Marquette County Transit Authority
1325 Commerce Drive Marquette, MI 49855
Board Meeting Minutes 12/18/2025

Call to Order:
6pm by Chairman Sean Hobbins

Roll Call:
Present: Ed Anderson, Matt Barnhart, Kevin Flohe, Jamie Glenn, Sean Hobbins, Taylor Klipp, Jim Nankervis, Barb Owdziej, Tim Overmyer, Jo Ellen Yeadon, Bill Geller-Executive Director, Kristine McDonnell-Finance Officer, Janet Cobb- Administrative Assistant, Mike Richer-Operations Manager
Absent: Dawn Schuhknecht
Motion made by Yeadon supported by Owdziej to excuse Schuhknecht from tonight's meeting, unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Minutes:
Motion by Overmyer and supported by Anderson to approve minutes from November 20, 2025 meeting, unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda:
Motion made by Klipp, 2nd by Overmyer to approve Consent Agenda. Geller clarified cost for liability insurance as questioned. Consent Agenda unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Agenda:
Motion by Klipp and supported by Nankervis to approve tonight's agenda. Unanimously approved, motion carried.

Public Comment:
None

New Business:
1. 2026 Board meeting calendar was presented (unchanged from previous year), motion by Nankervis and supported by Anderson, unanimously approved, motion carried
2. Report from Finance Committee: Given by Klipp who reports that the 4th quarter finances were reviewed and discussed. He states Geller also reported on the 2027 fiscal budget which will be reported by Geller at this meeting.
3. Approval of FY 2027 budget: Report from Geller who stated the State is going to reimburse 30.5895% of each dollar that Marq-tran spends for that FY. This is 3 % less than this year, though Geller reporting that it's better than he expected. He reviewed the adjustments he made for the 2027 budget, allowing for increased costs in every area of the budget. He states the fleet is getting older and repairs are increasing, as well as some needed repairs that are already identified. He noted the uncertainty of wages and union negotiations. Motion by Nankervis and supported by Anderson to approve the FY 2027 budget, unanimously approved, motion carried.

Any Old or New Business:
Geller reports Q-Ryde is still being tested and states there's progress but he wants to wait until everything is working before releasing this to the public. He states that the Michigan Mobility Wallet two-week pass was extended until Monday. Reports states 187 users in November (59 users were (free). Since the beginning of December, 287 passes were utilized, taking advantage of this free session. States "it seems to be working and people seem to like using it".
Geller also reports he received a grant for two more transit vans which brings the total to 5 transit vans.

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Geller presented a letter to the board from a consumer requesting an alteration in a fix route in the city of Marquette. He explained the logistical difficulties of fulfilling this request on a fixed route and offered the solution of using a door-to-door service (which would provide bus service to an existing fixed route). Anderson made a motion to respond to this consumer by letter, supported by Yeadon and passed unanimously. Motion carried.

Geller states he is applying for grant money from the state for capital improvements for roof repair, states new boilers are working well.

Hobbins reporting that an employee will be repaying the Authority after receiving an overpayment from payroll.

Owdziej asked about long-term plan with mobility wallet. Geller reports it's probably not compatible with Q-Ryde and notes several issues with using it long term, but also recognizes that if the Authority wants to have the availability of electronic payment, they would need something. Several Board members, **Overmyer, Klipp and Hobbins** voiced their support of a long-term electronic pay system with **Anderson and Klipp** voicing support of a single system. **Glenn** reports that the mobility app currently used is unavailable to the unhoused population due to address requirements. **Geller** states he will consult Q-Ryde and compare options and availability.

Board comments:
Anderson: none
Yeadon: Reports happy High-Rise Marq-tran users in Ishpeming
Barnhart: none
Overmyer: wishes everyone a Merry Christmas
Klipp: States Merry Christmas to all and states because the Mobility wallet is App-based, he is aware a friend who is having issues using this on a web-based platform. This friend has Geller's email to contact him.
Flohe: none
Owdziej: Recognized Geller's efforts for securing bus money for new transit vans
Glenn: Thanked Geller for efforts and time spent with SAIL (he plans on attending quarterly meeting which Jamie assures, will have food ;)
Hobbins: States he appreciates everyone's work this season and feels it has been a productive year
Geller: recognizes the year's good work and extended holiday wishes
McDonnell: Offers the Annual Marq-tran calendar to Board Members

Adjournment:
Chair adjourned at 6:38 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Barb Owdziej Secretary