

Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, April 4, 2016

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ted Postula Frank Sasso
Jack Kibble

MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg Schultz John Waltman

**ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF PRESENT:** Chuck Moser Akemi Gordon
Lynda Schexnayder James Dunn, Attorney

**ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF ABSENT:** None absent

OTHERS PRESENT: See attached sheet

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I. - II. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:05p.m. by Chairman Sasso. All directors were present with the exception of Luce County board members John Waltman and Greg Schultz.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –March 7, 2016

With regard to Minutes for March 7, 2016; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT-P.E.-February 29, 2016.

IN GENERAL

Finance Director Gordon went over electronic funds transfer report.

BUSING

Ridership continues to decline. We were down 19% for the month of February and 18% for the year. Fare revenue was down 22% for February and 12% for the year. Expenses were reduced by 15% compared to last year to date so we are able to operate without causing a deficit.

The new van has been ordered. This van will be equipped with a lift and will have a 9 passenger capability in addition to a wheelchair.

FERRIES

We had a 6% increase in fare revenue on the ferries, 15% increase in vehicles and 11% increase in passengers for the month of February. All three ferry systems have increased fares, vehicles and passengers year to date.

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VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

FERRIES

Director Moser presented and recommended approval of a resolution to update our ADA Complaint Policy for all ferry vessels. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Kibble; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula to approve said policy. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

Moser reported he is waiting for signed copy of contractual agreement with John Gilbert Associates for ferry design project. Had some final tweaks to make in regard to proprietary rights.

Moser reported he has been in contact with MDOT in regard to applying for federal capital grant as there has been a recent notice of funding availability from FHWA. The state dots have to be the entity that submits the application.

Moser reported there are a lot of interested parties in harvesting timber on Neebish Island. Problem is that because of economic constraints with carrying capacity of Neebish II, the commercial operators do not have an interest in buying stumpage over there. If we put Drummond III to work there with certain understandings in place, it could be good for all parties. Certainly we do not want to be without a back-up should we have a breakdown on Drummond IV or Sugar II, especially during peak times.

Moser reported RFP's on fare collection study are due on the 15th.

BUS

Director Moser reported the loss of HBH contract fares is a growing concern. Schoolcraft County is in a similar situation. However, over there they have an operating millage and have expanded their weekend service to include late night service to bars and restaurants. This has more than filled the gap in fare box revenue lost with HBH. They are still part of Schoolcraft County but will soon be their own authority (PA 196).

Moser reported each year right around the first part of April the Rural Transit Agencies across the state meet as a group. The meeting this year is Wednesday and Thursday. Akemi will be attending on our behalf and will head down tomorrow. It is in Mt. Pleasant.

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VII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Dunn went over Bill to establish Marine Preservation Act.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 2, 2016 at 4PM.

Ted Postula, Sec. /Treas.

Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder