

LUZERNE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

PRESENT:

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

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

ABSENT:

GARY POLAKOSKI, MEMBER

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

ROBERT FIUME, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
LEE HORTON, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
JOE ROSELLE, DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES/I.T.  
RANDY LISMAN, FINANCE DIRECTOR  
DENISSE BATISTA, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR  
GRETCHEN WINTERMANTEL, DIRECTOR OF MARKETING/COMMUNICATIONS  
TRACY KLINE, ACCOUNTING MANAGER

OTHERS:

NONE

**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, 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 August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. 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 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 asked Mr. Fiume to give an update on the Anniversary Luncheon during his executive director's report.

## **7. Solicitor's Report: Attorney**

Atty. Blazosek noted for the record that there was an executive session from 4:07 p.m. until approximately 5:05 p.m. He said during that time the board was updated on personnel matters. He stated that members of the board also got an update on the ongoing negotiations between the Authority and the Amalgamated Transit Workers Union. Atty. Blazosek said there were no final determinations but they received input that allows the staff and executive director to proceed with further discussions.

## **8. Executive Director's Report:**

Mr. Fiume reminded everyone to respond to the email and register for the luncheon being held on Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. He said we need to give a count to the Westmoreland Club, registration is at 11:30 a.m. and the luncheon starts at noon. Mr. Fiume said it will be the kick off for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and we will have gifts and a booklet. He added that the staff is working very hard on a booklet, program and a video. Mr. Fiume stated that throughout the year we will be giving out trinkets and doing other things, noting that we are going to host our state summer meeting and Rodeo in August next year. He said we have been looking for sponsors and have gotten some in, adding that no cost of luncheon will be paid by LCTA, also we have businesses to put ads in our program to pay for that. He said we do not anticipate any monies from this Authority being spent for the luncheon at all including the gifts and the program.

He mentioned that the steel is going up and the dirt pile is going down at the new building site, adding that it is moving in the right direction.

Mr. Fiume mentioned that we will be interviewing one more planning group and they will choose who will be doing the transit development plan in the next week or two.

Mr. Sciandra commented that they have been doing a great job soliciting vendors to pay for the luncheon and everything else that goes along with it. He added with the addition of our new marketing director, Gretchen Wintermantel, it is making the job a lot easier.

Mr. Fiume presented the following motions:

Motion to approve the separation of employees #00CC and #00DK. A motion was made by Mr. Padavan and seconded by Mr. Young. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Motion to approve the Consolidated Capital Grant Application (CCA): Board resolution to file application and to certify local match. A motion was made by Ms. Villano and seconded by Mr. Cefalo. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

The following motions were approved together:

Motion to approve the resolution for entering into contract with Optibus.

Motion to approve the Cell Support Continuation contract with AVAIL.

A motion was made by Mr. Cefalo and seconded by Mr. Young. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

Motion to approve the current Change Order for the new facility. Mr. Fiume explained it's a change order for the building site approved by PennDOT for \$4,000,000 which needs approval from us as the owner. A motion was made by Ms. Villano and seconded by Mr. Young. Motion carried with a roll call vote of the board.

## **9. Committees:**

### **Public Transit Ridership Forum Committee-** Valerie Kepner, Chairperson

Dr. Kepner said she did not attend the meeting. Mr. Sciandra and Mr. Fiume said the meeting was short and they discussed financing riders with a county agency.

### **Operations/Safety Committee-** Tom Bindus, Chairperson

Mr. Bindus said he got in touch with Trooper Peterson to do an active shooter walk through on Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. He said we are walking through, asking questions and we will see what the response is from the state police.

### **Strategic Planning Committee-** Michael Cefalo, Chairperson

Mr. Cefalo did not have a report at this time. Mr. Sciandra said that Mr. Lisman put some great numbers out and he would like to see a dashboard with some key information including what we spend in overtime on a weekly basis. Mr. Fiume said we would get that together and sit down to decide what he wants to see.

### **Personnel Committee-** Joe Padavan, Chairperson

Mr. Padavan said he missed the last meeting. He said we are trying to hire part-time bus drivers. He stated that it is hard to hire people part-time with the way the contract language is now for part-time drivers. Mr. Padavan explained we are not able to give them enough hours, adding that we have talked to the Union and hoped to get to an agreement. Mr. Sciandra said he appreciated Mr. Padavan sitting in the negotiations.

**10. Old Business:** No old business was discussed.

**11. New Business:** None

**12. Remarks:** No remarks were made.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

BY: Tracy Kline, Secretary to the Board