Directors were present.

At this time, Vice-Chairman, Jack Kibble took over the meeting due to sudden illness of Chairman Sasso.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bud Willis asked how involved EUPTA is with the Little Rapids Project. Director Moser reported that Jeff Hagen was here last month at the board meeting with a presentation. Moser further explained that this will have no impact on EUPTA's operation.

Jeff Franks asked what happened with the Dual Wheel Pick-up ticket. He was not at the last meeting. Moser reported to him there will be a 10 trip ticket for \$58. This ticket should be available by the end of this week. Jeff thanked the board.

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –December 3, 2012

With regard to Minutes for December 3, 2012; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Herbst to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT-P.E.-November 30, 2012

BUSSING

Finance Director Gordon reported passenger and fares were down in November both in Chippewa and Luce County. We are in the process of getting our contract squared away for a replacement van for Luce County. Once we receive the signed contract, we will be able to purchase a new one. I have a resolution for a contract to replace the van that was totaled in September. Contract #2012-0077/P8 for \$20,961. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Robinson; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

FERRIES

Gordon reported we've started off the new fiscal year with a 3% increase in vehicles or 1,970 for the months of October and November. Drummond has a slight decrease in vehicles -136. Sugar Island has an increase of 2,226 vehicles and Neebish has a decrease of -120 vehicles.

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VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Moser presented and recommended approval of MDOT Contract 2009-0722/A1 for the purpose of extending the contract to provide sufficient time for the agency to perform the services for the modification to the existing docks for the St. Mary's River Ferry System. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

Moser presented and recommended approval of MDOT Contract 2012-0077/P7 Project Authorization FY 2010 Ferry Boat Discretionary Fund for the purpose of land purchase in the amount of \$297,500; \$238,000 (Federal) and \$59,500 (Local). **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

Moser presented and recommended approval of MDOT revised project authorization 2007-0204/Z20/R1 2010 Marine Capital for the purpose of extending authorization term by one year to allow the agency sufficient time to complete the project. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Herbst; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

BUS

Director Moser reported he has been approached by Director Stuedle to take the lead on a project to look into a number of issues in regard to public transit. He is still discussing the request with the STC chairman and hopes to move forward with plans on how best to proceed.

FERRY

Moser reported over the past two years through our legislative committee, PVA has been very active on three issues. "Out of water" Survival Craft, the TWIC issue and the EPAs Vessel General Permit. In one of its last acts, the 112th Congress gave final approval to the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2012. Several provisions in the Act will directly benefit PVA members. Two congressmen, Frank LoBiondo of New Jersey and Andy Harris of Maryland have been especially helpful to us. The Act was signed into law on December 20th. Another PVA related item; during this year's PVA convention, Vanessa Williams the current director of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will be speaking at the ferries portion of the conference. Traditionally ferry funding has been provided either

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through earmarks or formula programs from the Federal Highway Ferry Boat Discretionary Program. Although there are no earmarks being awarded currently there are still formula programs available. For the first time to my knowledge, the FTA will be accepting applications for ferry funding opportunities. Moser is planning on attending the conference this year unless the board objects and will see what he can find out further from the FTA. He will also be chairing the legislative committee and attending the PVA Board of Directors meeting.

Moser reported with regard to the RTF request for \$50,000. If the water levels continue to decline, we will be left with little choice but to lower our onshore ramps. Several years ago we lowered the Island side at Neebish. Right now we are getting by (although barely) on the mainland side. So far we are still okay at Drummond and Sugar but Moser is trying to identify a source of funds that can be accessed in case levels continue to get worse. Moser has requested \$50,000 through the Rural Task Force for Neebish and expect that it will be approved at our joint meeting in late February or early March.

Director Herbst questioned whether fuel prices were being investigated. Director Moser assured him that EUPTA does watch and compare regularly.

VII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dunn briefly went over the new legislature convening on Wednesday. He reported the old House Transportation Committee is not there; and is hopeful the new House Transportation Committee will work closely with us.

Dunn reported the Department of Civil Rights case has been dropped.

At this time Vice Chairman Kibble asked for a motion to into Executive Session to update the board on labor contracts. There will be no board action taken during the closed session except to formally open and close the meeting. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Robinson; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula that this board go into Executive Session. A Roll Call vote was taken at 5:05PM...

Director Robinson; yes
Chairman Sasso; yes

Director Herbst; yes
Director Postula; yes

Vice Chairman Kibble; yes

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IT WAS MOVED by Director Herbst; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula that the board return to general session. A Roll Call vote was taken at 5:25PM...

Director Robinson; yes
Chairman Sasso; yes

Director Herbst; yes
Director Postula; yes

Vice Chairman Kibble; yes

At 5:25PM Vice Chairman Kibble 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 Herbst; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 4, 2013 at 4PM.

Ted Postula, Sec. /Treas.

Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder