

Marquette County Transit Authority
1325 Commerce Drive Marquette, MI 49855

Board Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2024

Call to Order: 6:00 PM by Chairman Bill De Groot.

Roll Call:

Present: Bill De Groot -Chair, Karen Kasper, Ed Anderson, Scott Krah, Pete LaRue, Tim Overmyer, Sean Hobbins, Dawn Schuknecht, Kevin Flohe.

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

Excused or Absent: Barb Owdziej, Taylor Klipp.

Minutes:

Motion made by Tim Overmyer to approve the minutes of the July meeting. Supported by Ed Anderson. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

Motion made to accept consent agenda items A-D by Pete LaRue. Supported by Dawn Schuknecht. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Agenda:

Motion made by Sean Hobbins to approve the agenda with the change of Personnel committee to Negotiations Grievance committee. Supported by Dawn Schuknecht. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Opportunity for Citizens to Address the Authority: None.

Action Items:

1. Report from Building Committee given by Ed Anderson. He presented a draft of the End Statement from the Committee. Motion made by Tim Overmyer to accept the End Statement. Supported by Scott Krah. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.
2. Report from Negotiations Grievance given by Bill DeGroot. The Personnel Committee does the Executive Directors annual review and recommends the salary increase for the next year. Do we need that committee? Bill De Groot also presented a draft of the End Statement. Motion made by Sean Hobbins to accept the End Statement. Supported by Dawn Schuknecht. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.
3. A discussion was held about the increasing health insurance rates. Bill Geller recommended that we switch to an HMO. The plan we are on now is increasing by 17.2%. If we switch to the HMO the increase would only be 2.46%. coverage is the same as our current plan except to see a specialist the co-pay increases from \$50.00 to \$60.00 and you have to stay in Michigan to get care. Motion made to support the Executive Directors recommendation made by Sean Hobbins. Supported by Tim Overmyer. A vote was then held 3 yay and 6 nays. After further discussion about the increased cost to

employees. Motion made by Bill De Groot to accept the Executive Directors recommendation. Supported by Scott Krah. A vote was held again 7 yay and 2 nays. Motion carried.

4. Marq-tran mission statement: Marq-Tran is committed to deliver and improve professional and dependable connections between each person and their unique mobility needs across Michigan's largest rural county.

Any Old or New Business:

Bill Geller gave the Executives Directors report. Reminder that September's board meeting is to be held at the Ishpeming Facility. He will be attending the MPTA annual conference August 19th thru the 21st. He updated everyone on the Michigan Wallet Challenge. They are having trouble onboarding us. He has a meeting with the project manager on Friday. Bill also presented the Building Projects Report.

Upcoming meetings:

Board meeting September 26, 2024 at 6:00 PM to be held at the Ishpeming Facility. Building meeting before the board meeting at 5:30 PM.

Board Member Comments:

Ed Anderson thanked Bill Geller for his input on the insurance rates.

Kevin Flohe stated that he is looking forward to serving his time on the board.

Bill De Groot indicated that the supreme court decided on July 31st about the minimum wage increase and sick time. It was approved.

Scott Krah thanked everyone for the civil discussion about health insurance.

Opportunity for Citizens to address the Authority: None

Adjournment:

Motion made by Ed Anderson to adjourn the meeting, Supported by Bill DeGroot. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Chairman Bill De Groot adjourned the meeting at 7:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristine McDonnell
Finance Officer