

Marquette County Transit Authority
1325 Commerce Drive Marquette, MI 49855

Board Meeting Minutes of December 21, 2023

Call to Order: 6:00 PM by Chairman Jim Nankervis.

Roll Call:

Present: Jim Nankervis-Chair, Tony Tollefson, Karen Kasper, Ed Anderson, Taylor Klipp, Barb Owdziej, Scott Krah, Willian DeGroot, Jason Wallner, Pete LaRue.

Others Present: Bill Geller-Executive Director, Kevin Hodges- Operations Manager, Mike Richer-Operations Manager, Kristine McDonnell, Finance Officer, Janet Cobb-Administrative Assistant.

Minutes:

Motion made by Ed Anderson to approve the minutes of the October & November meeting. Supported by Taylor Klipp. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

Motion made to accept consent agenda items A-D by Tony Tollefson for the months of October & November. Supported by Pete LaRue. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Agenda:

Motion made by Jason Wallner to approve the agenda. Supported by Karen Kasper. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Opportunity for Citizens to Address the Authority: None.

Action Items:

1. Motion made by Karen Kasper to approve the 2024 board meeting dates. Seconded by Jason Wallner. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.
2. Motion made by Bill DeGroot to accept finance meeting report given by Tony Tollefson. Seconded by Scott Krah. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.
3. Motion made by Tony Tollefson to accept the 2025 budget as presented. Supported by Pete LaRue. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.
4. Strategic Planning. Thoughts were expressed by Barb Owdziej. She has been beating this drum for several months and is surprised that there has been no formal strategic planning yet. She expressed that we need an outside consultant for support, as she thinks the board is not capable to do this as a committee. This ensued a discussion by the Board. One of our committee structures can handle this. We can do this it just a question of how.

Any Old or New Business:

1. Bill Geller presented the Executive Directors Report. Our Annual Audit starts on January 15, 2024. The aftertreatment (emissions) system on 19 of our buses is failing. So far, we have replaced four systems. We plan to replace two each month until all 19 are completed. The original cost of the replacement parts was to be \$17,400.00 per bus. Our Shop Foreman has been in contact with a representative from Cummins. They agreed to do a policy assistance which will cover \$8800.00 of the cost leaving us with a \$8600.00 cost per bus.
2. Tonight, is Tony and Jim's last Board meeting. We showed our appreciation for their service.

Upcoming meetings:

Board meeting January 18, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

Board Member Comments:

Taylor Klipp stated that hiring a consultant for Strategic Planning is not cost effective. We can do this internally.

Tony Tollefson offered to sign checks until we get a new Treasurer in place.

Pete Larue wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year & safe travels.

Jason Wallner thanked Marq-Tran for helping a veteran out. Marq-Tran has great committees and a great staff. He thanked Jim and Tony for their service on the Board. We all have different perspectives. Happy Holidays!

Karen Kasper indicated future winter events in Ishpeming will affect bus routes.

Barb Owdziej said she talks to a lot of people and they generally don't know where Marq-Tran is headed. She has done her own exploration of what we will look like in the future.

Scott Krah wished us Happy Holidays and Thank you to the staff for a great year.

James Nankervis expressed that Marq-Tran is for the entire County of Marquette not just the City of Marquette. People who have issues or questions about where Marq-Tran is headed should speak to the Board or Management in full first.

Opportunity for Citizens to address the Authority: None.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Jason Wallner to adjourn the meeting, Supported by Ed Anderson.
Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Chairman Jim Nankervis adjourned the meeting at 6:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristine McDonnell
Finance Officer