

# Board Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** Monday, March 2, 2015

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ted Postula                      Jack Kibble                      Ken Gill  
Frank Sasso                      Ron Ford

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None absent

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

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** See attached sheet

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### **I. - II. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00p.m. by Director Postula for Chairman Sasso who is running late. All Directors were present.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jesse Knoll offered comments in regard to personnel management.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –February 2, 2015**

With regard to Minutes for February 2, 2015; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Ford; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

### **V. FINANCIAL REPORT-P.E.-January 31, 2015.**

#### **GENERAL**

Finance Director Gordon distributed and went over Electronic Funds Transfer report.

Gordon presented and recommended approval of Resolution of Intent for regular service bus operations and marine service operations. We are applying for Federal \$114,040 and State \$1,605,263. We have also applied for our JARC grant requesting \$30,516. We have applied for 2 bus replacements, reapplied for the mini-van with a ramp, maintenance/shop equipment and tools. For the past several years we have also been requesting facility money which we have reapplied for in this application as well. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Ford; **SUPPORTED** by Director Gill to approve Resolution of Intent as presented. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

#### **BUSSING**

Gordon reported Chippewa County bus passengers are down 8% for the year or 1,100 riders. Luce County is up 6% or 137 riders. Through the end of January, revenues exceeded expenses by just over \$3,500.

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### **FERRIES**

Gordon reported fares for the month of January increased 15% for the month. This is in comparison to last year when we had several days of ice issues on Sugar Island so the ferry wasn't running. Vehicles increased 6% and passengers 8% for the month. YTD vehicles have a 4% decrease with a 3% decrease in passengers.

## **VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **FERRIES**

Director Moser reported we had a transmission overheat last Thursday morning at Sugar. We had to shut down for 4 or 5 hours for repairs. We were back running by about 10:00a.m. The overheating was not a result of overworking the engines in ice as we were accused of.

Moser reported with regard to the PVA Conference; it appears that the National Transportation Safety Board has included passenger safety as one of the ten items on its annual "Most Wanted List".

Although the list does not single out the passenger vessel industry by name, there are several items on the list that are concerning. Among them is that we will be forced into installing advanced technology that will be very expensive, require operators to install voyage data recorders that meet certain IMO standards and require all operators to implement more safety management systems. They also seem to be getting into the act in regard to "Out of water" survival craft as well. All of this is likely to be very expensive and time consuming to implement. We continue to do our best to fight back.

Moser reported he is waiting on MDOT's procurement officer to get back to him on issuing the latest RFQ in regard to Marine Capital Upgrades. Moser reported he has also been talking with the Federal Highways people that handle the Federal Ferry Boat Capital Program.

### **BUSSING**

Moser reported at Ron's request he went over to Newberry and sat down with Ron, Ken and some local folks that have an interest in transportation service specifically for people that have no transportation to get in to see a doctor such as "shut-ins", vets and elderly. Scott Peltier from Helen Newberry Hospital was there as well as Terri Hetrick from the Newberry Assisted Living Center as well as Diane Lindsey who is our primary driver over there. We have been approved for slightly over \$35,000 for the purposes of purchasing a wheelchair accessible van. It will be late this year before the funds become available, and then we can begin the purchasing process. We are not sure if MDOT will require us to purchase from an existing contract, but that part should go relatively quickly.

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The main hurdle, financially now, is to somehow come up with enough operational funds to provide the service. And finally, we will have to use some care in setting up the service so that we do not get the private sector fighting us because of what we are doing. There are specific regulations that can be hard to navigate.

### **VII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

No report given.

### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Ford; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 6, 2015 at 4PM.

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Ted Postula, Sec. /Treas.

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Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder