

Eastern Upper Peninsula Transportation Authority  
7/6/2021

1. Call to Order:

Board Chair, John Waltman, called the July 6, 2021 meeting of the Eastern Upper Peninsula Transportation Authority Board to order at 10:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call was taken:

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Waltman, Phyllis French, Joe Henne, Lynda Garlitz,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim German (excused)

Those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

3. Agenda: It was moved and approved by unanimous vote:

MOTION: Joe Henne SECOND: Phyllis French	Approve the agenda as presented.
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4. Public Comment:

- John Willis

5. Minutes: It was moved and approved by unanimous vote:

MOTION: Lynda Garlitz SECOND: Joe Henne	Approve the June 1, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.
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6. Finance Director Report:

- Pete Paramski reviewed for Akemi Gordon, Finance Director, the following:
  - Bussing reports, lagging from last year down 25%, contract ridership was discontinued during the pandemic with multiple agencies and it still has not resumed.
  - Rides to Wellness has more than made up for that deficit.
  - Traffic on ferries is up 14%, highest in five years, passenger counts up
  - Credit card revenue accounts for 39% of fares collected

7. Director's Report: Executive Director Pete Paramski, P.E. reported on EUPTA activity as follows:

- Camera Contract Update-Installation 100% complete, some bugs yet to complete. Drummond is experiencing trouble viewing the dock cameras from the boat. Made contact with SecurAlarm and the internet providers. They will be doing testing and feel it is a program issue.
- Facility Design Update – OHM still working towards final bidding documents. Good progress being made. Hoping for a fall letting but could be pushed back until spring with our funding crisis.
- IBI Update – Cashless Fare Collection System – submitted our proposal to MDOT and received review comments on it on Friday of last week. We will be working on addressing the comments today.
- Drummond Dock Work – replacing new dock header on the island side. DIII will be leaving to Sugar sometime in August. Sugar Islander Annual USCG inspection went very well. Clean report, a few little things were noted and fixes are being made.
- Sugar Islander II Dry Dock Project – To commence sometime around mid-August. DIII to fill in for Sugar Boat. Drummond will be down to one ferry boat this fall. The Sugar Islander II will be receiving two rebuilt engines, one new generator and two brand new gears. Everything is ready to go. We are in communication with the shipyard weekly.
- Facility Update and Neebish Update; Bids came in on Neebish III way over estimate. Budgeted project 2 years ago for 1.5-2 Million dollars. Seven shipyards pulled bid documents. Three submitted bids ranging from 4.7 – 6.1 million. We have 2.4 million in grant money so the bids came in about double. The three bidders were Great Lakes Towing, Burger Boat Company and Fincanteri\Bay Ship.
- All three are competent shipyards. We have not gone through evaluations to score and select the best value shipyard. This project cannot be put off any longer. Drydocking is very costly with a 1944 boat. Conversations were held with Senator Schmidt's office and MDOT. We are aggressively pursuing potential funding sources. We are feeling confident that we will obtain the necessary funding and can build boat and on schedule. There are some things in motion in Lansing and MDOT will hopefully find the additional funds. Please note we may need to contribute \$500,000.00 of local funding towards this project. We are fiscally able to do this.
- New Facility Project - The current construction estimate is 7 million dollars for the new facility. Our budget was \$3.5 million so it is about double. MDOT looking for money to help complete this project. We already have invested a substantial amount of money in the acquisition of the property, the environmental clearance and the design of the facility. We are hopeful that MDOT will be able to help identify the additionally, needed funding.

8. Board Meeting Minute and Agenda Policy

Discussion. It was moved and carried by unanimous vote:

MOTION: Lynda Garlitz SECOND: Phyllis French	To approve the Board Meeting Minute and Agenda Policy as presented
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9. New Business:

- None

10. Board Member Comments:

- Lynda Garlitz – medical emergency on Saturday. Crew had the boat ready and waiting to pick up individual. Kudos to the crew

11. Adjourn: It was moved and carried by roll call vote to:

MOTION: Joe Henne SECOND: Lynda Garlitz	Adjourn the meeting at 11:19 AM
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Lynda Garlitz, Secretary

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Kathy Neubert, Recording Secretary

Board Approved: