



Jeremy Peterson
Chief Executive Officer

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

**Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority
August Board Meeting
April 22, 2024
MINUTES**

Attendance via zoom/hybrid:

Board members

Ashley Lawson
George Willis
Lyn Twillie-Darby
(excused)

Ben Wilson
Jessica Molczan
Shantel Hilliard
Dylanna Grasinger

Jill Nagy (solicitor)

EMTA Staff Present

Jeremy Peterson
David Robinson
Ed Torres

Dani Duran
Sarah Morrison
Vicky Takach
Branden Montgomery

Guests

Passle Helminski
Deb Spilko
Tyler Titus (city
council)
Freda Tepfer

Ashley Lawson, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Ashley Lawson called for the review and approval of the AGENDA for the April 22, 2024, meeting. Ben moved to approve the agenda as presented. Shantell seconded. Motion carried.

Ashley called for the Approval of the Minutes for March 25, 2024
George moved to accept, Shantell 2nd; all in favor. Motion carried.

There were no announcements from Jill Nagy or Jeremy Peterson.

Public Comments:

Had 1 voicemail comment – played for the board for review. Esther Rutledge.

Passle Helminski had our E&D meeting. Requesting any other agencies that want to be a part of these meetings – send notification or agencies that want to



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participate.

CEO REPORT:

Wednesday – Mentoring program with Booker T Washington Center and Erie High will be starting. Weekly meetings will continue until there is no need for the meetings. 6 mentors cleared and ready to start on Wednesday. Additional mentors are in the queue and will be processed once completed. EMTA is excited to enhance the safety of students and EMTA and the community.

Several EMTA staff attended the PPTA conference. Labor negotiations. Human Trafficking, Marketing. Etc. Updates from PennDOT as well. Will be attending CEO roundtable with Jill on May 7-8 in preparation for funding from the state. More to report next month.

Preparing for rider appreciation days. Marketing will have more to report.

Media update – had press conference to reveal new buses. Legislators joined us for the presentation. Earth day – we have doubled our fleet with CNG fuel. Maintains commitment to eliminate diesel and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Solar eclipse event/report. Happy that It's over. EMTA Provided shuttle service. It was a spectacular event. It was well attended. Thank you.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Been working on funding initiatives. PPTA conference and roundtables. More to come as we get closer to the governor's budget.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Vicky Takach – reported on the EMTA financials for March.

George made the motion to approve financials as presented. Dylanna seconded. Motion passed.

Local Match – Vicky reviewed the local match with the board.

Operating match: Ben moved to approve. Dylanna seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Certification of local match/insurance: George moved to approve. Ben seconded. Motion carried.

Ashley will sign and scan them to EMTA for disbursement.



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PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Dave – DEI information. Bylaws were presented to the board. Bylaws are pretty standard. Would like board approval so that EMTA can begin process of recruiting members to the committee. Ben made a motion to approve bylaws for DEI. Shantel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MARKETING COMMITTEE:

Ben: Had meeting with Tyler Titus and Senator Laughlin. Solar Eclipse planning paid off as there were great press releases. PPTA has great sessions for staff. Great opportunities for networking. Travel training with USCRI, Catholic Charities and more. Working with CATA on transit retreat. Moving forward with planning the June 14th festival. Rider appreciate days will require a motion for free fair day on May 8.

Motion for board to recognize rider appreciation day and waive fares on this day for fixed route riders. Ben moved that the motion be approved. Shantel seconded. Motion carried.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

Jessica Molczan reported:

Fixed route 121,559 March rides.

LIFT rides were 11, 459, of which 3,314 ADA funded.

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

George: Commercial space next store: Ready to go to bid. Waiting last review from BIU for labor approvals. Deadline is set soon. Then will follow up and put things out for bid for the project to move forward.

NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE:

EMTA sent revised contract proposal bid to union. Waiting to hear from union to have another session; however, ATU solicitor mentioned that we would be going to arbitration over the LIFT contract. EMTA is trying, but union isn't willing to come to the table. EMTA is trying to keep negotiations moving, but union is not participating.

CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT:

Saw the news on the press conference. Congratulations on the conference.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing else to add.

NEW BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Ashley Lawson adjourned the meeting.

George made motion to adjourn. Shantel Hilliard seconded. Motion carried.



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The next meeting will be **May 20, 2024**, via **ZOOM** @
4:00 p.m.