

LUZERNE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2022

PRESENT:

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

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

ABSENT:

NONE

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

ROBERT FIUME, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
LEE HORTON, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JOE ROSELLE, DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES/I.T.
VINCE COVIELLO, DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE
RANDY LISMAN, FINANCE DIRECTOR
LOU URITZ, PROCUREMENT MANAGER
TRACY KLINE, ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
FRANK KNOREK, COMPLIANCE ANALYST
KATHY BEDNAREK, GRANTS COORDINATOR

OTHERS:

KEVIN MCGEE- BUS OPERATOR, UNION PRESIDENT
PAUL JASON- BUS OPERATOR

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: Board Chairman, Mr. Sciandra asked for approval of the board minutes from the December 21st,2021 and January 6th,2022 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 made a motion to accept the financials, 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 did not have a report at this time.

7. Solicitor's Report: Attorney Joseph Blazosek

Atty. Blazosek noted for the record that there was an executive session from 4:07 p.m. until approximately 4:58 p.m. He said during that time the Director updated the board on future personnel needs. He added they also discussed considering a board action approving a collective bargaining agreement with Teamsters Local 401. He stated Atty. Carmody updated the board on some personnel matters. Mr. Blazosek said there was an opportunity for the board to meet with a prospective hire for the human resources position and it would be subject to board action as the meeting proceeds.

8. Executive Directors Report:

Mr. Fiume said that our ridership dipped in January due to weather and the COVID outbreak but he expected it to come back again. He added that we would be looking at routes and trying to improve them this next year.

He said the Homeland Security team that was supposed to come in January cancelled because of COVID reasons and we do not have another date yet.

Mr. Fiume stated they had their first bi-weekly meeting today regarding the construction project. He said it involved the construction and design team along with Penn DOT by phone and it is scheduled every other Tuesday as of now.

Motion to approve the Teamster Local #401 Collective Bargaining Agreement. A motion was made by Mr. Padavan and seconded by Mr. Cefalo. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Motion to approve the nomination from the Personnel Committee to fill the Human Resource position pending background check and pre-employment drug test. Mr. Padavan made the motion to hire Director of Human Resources, Denisse Batista. The motion was seconded by Mr. Young. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Motion to approve the Bus Shelter Project. A motion was made by Mr. Driscoll and seconded by Dr. Kepner. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Motion to approve the Fleet Management and Maintenance Manual. A motion was made by Mr. Cefalo and seconded by Mr. Padavan. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Motion to approve the Seven Mountains Creative Contract. A motion was made by Ms. Villano and seconded by Mr. Driscoll. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

9. Committees:

Public Transit Ridership Forum Committee- Dr. Valerie Kepner, Chairperson
Dr. Kepner did not have a report as the meetings are held every other month.

Operations/Safety Committee- Tom Bindus, Chairperson
Mr. Bindus said there was no meeting this month.

Strategic Planning Committee- Michael Cefalo, Chairperson
Mr. Cefalo said that he would get together with Mr. Fiume and Mr. Fauver later this week.

Personnel Committee- Joe Padavan, Chairperson
Mr. Padavan said it has been a long time we have been looking for a Director of Human Resources so we are glad to be hiring someone. He added that we are also trying to hire part-time drivers.

10. Old Business: None

11. New Business: No new business was discussed.

12. Remarks: No remarks were made.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

BY: Tracy Kline, Secretary to the Board