



Jeremy Peterson
Chief Executive Officer

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

**Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority
August Board Meeting
June 24, 2024
MINUTES**

Attendance via zoom & hybrid meeting:

Board members

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

EMTA Staff Present

Jeremy Peterson
David Robinson
Ed Torres

Dani Duran
Sarah Morrison
Vicky Takach
Branden Montgomery

Theresa Lugo

Guests

Dep Spilko
Passle Helminski
Doug Wilson
Angie Kanj
Susan Frawley

At 406pm – there was not a quorum for the EMTA board – meeting was called to order at 406pm by Ashley Lawson.

Meeting agenda will be switched due to not having a quorum. Jeremy Peterson (CEO) will begin the meeting with the CEO report.

CEO REPORT:

1. Safety conference out of town. Several sessions that may result in policy changes.
2. 14th Fest – Sarah will report on this later.
3. Toby Farver was at EMTA. Had an informal kick off meeting for Transit Development plan. We are tweaking the scope. 4-6 weeks to develop and then turn it in to PennDot for funding purposes. Looking at the changes for future service needs for Erie County.
4. Press conference is scheduled for Wednesday – Sarah will update on this more.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

Many things are going on in Harrisburg. Just monitoring things.



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Public Comments:

Passle Helminski: Had Quality assurance meeting Thursday. Had a few complaints. Sarah Reed students are not behaving well on the LIFT. Complaint is in Harrisburg. Barber Center had some clients late for pickup. Had to call parents to pick up their students. July 18 is the next call for Elderly and Disabled.

Quorum reached at 413pm. Dr. Wilson joined the meeting.

Ashley Lawson asked for approval of June 24 agenda.
Dr. Wilson motioned to approve the June agenda as presented.
George Willis seconded the motion.
Motion carried.

Ashley Lawson asked for approval of the May meeting minutes as presented.
George Willis moved to accept the minutes from May 2024.
Shantell Hilliard seconded the motion.
Motion carried.

Any other public comment:
Susan Frawley's email was discussed.
CEO report was given.

Solicitor:
Contract work has been done. FTA updated master agreements. So there is a roundtable scheduled. Working through the minor changes this month.

Executive Committee:
Has not met.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:
Vicky Takach – reported on May Financials.
Shantell Hilliard made a motion to accept financials as presented. George Willis seconded. Motion carried.

Fiscal 24 YR budget. EMTA had meeting on Thursday May 30 and reviewed the 2025 budget with board members. The 2025 budget was shared with the EMTA board.

George Willis made the motion to approve the 2025 budget.
Dr. Wilson seconded the motion.
Motion carried.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:
To date, there have been 41 interviews for June.
1 FIXED route driver started June 18.



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1 FIXED route driver & 3 LIFT drivers in queue for hiring/pending pre-employment.

Complement total is 189 for EMTA.
82 FIXED route drivers
39 LIFT drivers

EMTA will be recruiting at PA CareerLink on Friday June 28 from 10-2pm.

We are looking at participating in area festivals to continue outreach for drivers for both FIXED and LIFT routes. (example: 8 Great Tuesdays, SeaWolves games, Discover Presque Isle, Waterford Heritage Days, etc)

DEI second training for employees. Great feedback from employees. EMTA is now accepting DEI applications coming in for consideration for the committee. Applications are due July 1. The team will meet soon to review applications and work on forming the DEI committee and move forward with the DEI goals.

MARKETING COMMITTEE:

Dr. Wilson – met last week. 14th fest was big event. Great media coverage and great turnout. June 8, there were some route changes. Bringing back Presque Isle Express. Sarah is participating in multiple travel trainings. Working with Catholic Charities, USCRI, Senior pass promotion with YMCA and more. Transit retreat took place at the end of May and it was a great event. Honored 5 EMTA employees with 20 years of service at the retreat. Lastly, Sarah is working with ECAT to finalize the mural for EMTA. Will start a promotion with remainder of Fridays – looking to get food trucks at EMTA for the employees on grounds. Press Conference – hosting here at EMTA on Wednesday June 26 at the LIFT– promote donation of paratransit vehicle to Millcreek for an emergency headquarters. All are invited to attend.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

Jessica Molczan reported:

Fixed route had 131,896 May rides.
LIFT route had 11,207 rides for May.

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

George Willis – project out for bid – interior bid out for design. Received on June 5. Bids were discussed.
Willis made motion for the following:
General contract – Considine Biebel & Company



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Mechanic - Scobell Company Inc.
Electrical – Zenith Systems LLC
Plumbing – Scobell Company Inc.
Dr. Wilson seconded motion.
Motion carried.

NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE:

Jeremy – Met with union about 2 ½ weeks ago. Had two sessions with the union. EMTA labor attorney also attended the negotiations (Mark Kuhar). Joe Pass from ATU was present. Brought in a state mediator as well. Unfortunately, the union did not appear to want to work toward settlement. We may have one more chance to settle prior to arbitration. But, arbitration is scheduled for LIFT contract on June 27.

CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT:

Attended the CATA retreat for the EMTA awards. Congratulations to all the employees that were honored. Thank you for your dedication. Thank you to Sarah for all the efforts for 14th fest and other marketing efforts as well.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing else to add.

NEW BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Ashley Lawson adjourned the meeting.
Ben Wilson made a motion to adjourn. George Willis seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 435pm.

The next meeting will be **July 22, 2024**, via **ZOOM** @
4:00 p.m.