

LUZERNE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 23, 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
TOM BINDUS, MEMBER (By Phone)
GARY POLAKOSKI, MEMBER

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

ABSENT:

JOHN YOUNG, ASST. SECRETARY
JOSEPH PADAVAN, MEMBER

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

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

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. Bindus, Mr. Cefalo, Mr. Driscoll, Dr. Kepner, Mr. Polakoski, Ms. Villano and Mr. Sciandra.

3. Public Comment: Kevin McGee, Union President, asked if there was any follow up on the meeting they had a couple weeks ago. Mr. Sciandra said there has been some further discussion and we will continue to have additional discussion.

4. Approval of Minutes: Chairman, Mr. Sciandra, asked for approval of the board minutes from the February 23rd, 2021 meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Villano and seconded by Mr. Cefalo. Motion carried.

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

Dr. Kepner made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, pending audit. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bindus. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

6. Chairperson's Report: Mr. Charles Sciandra

Mr. Sciandra said they have had a preliminary discussion with Lackawanna County on moving forward with a potential merger with COLTS. He added that they are doing some additional investigation, and asking additional questions and we are waiting for them to get back to us on whether or not they want to move forward.

7. Solicitor's Report: Attorney Joseph Blazosek

Atty. Blazosek noted for the record that there was an executive session from 4:20 p.m. until approximately 5:25 p.m. He said that during the time he, Mr. Horton and Attorney Carmody updated the board on a number of matters that touch on personnel. He stated that information was shared pertaining to meetings that were held. Atty. Blazosek added that no decisions were reached, though they spoke about matters that involve coverages and touched upon some real estate matters pertaining to the Murray Complex Property. Atty. Blazosek commented that any decisions would be at a later meeting or tonight's meeting.

8. Executive Directors Report:

Motion to approve the LCTA Worker's Compensation Proposal through Excalibur. A motion was made by Mr. Polakoski and seconded by Ms. Villano. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Motion to approve the LCTA Underlying Flood Insurance with Philadelphia Indemnity and motion to approve the LCTA Excess Flood Insurance through Joyce Insurance. A motion was made by Mr. Cefalo and seconded by Mr. Polakoski. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Mr. Horton said we will be setting up the GoToMeetings virtually and have audio for the public to join the meetings. Atty. Blazosek added that it would be in addition to the practice we had of allowing attendees in the boardroom.

9. Committees:

Public Transit Ridership Forum Committee- Dr. Valerie Kepner, Chairperson
Dr. Kepner said there was no meeting held this month.

Operations/Safety Committee- Tom Bindus, Chairperson

Mr. Bindus said that on March 11th Lee Horton took he and Dr. Kepner on a tour of the LCTA outside facilities lasting over two hours, which was mostly for his benefit. He said he would like to set up another full-fledged meeting at 10:00 a.m. on a Tuesday or a Thursday. Mr. Bindus stated that Lee had

answered his questions to his satisfaction. He added that they both toured the new buses and vans and he was quite impressed.

Strategic Planning Committee- Michael Cefalo, Chairperson

Mr. Cefalo said that there are two draft outlines of the strategic plan, one omits COLTS and the other includes them. Mr. Sciandra stated that we should know by the end of the week or next couple weeks.

Health and Pension Committee- Lynette Villano, Chairperson

Ms. Villano did not have a report at this time.

Personnel Committee- Joe Padavan, Chairperson

Mr. Padavan was absent from the meeting.

Finance and Budget Committee- Dr. Valerie Kepner, Chairperson

Mr. Lisman said he would start the budget mid-April.

10. Old Business:

Murray Complex / new building update

Mr. Horton said we did receive the 90% phase of drawings. He said that he and Vince would be working on them throughout the week and get back to Stantec. Atty. Blazosek said that Judge Gartley has appointed a three-member board to act as sort of a judge and jury to hear testimony about what the final value should be on the purchase of the Murray Property from Sinewa. He added that we have given a payment we estimate to be fair compensation but they are disputing that amount and think it should be higher. He stated this board will make that decision but will be subject to further appeal before a judge if any party is unhappy.

11. New Business:

Ms. Villano made a motion for current board members to keep the legally provided life insurance and for board members reimburse LCTA for the cost of the policy from the time of appointment. In going forward life insurance will no longer be offered to newly appointed board members. Mr. Sciandra asked for a second. There was not a second to the motion and therefore it did not pass.

Dr. Kepner asked to make a motion. She proposed to eliminate life insurance coverage for current board members and board members going forward. Mr. Sciandra asked for a second. Mr. Cefalo and Mr. Bindus seconded the motion. There were 6 "yes" votes (Mr. Bindus, Mr. Cefalo, Mr. Driscoll, Dr. Kepner, Mr. Polakoski and Mr. Sciandra). There was 1 "no" vote by Ms. Villano. Motion carried.

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

BY: Tracy Kline, Secretary to the Board