

LUZERNE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2021

PRESENT:

CHARLES SCIANDRA, CHAIRMAN
MICHAEL CEFALO, VICE-CHAIRMAN
VALERIE KEPNER, PH.D., TREASURER (By Phone)
DENNIS DRISCOLL, ASST. TREASURER (By Phone)
LYNETTE VILLANO, SECRETARY (By Phone)
JOHN YOUNG, ASST. SECRETARY (By Phone)
TOM BINDUS, MEMBER (By Phone)
JOSEPH PADAVAN, MEMBER (By Phone)
GARY POLAKOSKI, MEMBER (By Phone)

ATTORNEY JOSEPH BLAZOSEK, SOLICITOR
ATTORNEY MATTHEW CARMODY, ASST. SOLICITOR (By Phone)

ABSENT:

NONE

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

LEE HORTON, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JOE ROSELLE, DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES/I.T.
LOUIS URITZ, PROCUREMENT MANAGER
VINCE COVIELLO, DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE
RANDY LISMAN, FINANCE DIRECTOR
TRACY KLINE, ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
FRANK KNOREK, COMPLIANCE ANALYST

OTHERS:

JOSEPH ALICIENE, AUDITOR
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. Bindus, Mr. Cefalo, Mr. Driscoll, Dr. Kepner, Mr. Padavan, Mr. Polakoski, Ms. Villano, Mr. Young and Mr. Sciandra.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Approval of Minutes: Chairman, Mr. Sciandra, asked for approval of the board minutes from the December 22nd, 2020 meeting and the January 12th, 2021 Re-Organization meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Villano and seconded by Mr. Young. Motion carried.

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

Dr. Kepner directed the board to Mr. Lisman with any financial questions. Dr. Kepner made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, pending audit. 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 explained that on the agenda at County Council this evening is discussion and a vote for moving forward with consolidation discussions. He added that a study commission would be set between LCTA, members of County Council and members of Lackawanna County and COLTS, potentially Hazleton as well. He said the meeting starts at 5:30 p.m.

7. Solicitor's Report: Attorney Joseph Blazosek

Atty. Blazosek noted for the record that there was an executive session from 4:30 p.m. until approximately 5:45 p.m. He said that during the time he, Mr. Horton, Atty. Carmody and Mr. Fauver gave the board input on the interaction between ongoing COVID matters that affect personnel; also matters that involve some of the legislation and procedures that we are looking into. He said they looked at the Family Cares Act. He added that other matters were discussed that pertain to our ongoing need to evaluate our position related to the COVID epidemic and adjust a number of things at the Authority to be consistent with the requirements and precautions that need to be taken at this time. He said there also was an update on litigation that involves the Murray Project which will lead to an eventual hearing regarding the final purchase price for the property. Atty. Blazosek stated that no actions were taken during the executive session.

8. Executive Directors Report:

Motion to approve the update to DOT Grants position titles. Mr. Horton explained that it gives us the capability of different awards to be granted inside of the DOT grants. A motion was made by Mr. Bindus and seconded by Mr. Padavan. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Motion to approve Poetry in Transit contribution of \$1,000 to Kings College. A motion was made by Mr. Cefalo and seconded by Ms. Villano. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Motion to accept receipt of the audit report from Joe Aliciene, CPA. A motion was made by Mr. Cefalo and seconded by Mr. Driscoll. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

9. Committees:

Mr. Sciandra announced the following board committees for 2021 and said he will expect a presentation at the February board meeting.

Personnel Committee- Joe Padavan, Chairman; members include Lynette Villano, Mike Cefalo, Dr. Kepner, John Young and Gary Polakoski. Mr. Sciandra said the committee will meet the week before our regular meeting on a Wednesday at 4 p.m.

Finance and Budget Committee- Dr. Kepner, Chairman; members include Mike Cefalo, Dennis Driscoll and John Young

Operations/Safety Committee- Tom Bindus, Chairman and Gary Polakoski.

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

Strategic Planning Committee- Michael Cefalo, Chairperson; Dennis Driscoll and John Young.

Health and Pension Committee- Lynette Villano, Chairperson and Joe Padavan.

Mr. Sciandra stated that anyone who would like to participate in any of the committees are welcome.

10. Old Business: None

11. New Business: None

12. Remarks: No remarks were made at this time.

13. Adjournment: With all business completed, Mr. Padavan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Cefalo. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

BY: Tracy Kline, Secretary to the Board