

Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, September 4, 2013

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

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None absent

**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 Frank Sasso. All Directors were present. Attorney Dunn was absent.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jesse Knoll reported he has noticed EUPTA is almost done with the dock project at Sugar. He believes there are still temporary logs in place for bumper on the mainland side. Director Moser didn't believe anything permanent was scheduled for there after the project was re-bid to meet funds available. Moser will check into it.

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –August 5, 2013

With regard to Minutes for August 5, 2013; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT-P.E.-July 31, 2013

IN GENERAL

Marek Tyszkiewicz with Tegrity Group (actuaries) gave Finance Director Gordon a preliminary timetable on the work they are doing for us on the post-retirement health fund. A preliminary report is to be delivered by September 13th, discuss any changes or alternative scenarios the week of September 16, plan for an onsite presentation during the week of September 23-27. Gordon asked board members which day would work best for them.

BUSSING

Gordon reported overall ridership remains at a decrease of 14% from a year ago. Fares are down 11%, combined revenue is down 8%. Fortunately, our expenses have likewise decreased almost 6%.

There was discussion regarding the decrease in the bus system. A recommendation will need to be made soon regarding fares.

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FERRIES

Gordon reported just for the month of July all three ferries showed a slight increase in fare revenue at 1.87% or around \$3,500. So far, for the year we are down 1.33% or \$14,000. Our YTD loss is just over \$100,000 compared to a \$45,000 loss a year ago.

Gordon referred to very last page of financial statements showing the capital match fund that is used for all of the state and federal contracts. Most of the time we are required to match 10% of the cost of all capital improvements.

There was discussion regarding what to do to make up for the \$100,000 loss we have. There was discussion regarding possible fare increase.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

FERRIES

Director Moser reported with regard to the St. Mary's River Ferry Dock-final inspection/payment. On August 22nd MDOT and AECOM made a final inspection of the dock work at Neebish. Everything went well and final payments are done. Pete Paramski, the project manager from the Newberry TSC had some very nice comments about how the work turned out.

BUSSING

Moser reported with regard to Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT)-MPTA recently hired a full time staff person whose main focus is to help develop non-emergency medical transportation, should funding become available MPTA is in a very good position to become the state's broker. Related to that Moser has made sure that if EUPTA could cover costs plus and there would be a profit margin, we would be interested in submitting a proposal should the opportunity arise for NEMT in the upper peninsula. MPTA is very interested however, 211 call centers may get the first consideration or have the first option.

Moser reported he has a call in to HBH in regard to the problems with reduced contract ridership. He is hopeful that with the recently passed Medicaid expansion legislation, that it might result in more funds for transportation services.

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VII. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

VIII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

There was no report given. Director Moser spoke with Attorney Dunn who reported hearing talk of reducing the sales tax from 6% to 5 1/2%.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Robinson; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 7, 2013 at 4PM; Luce County Courthouse (small courtroom) in Newberry.

Ted Postula, Sec. /Treas.

Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder