

LUZERNE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JUNE 23, 2020

PRESENT:

CHARLES SCIANDRA, CHAIRMAN
MICHAEL CEFALO, VICE-CHAIRMAN
VALERIE KEPNER, PH.D, TREASURER
JOSEPH PADAVAN, ASST. TREASURER
LYNETTE VILLANO, SECRETARY
GARY POLAKOSKI, ASST. SECRETARY

ATTORNEY JOSEPH BLAZOSEK, SOLICITOR
ATTORNEY MATTHEW CARMODY, ASST. SOLICITOR

ABSENT:

PATRICK CONWAY, MEMBER
DENNIS DRISCOLL, MEMBER
SEAN ROBBINS, MEMBER

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

LEE HORTON, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JOE ROSELLE, DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES/I.T.
VINCE COVIELLO, DIRECTOR TRANSIT MAINTENANCE
LOUIS URITZ, PROCUREMENT MANAGER
RANDY LISMAN, FINANCE DIRECTOR
JANINE HENNIGAN, HR MANAGER
TRACY KLINE, ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
KATHY BEDNAREK, GRANTS COORDINATOR

OTHERS:

TOBY FAUVER, CONSULTANT (by phone)
PAUL JASON, BUS OPERATOR
KEVIN MCGEE, UNION PRESIDENT

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Board Chairman, Mr. Sciandra, welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited those present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call: The following Board Members were present or available by phone for the meeting: Mr. Cefalo, Dr. Kepner, Mr. Padavan, Mr. Polakoski, Ms. Villano and Mr. Sciandra.

3. Public Comment: Kevin McGee, Union President, asked if there was any word on the possibility of hazard pay for the employees that are working through this pandemic. Mr. Sciandra said that we really appreciate the job that our drivers have done and continue to do. He said we have a recommendation from the Executive Director to discontinue fares for the next 30 days until the bus shields are available at a cost of \$100,000. Mr. Sciandra stated that there has been some discussion and there will continue

to be some discussion as to hazard pay up the road. He said the Authority simply doesn't have the money. He also mentioned that when the health care went up this year we spent another \$65,000 to offset that increase in health care for employees. He said the answer is not "No"; it is not "Yes", he said it will be something that we will look at up the road.

Mr. McGee explained that the CARES Act has given all authorities the same amount of federal money. He said that in Erie their employees got a \$4,200 bonus pay and are receiving \$1,200 extra a pay until at least the end of July. He said Harrisburg is paying an extra \$3.00 an hour which started March 16th. Mr. Sciandra stated that some of those authorities have a higher ridership. Mr. Sciandra asked what our ridership numbers were. Mr. Lisman said it is down 50%. Mr. Roselle said it is progressing steadily, this past week we were about 65% of normal but noted there is no revenue coming in. He asked Mr. Lisman how much in overtime we were paying out. Mr. Lisman said it was approximately \$40 to \$45,000 last month. Mr. Sciandra said the board appreciates the hard work and the risks you take as drivers. He explained that as a board we want to recognize that.

4. Approval of Minutes: Chairman, Mr. Sciandra, asked for approval of the board minutes from the May 26th, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Padavan and seconded by Ms. Villano. Motion carried.

5. Treasurer's Report: Dr. Valerie Kepner, Chairperson

Dr. Kepner directed the board to the financial reports and made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cefalo. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

6. Chairperson's Report: Mr. Charles Sciandra

Mr. Sciandra did not have anything to report.

7. Solicitor's Report: Attorney Joseph Blazosek

Atty. Blazosek noted for the record that there was an executive session from 4:15 p.m. until approximately 5:00 p.m. He said that during the time we covered a number of personnel issues some of which were brought up by the Executive Director. Atty. Blazosek added that any actions will be done later in the meeting and other matters will be presented later in the meeting.

8. Executive Directors Report: Interim Director, Lee Horton

Mr. Horton presented the following action items:

Motion to approve the demolition of the Murray Complex to Brdaric Excavating, Inc. A motion was made by Ms. Villano and seconded by Dr. Kepner. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Motion to approve the Fencing Contract on the Murray Site for perimeter fencing. A motion was made by Dr. Kepner and seconded by Mr. Padavan. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board. It was determined that a contractor has not been selected and it was not ready to be voted on.

A motion to rescind the previous motion was made by Ms. Villano and seconded by Mr. Cefalo. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Motion to approve the Fencing Contract on the Kingston Site for gate system. It was determined that this motion was not ready to be voted on at this time.

Motion to approve the (LLTS and MPO) agreement. Ms. Bednarek explained this reimburses LCTA for planning activities. A motion was made by Dr. Kepner and seconded by Ms. Villano. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

9. Board Committee Reports

Public Transit Ridership Forum Committee- Dr. Valerie Kepner, Chairperson

Dr. Kepner said there has not been any movement on the public transit ridership meetings. Mr. Roselle suggested planning one for July.

Safety Committee- Atty. Sean Robbins, Chairperson

Atty. Robbins was absent from the meeting.

Strategic Planning Committee- Mr. Michael Cefalo, Chairperson

Mr. Cefalo said he would schedule a meeting for July. He said he has gathered information from a transit authority in Colombia, SC and would circulate that among the board members.

Health and Pension Committee- Mr. Joseph Padavan, Chairperson

Mr. Padavan said we haven't had any meeting because of COVID.

Operations Committee- Mr. Gary Polakoski, Chairperson

Mr. Polakoski stated that the free ridership is extended for another 30 days.

Personnel Committee- Mr. Joseph Padavan, Chairperson

Mr. Padavan made a motion to terminate immediately, employee #0934.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Cefalo. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Mr. Padavan said that Janine has been doing a good job working on a Wellness Program. He mentioned we would be getting rid of the Teledoc service and canceling AFLAC in 2021.

9. Old Business:

Murray Complex update: Mr. Horton stated that they are boring holes for samples. He said we are still working with Stantec and Penn DOT and having weekly meetings.

10. New Business: Mr. Sciandra explained he has a letter of resignation from Patrick Conway effective immediately. A motion to accept the letter was made by Mr. Padavan and seconded by Ms. Villano. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

11. Remarks: None

12. Adjournment: With all business completed, Ms. Villano made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Padavan. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

BY: Tracy Kline, Secretary to the Board