



Jeremy Peterson
Chief Executive Officer

Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority
127 East 14th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503

**Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority
August Board Meeting
September 25, 2023**

Attendance via zoom:

Board members

Ashley Lawson
Jessica Molczan
Lyn Twillie-Darby
(absent)
Ben Wilson (absent)
Shantel Hilliard
Dylanna Grasinger
George Willis
Jill Nagy (solicitor)

EMTA Staff Present

Jeremy Peterson
Ed Torres
Dani Duran

Becca Gathers
Sarah Morrison
Theresa Lugo
Vicky Takach

Guests

Jasmine Flores
Passle Helminski
Freda Tepfer

Justin Mason
Jim DeLong
Christian Silvera
Richard Voelker

CALL TO ORDER:

Ashley Lawson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR September 25 2023:

Ashley Lawson called for the review and approval of the AGENDA for the September 25, 2023, meeting. George Willis made a motion to approve the AGENDA as presented. Jessica Molczan seconded. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR August 28, 2023:

Ashley Lawson called for the review and approval of the MINUTES. George Willis moved to approve the minutes as presented. Shantel Hilliard seconded. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Jill Nagy: None: none
Jeremy Peterson: none

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Passel – Second Quality assurance meeting recently took place. E & D working with staff to get meetings back to pre-pandemic levels. Elections to be held soon. Passed a motion to review Sunday Service.

Freda Tepfer Wondering when will public input be added to the strategic



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plan. Sent information to Jeremy regarding legislation from Allegheny and Philadelphia area collecting sales tax. Dave is looking into that – Freda would like an update.

CEO REPORT:

Safety Review Round Table – Received more awards than any other PA agency.

Jeremy Peterson has been elected to the Board of Safety.

Becca Gathers and Matt Sanfilippo are now splitting Safety and Security duties for EMTA.

TOD Space – getting quotes soon.

6 new CNG buses to arrive by January.

Transportation bill from Sen Laughlin –Jill Nagy advised Act 89 and 44 will help to make sustainable and predicable funding in PA. Jill may be calling on us to write letters of support.

Mercer Transit meeting with CATA – Jeremy discussed Fritz project, Ecolane, and transit funding.

Jeremy Peterson introduced New World Energy Consultants – Richard Voelker and Christian Silvera.

Christian Silvera explains EMTA was paying 11.6 kilowatts per hour. Two product options are either fixed or a utility supply. New World introduced a Managed Product option to avoid locking in long-term prices. Managed product delivers a significantly lower price.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Has not met yet. Dylanna Grasinger and George Willis have signed off on the nominating committee. The timeline has been provided and they will work to present nominations for next month.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Vicky reported the audit is still going. Final report will be presented in November. Vicky reviewed financial statements.

Ashley and George rep the pension committee – met and will have more information on that next month.

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PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Sept Total Interviews: 30

Sept Hires: 10

In hiring Queue: 7 drivers pending pre-employment screenings.

Recruiting and Community Activity:

1. August 29, 2023 – PA CareerLink recruiting event – Sassafra St.
2. September 22, 2023 – Veteran Leadership Recruiting event – Intermodal
3. October 2, 2023 – PA CareerLink recruiting event – Sassafra St

Dave – DEI training to take place in October via Opened Eyes. October 15 and 22. (3 sessions on each day)

MARKETING COMMITTEE:

Sarah Morrison: Dave attended Mayor's press conference referencing the New American population in Erie, PA.

Participated in a number of senior fairs.

Planning the Toys for Tots drive and a Goods drive.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

Jess Molczan:

Fixed route 124,710 rides.

LIFT rides 12,057 of which 3,595 were ADA funded.

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

George Willis: Ben Wilson and George Willis met recently regarding retail space. More to come in October and November meetings.

RACP funds discussed – most likely will not need those funds.

NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE:

Jeremy Peterson: Continuing negotiations each week/every two weeks.

Union introduced international vice president to meetings and have discussed contract. Looking at potential arbitration to complete negotiations.

CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT: Nominating committee will be comprised of George Willis and Dylanna Grasinger. More information will be discussed in November.

Ashley congratulated JP and staff for Safety achievements.

Beast on the Bay was very organized this year.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing else to add.



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NEW BUSINESS: Nothing else to add.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ashley Lawson called for a motion to adjourn. George Willis made a motion to adjourn. Jessica Molzcan seconded. Motion carries. Adjourned at 4: 56 p.m.

The next meeting will be **October 23, 2023**, via **ZOOM**
@ 4:00 p.m.