

LUZERNE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

OCTOBER 25, 2011

PRESENT:

SALVATORE LICATA, CHAIRMAN
DR CORREEN MILAZZO, PH.D., VICE-CHAIRMAN
ROSEMARY LOMBARDO, ASST SECRETARY
ROBERT CHEPALONIS, ASST TREASURER
PAUL MAHER, MEMBER
PATRICK CONWAY, MEMBER
WILLIAM JOSEPH, MEMBER
ATTORNEY JOSEPH BLAZOSEK, SOLICITOR

ABSENT:

MARY SUSAN RICCETTI, TREASURER
ANTHONY BALDO, MEMBER

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

STANLEY STRELISH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FRED BROWN, MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR
ROBB HENDERSON, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
THERESA CHAPMAN, ADMIN. ASST./ GRANTS CO-ORDINATOR
MOHAMMED NAJIB, CONTROLLER
LEE HORTON, OPERATIONS/ROAD SUPERVISOR
EDMUND BROOKS, PURCHASING AGENT
ROBERT DELESCAVAGE

OTHERS:

BILL MACLUNNY, LCTA UNION REPRESENTATIVE
VALERIE KEPNER, BUS PASSENGER
JOHN ROKE, BUS PASSENGER
BILL WELLOCK, CITIZENS VOICE
STEVE MOCARSKY, TIMES LEADER

1. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman Mr. Licata called the meeting to order and invited everyone present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Roll Call:** The following Board members were present for the meeting: Mr. Chepalonis, Mr. Conway, Mr. Joseph, Ms. Lombardo, Mr. Maher, Dr. Milazzo, Ph.D., and Mr. Licata. Absent were Mr. Baldo and Mrs. Riccetti.
3. **Public Comment Notice:**

Ms. Valerie Kepner and Mr. John Roke, members of the Public Transportation Advisory Council (PTAC) were in attendance at the meeting and explained that members of the Council had met and are appreciative of the extra run added for Luzerne County Community College students. Ms. Kepner also mentioned that although buses come directly to the LCTA offices it is still difficult for Senior Citizens to come for passes and bus service information. She asked if it would be possible to distribute application to Senior Citizen centers and have them returned to LCTA for processing. Ms. Kepner offered to have senior citizen advocate, Mr. Bill Brown, contact Mr. Strelish to work out details to have the applications mailed and processed.

4. Approval of Minutes: September 27, 2011

A motion to accept the minutes from the meeting of September 27, 2011 was made by Mr. Maher and seconded by Mr. Chepalonis. Motion carried.

5. Accounts Payable: September 22, 2011 – October 19, 2011

Upon review of the Accounts Payable for the period of September 22, 2011 – October 19, 2011 a motion to approve was made by Mr. Chepalonis and seconded by Mr. Maher. Motion carried.

6. Financial Statement: September, 2011

The Financial Statement for the month of September, 2011 was then presented to the Board for review after which a motion to approve was made by Ms. Lombardo and seconded by Mr. Maher. Motion carried.

7. Chairman's Report: Mr. Licata

A. Appoint Board Secretary

Chairman, Mr. Licata explained that due to Mrs. Valenti's term on the Board expiring a new Secretary needed to be appointed to the Board and appointed Mr. Maher to that position.

Further, Mr. Licata stated that another Board member was needed on the Insurance Committee and appointed Mrs. Riccetti to that Committee.

Finally, Mr. Licata asked about the status of the plaques for the retired Board members and Mr. Strelish stated they would be available for the November meeting.

A motion to accept the Chairman's report was made by Dr. Milazzo and seconded by Mr. Joseph. Motion carried.

8. Solicitor's Report: Attorney Joseph Blazosek

Attorney Blazosek noted for the record the Board broke for a Personnel session at 3:30 prior to the start of the public meeting to discuss various personnel matters but no decisions were made at the time. Attorney Blazosek will continue to update the Board on various matters.

Motion to accept Attorney Blazosek's report was made by Dr. Milazzo and seconded by Mr. Maher.

9. Executive Director's Report: Mr. Stanley Strelish

A. Ridership – September, 2011

Mr. Strelish presented the ridership for the month of September, 2011 which showed a total of 126,252 as compared to September, 2010 ridership of 147,507 a decrease of approximately 21,000 passengers. Mr. Strelish noted the decrease was due to the flooding during September which resulted in LCTA being closed for 3 entire days and operating under curtailed service for several additional days. Mr. Strelish also complimented all employees for the work and cooperation during the evacuation process.

B. Award Dental Insurance Coverage to Guardian Insurance with Premium Increase Of 12%

Mr. Strelish then asked for a motion to award the dental insurance coverage for the coming year to Guardian Insurance with an increase in premium costs of 12%. Mr. Strelish stated the rates for single coverage would be increased from \$24.17 per month to \$27.07 and family rates would increase from \$79.34 to \$88.86 per month. Motion to accept was made by Mr. Chepalonis and seconded by Ms. Lombardo. Motion carried.

C. Report by Operations Supervisor

Operations Supervisor Mr. Henderson had no report at this time.

D. Report by Maintenance Supervisor

Maintenance Supervisor Mr. Brown had no report at this time.

A motion to accept the Executive Director's report was made by Mr. Joseph and seconded by Mr. Maher. Motion carried.

10. Operations Committee: Mr. Bob Chepalonis

Mr. Chepalonis had no report at this time.

11. Personnel Committee: Mr. Bob Chepalonis

Chairman of the Personnel Committee, Mr. Chepalonis asked for a motion to approve the hiring of Robert Gill as a part time driver effective October 24, 2011 at minimum wage for training. Thereafter, wage to be set as per the Union contract. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Chepalonis and seconded by Mr. Maher. Motion carried.

Mr. Chepalonis then asked for a motion to approve a 3% wage increase for the Administrative Staff retroactive to October 1, 2011. Motion was seconded by Mr. Joseph. Motion carried with Dr. Milazzo opposing the motion.

12. Old Business:

There was no Old Business to discuss at this time.

13. New Business:

There was no New Business to discuss at this time.

14. Remarks:

There were no remarks offered at this time.

15. Adjournment:

With all business having been conducted, motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Milazzo and seconded by Mr. Maher. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



BY: Theresa Chapman, Secy to the Board
FOR: Antoinette Valenti, Secy of the Board