

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, March 1, 2010

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Frank Sasso Ted Postula
Jack Kibble

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rodney Richards Dennis Robinson

ADMINISTRATIVE Chuck Moser Akemi Gordon
STAFF PRESENT: Lynda Schexnayder

ADMINISTRATIVE Jim Dunn, Attorney
STAFF ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: See attached sign in sheet.

BOARD MEETING

I. - II. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:00p.m. by Chairman Sasso. Directors Richards and Robinson were absent. Attorney Dunn was also absent.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jesse Knoll distributed brochures and gave an explanation of the efforts to get Broadband Internet in the Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac County area. Jesse would like a letter of support from EUPTA to the Chippewa County Administrator with regard to getting broadband in this area. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Kibble; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula to authorize Director Moser to write letter of support. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried. Jesse gave a brief explanation of stimulus money and grants available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –February 1, 2010

With regard to Regular Board Meeting Minutes for February 1, 2010; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT-P.E.-January 31, 2010

BUSSING

Finance Director Gordon noted a correction from February's board meeting on the counts given for December #'s. She inadvertently reported the fares as the passenger counts. Chippewa County had a decrease in passengers of 659 for December and 2,696 YTD. Luce County had increased their passengers by 169 for December and 241 YTD.

For January, Chippewa's passengers decreased by 572 and 3,268 YTD. Luce County's passengers increased 128 in January and 369 YTD.

The JARC application for Luce County was submitted, requesting \$24,676. EUPTA requested additional funds to expand our service to 5 days a week instead of the current 3. This was also requested last year, but there wasn't enough funds for the increased service.

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FERRIES

Gordon reported completing the 2010 Application for Ferry Operating Assistance and Capital. Gordon presented and recommended approval of Resolution of Intent to apply for this assistance. EUPTA has applied for \$1,264,485 in State operating assistance and \$221,830 in Capital, of which \$199,647 state funds and \$22,183 will be our local match. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

Gordon reported vehicles YTD have increased 4,362 with passengers up 11,200 for the 3 ferry systems combined.

- Drummond ferry traffic is down 2,278 in vehicles and down 3,440 in passengers
- Sugar ferry is up 7,404 in vehicles and 15,884 in passengers
- Neebish vehicles are down 764 with passengers down 1,244

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Moser presented and recommended approval of Resolution # 2007-0204/Z20 FY2010 Marine Capital for the purpose of vessel and terminal upgrades. The total amount in this project will be \$159,075 which is the total of state funds with the local match and this includes contingency funds for emergency repairs. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Kibble; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

Moser distributed a handout and went over the State Transportation Budget. Moser noted the operating funds would be static as it has been the past several years and the Governor's recommendation does not propose a diversion of funds from the Economic Development Fund of the CTF. Moser feels there will be an attempt by the legislature to balance the budget by getting money from where ever they can. The Governors recommendation also commits matching funds for federal funds for bus purchases.

Moser reported that there are a lot of issues to be decided and seats to be filled in the next General election in November. The four constitutional offices-Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General and Secretary of State will all be open simultaneously for only the second time since 1946. Also, this is only the third time in over 50 years that Michigan will not have an incumbent running in the election for Governor. More than five dozen state legislators will be "term limited" out of office and control of Michigan's Supreme Court is also up for grabs this year.

Dan Cairns gave an update on his current medical condition and thanked MERS (Health Insurance) for all their help during his illness. Dan plans to return to work in 6-8 weeks.

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VII. ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Dunn was not present. Chairman Sasso; nothing new to report.

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 4:50 pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 5, 2010 at 4:00p.m.

Ted Postula, Sec. /Treas.

Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder