

Marquette County Transit Authority
1325 Commerce Drive Marquette, MI 49855

Board Meeting Minutes January 16, 2025

Call to Order:

6:03 by Dawn Schuhknecht

Present:

Ed Anderson, Sean Hobbins, Taylor Klipp, Barb Owdziej, Tim Overmyer, Dawn Schuhknecht, Jo Ellen Yeadon, Bill Geller Executive Director, Kristine McDonnell-Finance Officer, Janet Cobb-Administrative Assistant.

Excused or Absent:

Keven Flohe, Jim Nankervis, Mike Richer.

Minutes from December 19, 2024 Meeting:

Motion by Hobbins, supported by Overmyer to approve, supported.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Anderson, supported by Hobbins to approve, motion carried.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Overmyer, supported by Hobbins, agenda approved.

Opportunity for Citizens to Address the Authority:

None

Action Items:

1. Nominations and Officers for 2025:

Nominations for Chair:

Jim Nankervis was nominated by Schuhknecht, supported by Anderson

Sean Hobbins was nominated by Anderson and supported by Overmyer

Roll call vote for Hobbins:

Anderson, Hobbins, Klipp, Overmyer, Owdziej, and Schuknecht support.

Roll call vote Hobbins:

Yeadon abstained from voting

Sean Hobbins elected Chair with 6:0. and 1 abstention

Nominations for Vice Chair:

Nankervis nominated by Schuhknecht, supported by Klipp

Overmyer nominated and supported by Owdziej

Roll call for Overmyer:

Hobbins, Klipp, Overmyer, Owdziej support

Roll call for Nankervis

Schuhknecht, Anderson support.

Yeadon Abstained

Tim Overmyer elected Vice Chair 4:2 with and 1 abstention

Treasure (Schuhknecht) and Secretary (Owdziej) positions approved unanimously by Board.

Meeting chair transferred to Sean Hobbins @ 6:17pm

Discussion around changing meeting time, will wait until next month to confirm (tentatively 3pm starting in March).

Action Items (continued)

Marquette County Transit Authority
1325 Commerce Drive Marquette, MI 49855

Board Meeting Minutes January 16, 2025

2. 2026 Annual application and Resolution of Intent:

Geller explains the application is filed with DOT and contains the Board approved budget. Geller also requesting the Board approve an alternative signer for funding, in the event he is not available. Motion made by Klipp supported by Overmyer to approve resolution and allow a second signer for funding. Motion passed.

New or Old Business the ED or Member desires to bring before the Board:

Klipp reviewed process of formalizing End Statements and plans on presenting these in February. He has also spoken with Joe Thiel (CEO) from Invent NMU regarding use of social media. Klipp reports that there is enthusiastic support and will update the board in February.

Overmyer asks about community outreach and asks how MarqTran has evaluated the necessary routes and audience. Hobbins refers to the goal of strategic planning and end statement as the framework for long range planning. Klipp states this is also a goal of marketing, which allows the Authority/Board to understand what areas are needing services. Lengthy discussion around users, marketing, adoption of GPS and how this might impact public participation. Geller reports that door to door services for users with chronic health problems present logistical challenges.

Anderson asks about using scan technology for building entrance, Geller states the funding was needed for bus maintenance but will write up a separate RFP to evaluate costs. Geller also reports computers need to be upgraded, Hobbins suggested an RFP to evaluate costs for upgrade. He states Q-Ride will not need server support (all cloud based).

Executive Director Report:

Geller reports there is still a Marquette Township opening on the MarqTran Board. He reminds the Board that Committee assignments are due.

Geller has met with the local advisory council (required for approval of Specialized Service Grant). He states they had a good meeting, reviewed the Appropriate Vehicle Accessibility Plan. Geller states he will proceed with Q-Ride as the Board had received a copy of the attorney's contract to review last month (which the Board had approved previously). The Mobility Wallet has required him to manually correct the routes on their (Mobility Wallet) GPS routes. Again, he plans on starting with clients who have the monthly passes. He states there was a leak on the roof, work has been done, and not clear if this was successful. He has submitted an RFP for boiler replacement.

Board member comments:

Jo Ellen: "Good Job"

Owdziej- "Thanks for stepping up, I'm glad we're continuing down this path"

Klipp- "Welcome Jo Ellen"

Hobbins- "Welcome Jo, I'm excited for what we're going to do this year, thanks you for your vote."

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion by Hobbins, supported by Anderson, carried and adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Owdziej Secretary