

Marquette County Transit Authority  
1325 Commerce Drive Marquette,  
MI 49855  
Board Meeting August 21, 2025

**Call to order:** 6:00 by Chairman Sean Hobbins

**Roll Call:**

Present: Ed Anderson, Matt Barnhart, Kevin Flohe, Sean Hobbins, Taylor Klipp, Jim Nankervis, Tim Overmyer, Barb Owdziej, Jo Ellen Yeadon  
Motion to excuse members Jamie Glenn, Dawn Schuhknecht, proposed by Anderson, supported by Yeadon, motion carried.

**Minutes:**

Motion by Nankervis supported by Anderson to approve minutes from July 17, 2025 meeting, motion carried.

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion by Owdziej supported by Overmyer to accept consent agenda, motion carried.

**Agenda:**

Motion by Anderson, supported by Overmyer to approve agenda, motion carried.

**Opportunity for Citizens to Address the Authority:** None

**Action Items:**

1. Finance meeting: Geller to email committee members to schedule.
2. Approve out of County Service to NMURA: Geller explains that Board permission is needed to approve routes out of county. The request came from The Northern University Retiree Association to attend an event in Bark River on September 17. Motion made by Klipp supported by Overmyer, motion carried.
3. Health Care Plan/Costs. Geller reports significant increase in healthcare costs after meeting with the rep, Tom from Acrisure. He presents current plan's increase compared to quotes from United Health care and Aetna. They also solicited quotes from 3 other organizations (United Health Care Level Funded, United Healthcare Surest and CapPoint) who declined to quote. Geller budgeted \$430,000.00 for health care in 2026, after comparing other quotes and services, recommends staying with the current carrier which will cost \$515,544.36 a year. United Health Care and Aetna did not include direct reimbursement services with their quotes, a service that would fall upon the Authority. Motion made by Nankervis, supported by Anderson to continue Acrisure's plan for healthcare, motion passed.

**Any Old or New Business:**

Geller reminds the Board that the September Board meeting is in Ishpeming. He states he was able to get rid of one of two buses that were in poor shape. One of those buses has not yet been replaced, but will be discarded when a replacement bus is received. There are two busses on order. Bill also attended the MPTA annual conference and reports there's still no budget approved in Michigan, which means we are still unclear about funding, and also unclear when this budget will be approved and signed, or when we would receive funding. Doesn't anticipate Federal funding cuts. Reports that informative flyers for the Michigan wallet challenge will be sent out soon with additional flyers for distribution from Marq-Tran. He also reports two

more readers will be installed (total of 20). States focusing fixed route buses only. He states people are using this. QRYDE is still being tested on the fixed routes with glitches, training is commencing 8/22/25 and testing will begin next week. Geller states they have met with Siren, and have been given a "checklist" to complete. Marq-Tran will be represented at NMU's Fall Fest. Geller reports still waiting for an architectural inspection, have reached out to several companies. The tentative start date for the boiler is September 3rd, with an anticipated finishing date before the end of September. The pumps are on order, coming in at the end of September. Bill presented the project proposal from Peninsula Solar, which offers a 20-year break-even point (financially). Geller states he's not convinced he would recommend at this point considering the cost, though was impressed with the company. He reminds the Board that the next meeting will be on September 25th at the Ishpeming facility. He pointed out the letter of appreciation from a Marq-tran user (included in packet).

**Board Member Comments:**

Barb Owdziej said she'd miss the next meeting.

Sean Hobbins informed the Board that he might miss the next meeting d/t family commitment.

Yeadon requested that a "No Smoking" sign be posted at the bus shelter near the high rise in Ishpeming. She also reports there are missing bolts from bus shelter.

**Opportunity for Citizens to Address the Authority:**

Katelyn Jensen (Marquette) voiced her appreciation around the Mobility Wallet and QRYDE. She asks if there might be some collaborative efforts between the City, Siren and the Way Finding project, in an effort to reduce traffic and congestion in the city of Marquette. Hobbins reports that Marquette DDA is responsible for the Way Finding project. Klipp offered to notify Siren about the project.

**Adjournment:**

Chairman Hobbins adjourned the meeting at 6:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barb Owdziej Secretary