



## EASTERN UPPER PENINSULA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

4001 I-75 Business Spur

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# Board Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** Tuesday May 1st, 2018

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Frank Sasso, John Waltman, Phyllis French  
and Jack Kibble

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Conor Egan

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
STAFF ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** See attached sheet

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by Chairman Sasso.

**II. ROLL CALL OF TRUSTEES**

All trustees were present with the exception of Trustee Egan.

**III. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

None

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**V. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

With regard to the Board Meeting Minutes for April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 **IT WAS MOVED** by Trustee French; **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Waltman to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

**VI. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

**IN GENERAL:**

Finance Director Gordon presented the electronic funds report.

Gordon requested the board adopt a resolution to accept Benefit Advantage as EUPTA's TPA 3<sup>rd</sup> party administrator with John Hancock. This is 100% employee funded. **IT WAS MOVED** by Trustee Waltman; **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Kibble to adopt said resolution UNAMIOUS. Motion carried.

Gordon updated the board on PA202-Protecting Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act. She requested approval from the board to apply for a waiver and plan: Defined Benefit Pension Retirement Systems. **IT WAS MOVED** by Trustee French; **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Kibble to apply for said waiver. UNAMIOUS. Motion carried.

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### **BUS SYSTEM:**

EUPTA has had an increase in ridership every month so far, this fiscal year. The bussing supervisor has met with the Intermediate School District regarding providing transportation for their summer work program. This is the third year we have worked with them and it's been a great opportunity for us to bring in some extra revenue and coincides with our regular routes.

### **FERRY SYSTEM:**

The weekend of April 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, Drummond Island Tourist Association was co-host of the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Jeep the Mac event. The following is a breakdown of the number of jeeps as well as the revenue for this event:

2016 – 346 jeeps, \$5,470

2017 – 545 jeeps, \$8,194

2018 – 635 jeeps, \$10,088

Year to date EUPTA is showing a 7% decrease in fare revenue. EUPTA has had a slow first six months of the fiscal year with a 4% decline in vehicle and passenger counts.

## **VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **GENERAL:**

The Board reviewed the power point presentation on the Drummond Islander IV drydocking project.

Executive Director Paramski stated that there will be a meeting with the Admiral of the Coast Guard on Tuesday May 8<sup>th</sup>. Finance Director Gordon will be attending in Paramski's absence.

### **FERRY SYSTEM:**

Paramski stated that the Neebish Island ferry is back to their regular schedule. There were 24 days the ferry had no service and 4 days there was limited service due to ice conditions.

Paramski discussed the upcoming Neebish Islander drydocking. He stated that all documentation has been submitted to MDOT and EUPTA is looking at the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week of May for this project to begin.

Paramski again reviewed the possibility of a new vessel for Neebish Island. Paramski stated that it

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would be similar to the vessel that is used on Shelter Island in New York State. This boat would be less expensive and would fit the existing dock. Paramski will continue to research this vessel.

Paramski stated that he has been discussing boat schedules at the staff meetings. EUPTA will do a study to look at times that numbers are low on the ferry and where we could possibly reduce runs.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Trustee French; **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Kibble to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 5th at 2:00 p.m.

  
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Frank Sasso, Board Chair.

  
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Prepared By: Kathy Neubert