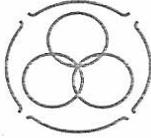


MULTI - MODAL
TRANSPORTATION



EASTERN UPPER PENINSULA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

4001 I-75 Business Spur

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Phone: (906) 632-2898 Fax: (906) 632-0988

E-mail: euptatrans@lighthouse.net

Web: www.eupta.net

Regular Board Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, September 5, 2007

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dennis Robinson Ted Postula
Frank Sasso

MEMBERS ABSENT: Aaron Hopper Rodney Richards

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: Charles Moser Akemi Gordon Jim Dunn, Attorney
Lynda Schexnayder Lyn Rairigh Steve Soule

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF ABSENT: None absent

OTHERS PRESENT: Jack Storey, Evening News
Sugar Island residents

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I. - II. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:00p.m. by Chairman Sasso. All directors were present with the exception of Aaron Hopper and Rodney Richards.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A resident of Sugar Island reported he finds it comforting that the ferry crew on the Sugar Islander are trained properly and are dedicated to their jobs.

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –August 6, 2007

With regard to Regular Board Meeting Minutes for August 6, 2007; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT - P.E. July 31, 2007

IN GENERAL

Finance Director Gordon presented to the board members and recommended approval of the FYE 2008 Budgets. Beginning with the St. Mary's Ferry System; the revenues are budgeted using current year traffic counts with the new prices. The expenses are budgeted using current fiscal year amounts with a 2-3% increase overall. Gordon reported there is not a lot of room for fluctuations in traffic next year and estimates a net income of close to \$14,000. This is being conservative on the revenue side.

The bus budget is relatively the same as 07 with the exception of the JARC grant in Luce County. We've applied for the grant but EUPTA won't know if the grant has been funded until sometime in December. The question is; do we still provide the service when we aren't guaranteed the funding? It was decided to go ahead. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Robinson; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula to approve budget as presented. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

BUSSING

Gordon reported through the end of July, the bus system is operating with a \$5,200 loss compared to a \$12,704 loss last year. There was an 11% increase in ridership in July and we are still carrying a 1% decrease or 447 passengers YTD.

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FERRIES

Gordon reported vehicle and passenger traffic is still down YTD 4% and 3% respectively.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Moser presented and recommended approval of Resolution 2007-0204/Z4 for the purpose of utilizing funds provided by the Federal Transit Administration, US Dept of Transportation and MDOT for the purpose of replacing ferry parts in the amount of \$32,000. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

Moser presented and recommended approval of Resolution No. 2007-0204/Z2/R1 for the purpose of increasing FY 2007 Section 5311 operating funds by \$4,543.00; total amount being \$77,220.00. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Robinson; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

BUS SYSTEM

Director Moser gave an update on the Annual MPTA meeting, noting that all are watching the budget process anticipating no approved budget until the very end (Sept. 30th)

Moser went over MERS Legislative Issue with regard to House Bill 4487 which would negatively impact public pension plan's ability to make real estate investments tax free. There was some discussion and Chairman Sasso instructed Director Moser to find out more about this.

FERRY SYSTEM

Director Moser reported that during the recent Sugar Island Salmon Tournament there was an incident where a fisherman had a fish on and the ferry boat cut his line. The captain tried to wait for him to land his fish but the current was taking him downstream and he could not wait any longer; he had to get the boat in to the slip. (The guy apparently still had a lot of line out). Obviously the man was quite unhappy about losing his catch and whatever kind of tackle he was using. We will contact the Sportsman Club to work with them to see what we can do to avoid this type of incident in the future.

Moser reported receiving a FOIA request from a local attorney regarding the Board Policy on EUPTAB members using our ferry services. Currently there is no official policy in place. Prior to the expiration of our last labor contract, which we are now negotiating, Chairman Sasso asked me to look into what other similar ferry operators are doing in regards to employee and board member

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charges. The only other ferry system in Michigan that operates with state and federal subsidies is the Beaver Island Transportation Authority. They do not charge for employees, or board members or spouses and children of board members provided the children are still in school.

Moser gave an update on the International Lake Superior Board of Control meeting held last night at LSSU. Moser reported the meeting was very well presented, both historically and scientifically.

Moser discussed various policies; employee and board member ferry passage, handicap, and advertising policies. Moser reported many agencies are advertising on their buses. Moser would like to develop a policy pertaining to buses; draft copies were distributed to board members. Moser asked board members to look over these drafts and there will be more discussion at the November board meeting. There was a short discussion with Attorney Dunn regarding this issue.

VII. ATTORNEY REPORT

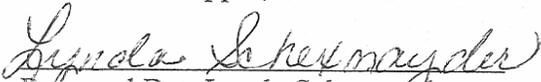
Attorney Dunn discussed the Elderly and Handicap Policy. There is no official policy in place. We have had directives and accumulated practices. We are looking at putting it all into one policy. Dunn explained what State Law mandates. The intent is to define handicap and make the policy clear. Currently the handicap placards issued by the Secretary of State are accepted as proof of disability. Dunn is in the process of putting together a letter that would be similar to that handicap permit policy that a person would take to their physician to complete. Dunn asked the board to look over the information distributed and there will be further discussion in coming board meetings.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday October 1, 2007, at 4:00p.m. in the small courtroom/Courthouse/Luce County.



Mr. Aaron Hopper, Sec. /Treas.


Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder