

Marquette County Transit Authority
1325 Commerce Drive
Marquette, MI 49855
Board Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2025

Call to order:

At 6pm by Chairman Sean Hobbins

Present:

Ed Anderson, Matt Barnhart, Keven Flohe, Jamie Glenn, Sean Hobbins, Taylor Klipp, Jim Nankervis, Tim Overmyer, Barb Owdziej, Dawn Schuhknecht, Jo Ellen Yeadon, Bill Geller-Executive Director, Kristine McDonnell-Finance Officer, Janet Cobb-Administrative Assistant, Mike Richer-Operations

Guests:

Katelyn Jenson

Minutes from April 17, 2025 meeting:

Motion by Klipp, supported by Overmyer to approve, motion passed

Consent Agenda:

- A. Accounts Payable for April in the amount of \$132,458.69
- B. Monthly Operating Report
- C. Monthly Fleet Incident Report
- D. Budget Report April 2025

Motion to approve consent agenda proposed by Klipp, supported by Glenn, motion passed

Approval of Agenda for tonight's meeting:

Motion to approve agenda by Owdziej, supported by Overmyer, motion passed

Opportunity for Citizens to Address the Authority:

Guest Katelyn Jenson introduced herself as an observer from the organization "We the People", citing interest in understanding Marq-tran and possibly making it more accessible.

Action Items:

Finance Committee scheduled May 27th, 5:30 pm

Operations Committee scheduled May 28th 5:30

Strategic Plan: Motion made by Overmyer, supported by Schuhknecht to adopt Strategic Goals for Building and Maintenance, motion passed. Hobbins will compile the remaining goals and present at next month's board meeting.

Opportunity for citizens to address the Authority:

Jensen asked for a copy of the agenda

Board member comments:

Yeadon reported that a parent from Birchview school who only has Marq-tran for their transportation needs to school, had inquired about options in the case of emergency. She had suggested door-to-door though those rides are limited. Geller and Richer agreed that door-to-door is the best option. She also reported that planned road work will make certain stops inaccessible. Richer reports that affected routes are re-routed as needed. He states Marq-tran is notified about road projects, but not the specifics of day to day road closures, but the drivers are able to adapt quickly. She also asked about route fares. Richer explained that route fares begin at the designated start of that route, and customers are responsible to pay another fare once the bus completes that route, regardless of where the customer boarded the bus.

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This was done to prevent people from riding continuously. He states the only exception is made on the North route in Marquette, for patrons using the library. She states this isn't clear on the schedules, though she did see a sign on one of the Ishpeming buses.

Klipp clarified spelling of name on previous minutes

Owdziej: Requests that Board member comments follow the ED comments.

Executive Director's Report:

States received two transit vans, and those they are replacing will be sold. Marq-tran is scheduled to receive a Pilot Bus (these are built according to state specs and tend to be "the best"). Peninsula Solar has been out, and will present options. Geller sent a release to Board of Light and Power for information release to Peninsula Solar. Q-Ride is "moving along", he received tablets and will be receiving cell service though Team Mobile, reports service for \$15.00/tablet, unlimited and projects a substantial savings. These will be mounted as soon as mounts are received. The mobility wallet is currently being tested with a few riders. Michigan Public Transit association met in Marquette, toured the Maritime Museum and met with Karl Bohnak and Jack Bergman to discuss transit and funding. The roof integrity is severely compromised around the area where the air handlers are mounted due to poor installation and ongoing water damage. Evaluating the roof repair and possible replacement of air handlers is being considered. Prime Plumbing was selected to replace the boilers, which is expected by the end of September. Overmyer asked if this was the time to look at getting new air handlers Geller reports Prime thought they could replace the air handlers at considerable savings. He encouraged getting handlers that can be repaired with replaceable parts.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm

Respectfully Submitted:

Barb Owdziej