



Jeremy Peterson, CEO

Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority
MINUTES
July 26, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS present via ZOOM:

Dave Robinson, Chair
Jessica Molczan, Vice Chair
Julie Barry
George Willis
Tom Bly, Excused
Ashley Lawson
Lyn Twillie-Darby
Gyan Ghising
Ben Wilson

STAFF:

Jeremy Peterson, CEO
Vicky Takach
Dani Duran
Joyce Butts
Erica Nowak 4205

ATTENDANCE

IN ATTENDANCE VIA ZOOM:

Attorney, Jill Nagy 8574

CALL TO ORDER:

Dave Robinson called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR JULY 26, 2021:

Dave Robinson called for the review and approval of the AGENDA for the JULY 26, 2021 meeting. George Willis made a motion to approve the AGENDA as printed. seconded. Ashley Lawson seconded. Carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR JUNE 28, 2021:

Dave Robinson called for the review and approval of the MINUTES from the JUNE 28, 2021 meeting a motion to approve the MINUTES as printed. ——— seconded. Carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Two (2) Public Comments were submitted for the July Board Meeting.

- Esther Rutledge
- Deb Spilko

1. Ester would like everyone to know how much she loves EMTA and the drivers including the Lift. She wants to give EMTA a million stars and hopes everyone enjoys it as much as she does.
2. Hello All,

With the new requirement that Agendas of Public meetings need to be posted ahead of time, could you please advise as to where future EMTA Board Agendas will be posted?

Also, it would help if the Minutes of the meetings were posted as well.

Thanks,

Deb Spilko

CEO REPORT:

Jeremy Peterson reported the following issues and projects he has been involved with since the last Board Meeting.

- Attended Altoona Metro Transit AMTRAN Ribbon cutting ceremony with CEO Eric Wolf.
- Attended networking event with CEO's around the State.
- Tent set up for 8 Great Tuesday's event.
- Draft of Court Gould Strategic Plan submitted to the Board.

VOTE: Court Gould Strategic Plan.

Dave Robinson called for a motion to accept the Strategic Plan. Ashley Lawson made a motion to accept the Strategic Plan. Julie Barry seconded. All Board members voted in favor of the Strategic Plan. Zero opposed. Motion carries.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Attorney, Jill Nagy reported the following issues and projects she has been involved with since the last Board Meeting.

- A change to the Sunshine Law. Meeting Agendas have to be posted twenty-four (24) hours in advance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

No report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

No report due to the Audit.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Lyn Twillie-Darby reported the following update.

- Recommends D & I Training to start in September due to employee vacations and driver trainings.
- Working with Chris Gerhart and various staff on the Shiloh Job Fair for Saturday August 14th from 10:00AM – 2:00PM.
- Erica Nowak working with WERG. EMTA will sponsor the Gannon University Super Soul Saturday weekend of the job fair.

MARKETING COMMITTEE:

Erica Nowak reported the following update.

- Working on Route changes.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

Jessica Molczan reported the following update.

- Fixed Route, June ridership 49,004 down from 65,665 in May due to school being out.
- Full Saturday service for the FIXED Route will be in effect as of July 17th.
- LIFT shared ride 9,136 trips for May, average ride time was 49 minutes. Goal has been to get riders to their destinations in an hour.
- 2,574 ADA trips performed in May at a rate of 85% on time.

— Masking mandate required on public transportation until September 13th per Transportation Safety Administration.

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

No report.

NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE:

Jeremy Peterson gave the following update.

— No response from ATU Local 568 on LIFT CBA.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Dave Robinson appointed Lyn Twillie-Darby to be on the Strategic Planning Committee.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Dave Robinson gave the following update.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dave Robinson called for a motion to Adjourn. Ashley Lawson made a motion to adjourn. Julie Barry seconded. Carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board held an Executive Session.

RESOLUTION:

POST PANDEMIC RELIEF ACTION – MODIFICATION OF THE AUTHORITY FARE POLICY

WHEREAS, the Authority has an approved fare structure and a policy that defines how the Authority is to increase fares, and

WHEREAS, the Authority is authorizing a temporary change to its fare policy, and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Pennsylvania has lifted the mask mandate order for all of Pennsylvania and in order to mitigate covid-19 interaction in keeping with said mask mandate, EMTA's mask mandate will remain in effect until September 13th, 2021 as per FTA guidelines

WHEREAS, in an effort to provide relief post-statewide restrictions, the Authority will move to a fixed route free fare and complimentary paratransit ADA free fare on a temporary basis

WHEREAS, the Authority will provide immediate economic relief through this temporary free fare policy to the benefit of all riders especially those who have been economically impacted by the pandemic and now are returning to work and public engagement

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors that it authorizes the removal of fares for the fixed route system and complimentary ADA fares for the paratransit service on a temporary basis and authorizes a temporary free fare for a period beginning July 5 through August 29, 2021

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Directors authorizes the Executive Director to employ proper internal procedures for reporting the temporary fare policy to the necessary state and federal agencies, perform alternative count and verification processes for ridership, and notification of the public of the temporary fare structure.

The next meeting will be held July 26, 2021 via ZOOM @ 4:00 p.m.