

Eastern Upper Peninsula Transportation Authority
10/12/2022

1. Call to Order:

Board Chair, John Waltman, called the October 12, 2022 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, Joe Henne, Nicholas Huyck, and Lynda Garlitz

MEMBERS ABSENT: Phyllis French, excused

Chair Waltman introduced Nick Huyck as the newest EUPTA Board and the board introduced themselves.

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

3. Additions/Deletions to Agenda: It was moved and carried by unanimous vote:

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| MOTION: Lynda Garlitz SECOND: John Waltman | To approve the agenda as presented. |
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4. Public Comment:

- Tom Gibbons

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

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| MOTION: Lynda Garlitz SECOND: Joe Henne | Approve the September 13, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. |
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6. Finance Director Report:

- Finance Director Gordon reviewed August 2022 Financials
- Gordon presented the Electronic Funds Report and Accounts Payable Report. Larger payments include final payment for Sugar Drydock Project, Neebish Islander III payments, and EUPTA Facility payment.
- Year End is September 30 and the annual audit will be coming up in December.
- Director Gordon explained Public Act 152, which is the act that limits the amount that public employers pay toward employee medical benefit plans.

The board is required to approve the plan yearly. The board can either approve a hard cap, which are based on employee's plan (Single, 2-person, Family). This option dictates that the employee covers the difference if the insurance exceeds the hard cap. The second option is an 80/20 split that allows public employers to opt of the hard caps and instead annually elect to an 80/20 split. EUPTA has opted for the 80/20 split since inception. The 80/20 saves EUPTA approximately \$31,000.00 annually.

7. Public Act 152 which limits the amount that public employers pay toward employee medical benefit plans.

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| MOTION: Joe Henne SECOND: Lynda Garlitz | Approve Public Act 152 and approve EUPTA utilize the 80/20 split option |
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Bussing: Last month there was an overall increase in passengers and YTD passengers is up 21.5%. Luce County passenger counts are up 30%. Chippewa passenger counts are up 19% YTD. Revenue is up 11% and expenses are up 15%

Ferry: August ferry counts are down in fares, passengers and vehicles counts. Ferry expenses are up 13% with a 75% of the increase is fuel. Credit card sales have surpassed cash sales at Drummond Island.

8. Director's Report:

- Facility Update: They are currently erecting steel structures for the building. You can see the administration and detached storage shed beginning to form.
- Cashless Update: Continuing to test and working through system. We have 12 devices on hand and testing due to battery life issues.
- Neebish III Update: Stability test was very stable and USCG happy with the test. Builder Trials and then Sea Trials will happen sometime next week.
- Drummond IV Update: The dry dock is going well. The mechanical system has been switched out. CAT will be here next week, as they were subcontracted to some of the work with the engines. Blasting and painting of the vessel will be next on deck. The steel seems fine currently. There is some corrosion in the ladders and catwalks and looking to refabricate that.
- Provided an updated power point of photos of current EUPTA projects.

9. Review ADA Complaint and Reasonable Modification Policy, Bus and Marine: New verbiage was added by FTA and a new form. Discussion. It was moved and carried to:

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| MOTION: Lynda Garlitz SECOND: Nicholas Huyck | Approve ADA Complaint and Reasonable Modification Policy, Bus and Marine |
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10. New Business:

- Paving Neebish Mainland. There is a drainage problem and this project will be completed when Payne and Dolan have a break in their schedule, so it may be with little notice, this week. We will pay a small amount as this is in conjunction with the Chippewa County Road Commission and some work they are having completed as well. The project will include moving the Stop Sign for better access.
- We need to look at fares soon and view to see if/when a small increase is needed. In July 2023 it will be three years since the fare restructure.

11. Board Comment:

- Lynda: Kudos to the Drummond Crew with long lines. They filled the ferry quickly and worked hard over the busy weekend.
- Joe: Would like to show off the many EUPTA gems such as Dial A Ride in Newberry, Rides to Wellness, and bussing. Would like to see it publicized more. Would like an employee of the month incentive and a quarterly newsletter with what is happening at EUPTA.
- John: Rides to Wellness seem profitable. Is there any room for expansion?

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

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| MOTION: Lynda Garlitz SECOND: Nicholas Huyck | Adjourn the meeting at 11:31 AM |
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Lynda Garlitz, Secretary


Bonnie Kaunisto, Recording Secretary

Board Approved: