



EASTERN UPPER PENINSULA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

4001 I-75 Business Spur

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

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Special Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: June 10th 2020

PLACE: 4001 I-75 Business Spur
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
Public via Zoom Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Waltman, Phyllis French
Jim German, Linda Garlitz and Joe Henne

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: See Attached

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Trustee Waltman.

II. ROLL CALL OF TRUSTEES:

All trustees were present.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLIGIENCE

IV: PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

V. FARE RESTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION DATE DISCUSSION:

Director Paramski and Finance Director Gordon gave a presentation on the fare restructure/increase for the new board members. Discussion included how EUPTA is funded, ACT 51 requirements, the shortfalls EUPTA is experiencing, balancing out the discounts, what EUPTA has done to try and save money and how the committee came up with the new restructuring and rates.

Trustee Henne asked if EUPTA was given an ultimatum regarding the match money. Paramski stated that EUPTA had some cash reserves that were used to come up with 50% of operating costs, however now those reserves are gone.

Trustee German asked if in the future going over the fares on a yearly basis might be beneficial so there wouldn't be such large increases all at once. Paramski stated that this was a restructure and an increase and once EUPTA gets an electronic fare collection system, it will be much easier to implement small increases with less products.

Director Paramski stated that the Stay-at-home order has ended and EUPTA makes its money in the summer and it is recommended that the fare restructure/increase be implemented 7/1/2020.

Chairman Waltman stated that the tourist and seasonal visitors contribute to EUPTA's operations and EUPTA needs to capture this revenue, and recommends a 7/1/2020 implementation date.

Trustee German stated that he has spoken to several people who were surprised that EUPTA hasn't had an increase in almost seven years. German stated that 95% of the people he has spoken to believe that this is a fair rate schedule. German stated that people realize that you can't run an organization with a negative funds balance.

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IT WAS MOVED by Trustee German; **SUPPORTED** by Trustee Henne to implement the fare restructure/increase July 1st 2020. **Discussion:** Trustee Henne would like to see the bonus ticket looked at again in one year added to the motion. Paramski stated that he feels that everything about the fare restructure will be looked at. Paramski also noted that it will probably take two years to get a real good representative idea on what type of revenue the restructure will generate because people will more than likely buy the old tickets up until June 30th and they will be good for 6 months. Paramski stated that it will be in year two of the restructure that EUPTA will know where they are at and the whole restructure will be re-assessed. Trustee Henne stated he would withdraw the bonus ticket from the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Trustee German – I, Trustee Henne -I, Chairman Waltman – I, Trustee French – U, Trustee Garlitz – no. Motion carried.

VI: BOARD COMMENT

Trustee French stated that she received a message from a Drummond Island resident that there was an emergency and they could not get ahold of the captain. French stated that she would like on the next agenda for the board to put together a protocol for what residents should do.

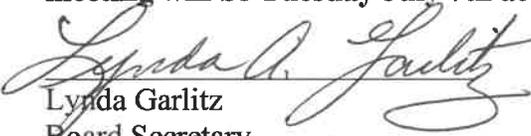
Trustee French also stated that the website needs to be updated regarding the board members. French stated that she was still listed as the Vice Chair. The website was updated on 6/10/2020 before the meeting.

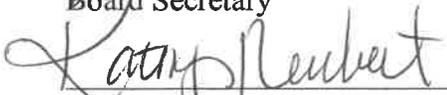
Trustee Henne stated that he has received feedback from Drummond Island regarding the hazard pay and stated that the staff is very appreciative of it.

Linda Garlitz spoke about the extension on the ticket expiration and asked if we could put some clarification on the website. (This has since been done).

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

Being no further business to come before the Board, **IT WAS MOVED** by Trustee German; **SUPPORTED** by Trustee French to adjourn. A roll call vote was taken: Trustee German – yes, Trustee Henne – yes, Chairman Waltman – Yes, Trustee French – yes, Trustee Garlitz, yes. **UNANIMOUS.** Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 11:33a.m. **The next regular board meeting will be Tuesday July 7th at 10:30 a.m.**


Lynda Garlitz
Board Secretary


Prepared By: Kathy Neubert Admin Asst