



EASTERN UPPER PENINSULA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

4001 I-75 Business Spur

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

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Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday April 4th, 2018

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

MEMBERS PRESENT Frank Sasso, John Waltman, Phyllis French
and Conor Egan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jack Kibble

**ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF PRESENT:** Pete Paramski, Akemi Gordon and Kathy Neubert

**ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF ABSENT:** None

OTHERS PRESENT: See attached sheet

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Chairman Sasso.

II. ROLL CALL OF TRUSTEES

All trustees were present with the exception of Trustee Kibble.

III. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Administrative Assistant Neubert asked that Approval of Special Meeting Board Minutes dated 3/16/18 be added under approval of Board Minutes. Executive Director Paramski asked that Neebish Island boat situation be added to the Directors report **IT WAS MOVED** by Trustee Egan; **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Waltman to approve said changes. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

V. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

With regard to the Board Meeting Minutes for 2/6/18 and the Special Meeting Minutes dated 3/16/18; **IT WAS MOVED** by Trustee Waltman; **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Egan to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT:

IN GENERAL:

Finance Director Gordon presented the electronic funds report.

Gordon approached the Board stating that EUPTA has an employee who would like to purchase 5 years of time with MERS under the new plan. The cost for this would be funded 100% by the employee. **IT WAS MOVED** by Trustee Egan; **SUPPORTED** by Trustee French to approve employee purchase of 5 years of service with MERS. **UNAMIOUS**. Motion carried.

BUS SYSTEM:

EUPTA'S revenue passenger counts for both Chippewa and Luce County are up year to date.

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EUPTA has seen a noticeable increase in our Corrections passengers. The expenses have increased most notably the general liability and vehicle insurance. Gordon had mentioned before that EUPTA had a large refund from the transit pool last year where this year EUPTA did not. EUPTA's wages and fringes also increased due to increasing our bus driver wage and also adding a full-time employee.

Kathy and Joe will be meeting with the ISD this week in hopes of providing transportation for their summer work program. This is a contractual service that ties in with EUPTA's regular service runs. It also provides a big boost in revenue for EUPTA.

Gordon reported that EUPTA has been meeting with the Sault Tribe on providing transportation for them. By adding two additional runs to Kincheloe and back that line up with shifts at the casino, EUPTA could contract with them to provide this service. The Tribe has a grant that will pay for this. EUPTA has provided them with a quote and we are just waiting on the go ahead from the Tribe.

FERRY SYSTEM:

The ferries have started out with a slow year. Fare revenue, vehicles and passengers are all down for the year. EUPTA has incurred some additional expenses from the fall when we had the Drummond IV in dry dock and were using the Drummond III exclusively which required additional fuel.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

GENERAL:

Executive Director Paramski presented the contract with Pringle Maritime. **IT WAS MOVED** by Trustee Waltman; **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Egan to accept the contract as written. **OPPOSED:** Trustee French.

FERRY SYSTEM:

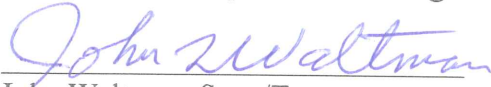
Paramski discussed the Neebish Island Drydocking project.

Paramski also discussed the Sugar Island/Neebish Island boat issue. The cost of a new boat for Sugar Island is 10 million dollars. The Sugar II boat is too big for the Neebish crossing and it would take 1.5 to 2 million dollars for dock renovations as well as a permit for the Army Corps of Engineers. Paramski discussed a smaller boat to replace the Neebish II similar to a boat that Shelter Island has used and costs approximately 1.5 to 2 million dollars.

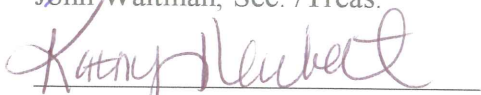
The Drummond Islander IV presentation was tabled until the May Board Meeting.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Trustee Egan; **SUPPORTED** by Trustee French to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 1st at 2:00 p.m.



John Waltman, Sec. /Treas.



Prepared By: Kathy Neubert