



**MASS TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 28, 2023
ANNUAL MEETING & BOARD MEETING**

PRESENT: Luke Zelle, Glenn Wilson, Scott Grossmeyer, Charles Winfrey, Sharon Reeves, Joseph King, Ellen Ellenburg, Tommie Johnson

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Ed Benning, Jacqueline Saxton, Ken Vavra, Corwin Mathews, Shawnice Dorsey, Karl Petrich, Colette Champine, Melinda Johnson, Ed Burger, Traci Davis, Patrick Tesler, Paul Mattern, Adam Stohlman

Chairman Zelle called the Annual Meeting to order at 8:01 A.M.

Charles Winfrey made a motion, supported by Joseph King, to approve the September 2023 annual board meeting agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Calendar of Meetings

Ed Benning stated that the calendar of meetings for the new fiscal year has been distributed; meeting dates for November 2023 and December 2023 are needed. Mr. Benning recommended that those dates be decided at a later time.

Glenn Wilson made a motion, supported by Scott Grossmeyer, to accept the FY 2024 meeting calendar as reviewed. Motion passed unanimously.

Affirmation of Legal Counsel

Ed Benning stated that Attorney Michael Joliat works as general counsel litigating accidents and injuries, and Hanba & Lazar for workers compensation cases; both are coming into the final year of their 5-year agreements with the MTA. Both offices have worked for the MTA for many years and have done a phenomenal job.

Charles Winfrey made a motion, supported by Scott Grossmeyer, to affirm current legal counsel for the Mass Transportation Authority. Motion passed unanimously.

Affirmation of Banking Services

Ed Benning stated that affirmation of Huntington Bank for the Authority's current banking services is required. Mr. Benning stated that the MTA has worked with various banks through the years, Huntington does good work, and they are a great community partner.

Glenn Wilson suggested that the MTA may think about using Elga Credit Union for their banking needs. Ed Benning said Glenn's suggestion would be looked into.

Scott Grossmeyer made a motion, supported by Charles Winfrey, to affirm the services of Huntington Bank for the organizations banking requirements. Motion passed unanimously.

Election of Officers - Nominations for board positions of Chair, Vice-Chair and Recording Officer (Secretary) were made from the floor.

Nominations were requested from the floor for the position of Board Chair: Luke Zelle and Glenn Wilson were nominated; nominations were closed. Nominations were requested from the floor for the position of Vice Board Chair: Glenn Wilson and Scott Grossmeyer were nominated; nominations were closed. Nominations were requested from the floor for the position of Recording Secretary (Secretary/Treasurer): Scott Grossmeyer and Ellen Ellenburg were nominated; nominations were closed.

Paper ballots were distributed to board members; ballots were completed and submitted to administrative assistant to be tallied. Jacqueline Saxton announced the results for the position of Board Chair: 5 votes for Luke Zelle, 3 for Glenn Wilson; for the position of Vice Chair: 4 votes for Glenn Wilson and 4 votes for

Scott Grossmeyer; for the position of Secretary, 4 votes for Scott Grossmeyer, 3 for Ellen Ellenburg and one no response. (Scott Grossmeyer rescinded his nomination for Vice Chair.) After the vote, Chairman Zellely announced that he would remain as board chair, Glenn Wilson would remain as Vice Chair and Scott Grossmeyer would remain as Secretary for the upcoming fiscal year.

Annual meeting adjourned 8:13 AM

Chairman Zellely called the regular board meeting to order at 8:14 A.M., stating there is one additional item to add to the agenda, Resolution #23-62.

Sharon Reeves made a motion, supported by Charles Winfrey, to approve the September 28, 2023 regular board meeting agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

Comments of the Public

None

Approval of the August 28, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Sharon Reeves made a motion, supported by Charles Winfrey, to approve the August 28, 2023 regular board meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the August 26, 2023 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Scott Grossmeyer made a motion, supported by Charles Winfrey, to approve the August 26, 2023 finance committee meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #23-56 authorizing the General Manager make an amendment to the current Mass Transportation Authority Master Agreement No. 2022-0098 with the Michigan Department of Transportation to add Colette Champine, Chief Financial Officer to the list of authorized signatories and to amend the title of Kenneth Vavra to Chief of Staff.

Ellen Ellenburg made a motion, supported by Scott Grossmeyer, to approve Resolution #23-56. Motion approved unanimously.

Resolution #23-57 authorizing the General Manager to allocate donations in excess of expenses for the MTA 50th Anniversary Gala to the St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center of Flint Transportation Fund, and in addition allocate \$3,000 for bus passes to match \$3,000 in funds from the United Way of Genesee County, to be utilized by the St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center of Flint.

Charles Winfrey made a motion, supported by Sharon Reeves, to approve Resolution #23-57.

Ed Benning stated that the donation of bus passes is helpful to St. Luke's staff when providing career training. In the future the MTA hopes to develop a transportation fund to provide passes to agencies throughout the community through partnerships.

Motion approved unanimously.

Resolution #23-58 approving the Mass Transportation Authority's Revenue and Expense Budget for FY 2024.

Scott Grossmeyer made a motion, supported by Ellen Ellenburg, to approve Resolution #23-58.

Colette Champine, MTA Chief Financial Officer, presented a balanced budget to the board members; highlighting the area of passenger fares, areas of revenue and expenses.

Motion approved unanimously.

Resolution #23-59 approving the Mass Transportation Authority's projected FY 2025 to FY 2029 Revenue and Expense Budgets.

Charles Winfrey made a motion, supported by Glenn Wilson, to approve Resolution #23-59. Motion approved unanimously.

Resolution #23-60 authorizing the General Manager to enter into a one-year firm fixed price agreement with Lyden Oil Company, Lansing, MI for the purchase of Bulk Automotive Fluids, in the amount of \$666,286.20 based on estimated annual usage.

Charles Winfrey made a motion, supported by Tommie Johnson, to approve Resolution #23-60

Ed Benning stated that this agreement in an 8% decrease from the previous year.

Motion approved unanimously.

Resolution #23-61 authorizing the General Manager to enter into an agreement with A.J. Gallagher & Company, Grand Rapids, MI for the purchase of a complete line of Comprehensive Insurance Coverages and Risk Management Services for a twelve-month period at a cost of \$1,734,630.75 using current MTA assets and employee payrolls.

Glenn Wilson made a motion, supported by Scott Grossmeyer, to approve Resolution #23-61.

Ed Benning stated there has been a lot of discussions about current insurance coverages and the need for increased coverage; currently, the MTA is in line with other urban transit systems in the state.

Motion approved unanimously.

Resolution #23-62 by the Mass Transportation Authority Board of Directors to approve the three-year Labor Agreement with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 3437-A, Fixed Route Bus Operators.

Glenn Wilson made a motion, supported by Scott Grossmeyer, to approve Resolution #23-62.

Ed Benning stated that after negotiations with the Local 3437-A, membership ratified a new contract with changes that are included in the executive summary distributed at today's meeting. Mr. Benning stated that if further discussion is needed it would be in executive session.

Charles Winfrey asked about the Juneteenth holiday that Union officials inquired about last month.

Ed Benning responded that the new agreement includes a floating holiday paid at eight (8) hours for bus operators. Mr. Benning stated that the MTA is planning activities for employees to participate in for MLK Day and Juneteenth.

Seven board members voted in the affirmative, one voted nay; motion approved.

General Managers Report

Ed Benning asked if board members had any questions regarding the Financial Plan for FY 2024 – FY 2029 that was emailed out earlier this month. Mr. Benning reported on the current ridership study and what information it will provide, the status of funding, completion of one union contract and the progress on the second. Mr. Benning stated that a community millage awareness campaign will be started in the upcoming months.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 A.M.

