

Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, April 2, 2012

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jack Kibble Michael Herbst
Frank Sasso Dennis Robinson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ted Postula

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF ABSENT:** James 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. All Directors were present except Director Postula. Attorney Dunn was absent.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES –March 5, 2012

With regard to Regular Board Meeting Minutes for March 5, 2012; **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Kibble; **SUPPORTED** by Director Robinson to approve said minutes. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT-P.E.-February 29, 2012

Finance Director Gordon presented and recommended approval of Resolution for MDOT project authorization 2012-0077/P2. This authorization is for our Section 5311 Federal operating funds in the amount of \$74,358. **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Herbst; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to approve said resolution. **UNANIMOUS**. Motion carried.

BUSSING

Gordon reported we have a 14% increase in passengers since the beginning of our fiscal year. Revenue has increased a little over 4% and expenses have increased 3%.

Indian Trails ticket sales continue to grow with a 31% increase compared to a year ago. EUPTA only receives a commission on the sales but it continues to help with increased costs in other areas.

FERRIES

Gordon reported there is a YTD decrease in vehicles of 254 and decrease in passengers of 2,404. Fares are down \$11,743.

We are showing a \$127,758 YTD loss with the ferry system which is comparable to last year.

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VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

BUSSING

Director Moser reported EUPTA received two new cut-a-way buses. One on them was pure white when delivered and had to be sent back to be painted in our colors.

Moser reported several meetings that we had set up with Wendy Hoffman from Sault Tribe were postponed and Moser is waiting to hear back from her.

FERRIES

Director Moser gave an update on the St. Mary's River Dock Project. Requests for proposals went out on March 20th. We have scheduled a pre-bid meeting for this Wednesday and proposals are due on April 19th. The "proposal" portion only will be opened at this time. Then we will do the evaluations and qualifications over the next three days and open the sealed bids for only the qualified proposals here on April 23rd. We will need to convene a board meeting as soon as we can after that to consider a contract award. Moving quickly will be necessary as it might take 30 days or so to work out an acceptable contract so that we can issue a notice to proceed.

Moser reported on January 6th, Joelle Ann Marie tied up at the dock located adjacent to our DeTour ferry dock. Not only has the vessel, which is a double ended ferry, been causing us concern, but the owners of the property (who never granted permission for the vessel to tie up in the first place) are having a very difficult time getting the vessel moved. The USCG will not allow the vessel to move until certain conditions are met and an acceptable plan is approved as to where the next destination is going to be. During this time the vessel has not only caused damage to the dock to which it is moored, but it nearly sank recently. Recently the owner of the vessel, who has other vessels creating problems in Cheboygan, was sentenced to jail for failing to address issues with his sunken vessels. Before he was removed from the courtroom, it was reported that he attempted to swallow a lethal dose of poison. A day or two later, law enforcement discovered a lot of sodium cyanide and a bunch of firearms at his place near the Soo. Moser was told that there is now a new owner of the vessel in DeTour that is supposed to be moving it.

Moser reported we are all set with regard to the annual DNR Fish Planting Project. On April 17th we will be transporting the USF&W/DNR out near the DeTour light to release 100,000 lake trout.

Moser reported last Thursday evening a meeting was held on Sugar Island with regard to the potential project of installing up to 30 culverts in the causeway leading on to the Island. The idea is to improve fish habitat. Right now the project is under the environmental assessment phase. URS has been retained to do the assessment which will include the hydro-logical issues.

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VII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

No report given. Attorney Dunn absent.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Director Robinson; **SUPPORTED** by Director Kibble to adjourn. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Monday May 7, 2012 at 4PM.

Ted Postula, Sec. /Treas.

Prepared By: Lynda Schexnayder