

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, September 8, 2010

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ted Postula Jack Kibble Frank Sasso
Dennis Robinson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rodney Richards

**ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF PRESENT:** Chuck Moser Akemi Gordon
Lynda Schexnayder

**ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF ABSENT:** Jim Dunn, Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT: See attached sign in sheet.

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I. - II. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:00p.m. by Chairman Sasso. Director Richards was absent. Attorney Dunn was absent.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –August 2, 2010

With regard to Regular Board Meeting Minutes for August 2, 2010; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

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

Finance Director Gordon presented and recommended approval of the FYE 2011 Budgets for ferries and bussing. Following a short discussion **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said budgets. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

Finance Director Gordon went over July financial statements.

BUSSING

Gordon reported passengers are down 10% or 4,407. Chippewa passengers are down 5,547 and Luce is up 1,140 for the year. Revenue is up almost 3% which is mainly due to the "extra" 2% of federal operating assistance. This was a "one time" increase and is not in the 2011 budget. The Indian Trails commission has also helped offset some of the loss in fare box revenue this year.

FERRIES

Gordon reported traffic for July showed an overall increase of 60 vehicles and 28 passengers.

Drummond was down 206 vehicles and up 36 passengers.

Sugar's vehicles were also down by 124 with a decrease in passengers of 254.

Neebish's vehicles were up 390 with passengers up 246.

There was a short discussion regarding rolling in the fuel surcharge and the effect on the senior rate. No action was taken at this time.

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VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Moser presented and recommended approval of Resolution # 2007-0204/Z18; FY 2010 Section 5311 Capital/Surface Transportation Program for the purpose of office furniture in the amount of \$1,200. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Robinson; **SUPPORTED** by Director Postula to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

Director Moser presented and recommended approval of Resolution #2007-0204/Z21/R1 FY 2010 Section 5311 Operating; Revised Project Authorization for the purpose of increasing operating assistance funds by \$38,825. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Kibble; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

Director Moser presented and recommended approval of Resolution #2007-0204/Z23; FY 2009 Section 5309 for the purpose of purchasing one (1) 30 ft replacement bus with lift in the amount of \$68,740. Federal amount being \$54,992 and State being \$13,748. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

BUSSING

Director Moser reported with regard to Sault Tribe Transportation Study; the Corradino Group is about to submit their final report of the Transportation Feasibility Study with regard to tribal transit services. Moser has met with them and the Tribal Transportation Coordinator several times during this project. Hopefully as a result the Tribe may want to talk to EUPTA about providing service for them. Moser believes if they would be willing to discuss a service contract similar to what we do with HBH, Northern Transitions and Pathways for prearranged service limits and costs would be the best way to proceed for all.

Moser gave an update on the State Budget. An agreement is close on how the budget deficit of about \$700 million will be resolved. Moser has been told that the House and Senate leaders are generally working from a guideline suggested by Governor Granholm a few weeks ago. There appears to be all kinds of "borrowing from Peter to pay Paul" tactics being employed to balance the General Fund.

As for the Transportation Budget...it looks like there will be a few "one-time" tricks to come up with about \$84 million that is necessary to meet the federal road match. As far as Moser knows there are no agreements yet in place to address the transit match problem. MPTA continues to urge the Legislature to address the total match problem which would include Transit Capital. The conferees for both the House and Senate have been named, but no conference has been scheduled yet. It does look like there will be movement soon though.

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FERRIES

Moser reported with regard to Houghton/Hancock Contingency Plan; the Transportation Services Center responsible for transportation up in the western end of the U.P. is working on a contingency plan. If there is an event that incapacitates the bridge that connects Houghton to Hancock and the rest of the Keewanah, they want to have a plan in place to transport people and goods. EUPTA has been contacted by Jeff Barsch from MDOT to ask if we would be willing to discuss an option that would include providing ferry service until bridge service would be restored. Moser asked that he put his request in writing and get it to him before today's meeting, but has not received anything yet. Moser did explain to Jeff that we currently have our own contingency plan that we put into effect when something happens such as a breakdown on one of our regular vessels, i.e., utilizing our only spare vessel (Drummond III) at Sugar or Drummond when we have an unforeseen mechanical problem. Secondly, Moser explained that it would be hard to justify having our only spare vessel located so far away in case we need it here at home. Jeff asked if Moser would be willing to participate in their next meeting and Moser told him he would try to be available, even if it is only to help suggest other alternatives.

In closing, Moser reported the MPTA will be hosting the September Board Meeting in Marquette tomorrow.

VII. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

IT WAS MOVED by Director Postula; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble that officers remain the same. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried.

VIII. ATTORNEY REPORT

No report given.

IX. 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 4:55 pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 4, 2010; 4PM; Luce County Courthouse (small courtroom) in Newberry.

Ted Postula, Sec. /Treas.

Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder