

LUZERNE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

NOVEMBER 29, 2011

PRESENT:

SALVATORE LICATA, CHAIRMAN
MARY SUSAN RICCETTI, TREASURER
PAUL MAHER, SECRETARY
ROBERT CHEPALONIS, ASST TREASURER
ROSEMARY LOMBARDO, ASST SECRETARY
ANTHONY BALDO, MEMBER
PATRICK CONWAY, MEMBER
ATTORNEY JOSEPH BLAZOSEK, SOLICITOR

ABSENT:

DR COREEN MILAZZO, PH.D., VICE-CHAIRMAN
WILLIAM JOSEPH, 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

OTHERS:

JAKE HASSAJ, LCTA UNION REPRESENTATIVE
LOU ROMAN, LCTA UNION REPRESENTATIVE
DANIEL FRASCELLA, RETIRED BOARD MEMBER
DANIEL MCCORMICK, RETIRED BOARD MEMBER
VALERIE KEPNER, BUS PASSENGER
CONNIE PACE, LCCC
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. Baldo, Mr. Chepalonis, Mr. Conway, Ms. Lombardo, Mr. Maher, Mrs. Riccetti and Mr. Licata. Absent were Dr. Milazzo and Mr. Joseph.

3. **Public Comment Notice:**

Ms. Valerie Kepner of the Public Transportation Advisory Council (PTAC) was in attendance and addressed the Board asking if it would be possible to place a bulletin board at the Intermodal so that schedule changes could be posted for passengers convenience. Mr. Strelish thought this would be a good idea and would talk with Wilkes-Barre City for input in placing the bulletin board. Ms. Kepner also stated that passengers continue to walk behind the buses and offered assistance to do whatever can be done to discourage that being done.

4. **Approval of Minutes: October 25, 2011**

A motion to accept the minutes from the meeting of October 25, 2011 was made by Mr. Maher and seconded by Mr. Chepalonis. Motion carried.

5. **Accounts Payable: October 20 – November 23, 2011**

Upon review of the Accounts Payable for the period of October 20 – November 23, 2011 a motion to approve was made by Mrs. Riccetti and seconded by Mr. Baldo. Motion carried.

6. **Financial Statement: October, 2011**

The Financial Statement for the month of October, 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**

Chairman, Mr. Licata welcomed retired Board members, Mr. Frascella and Mr. McCormick and presented plaques to each on the occasion of their retirement from the Board of Directors. Mr. Licata expressed his thanks on behalf of the Board for their attendance and diligence during their terms on the Board. Mr. Frascella thanked Mr. Licata, the staff and fellow Board members and expressed his pleasure at having served as a member of the Board of Directors. Mr. McCormick also thanked everyone on the staff, acknowledged his service as a Board member and hoped his contributions assisted the Authority during his terms on the Board. Mr. Licata also acknowledged a plaque for retired Board member, Mrs. Valenti

who was unable to attend and thanked her also for her years of service and dedication to the Board.

8. Solicitor's Report: Attorney Joseph Blazosek

Attorney Blazosek noted for the record the Board broke for a Personnel session from 3:20 to 3:40 prior to the start of the public meeting to discuss various personnel matters regarding staffing at the Authority however, 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 Mrs. Riccetti and seconded by Mr. Maher. Motion carried.

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

A. Ridership – October, 2011

Mr. Strelish presented the ridership for the month of October, 2011 which showed a total of 143,708 as compared to October, 2010 ridership of 141,032 an increase of approximately 2,000 passengers. Mr. Strelish stated the increase was largely in full fare paying passengers and 31 day passes.

B. Award Health Insurance Coverage to Geisinger Health Effective December 1, 2011

Mr. Strelish then asked for a motion to award the health insurance coverage for the coming year, effective December 1, 2011 to Geisinger Health with a decrease in the annual premium of approximately \$250,000 compared with rates from First Priority. Mr. Strelish stated there was input from both the staff and Union in agreeing to switch the insurance to Geisinger and thanked everyone for their cooperation.

C. Approve 2011-12 Interagency Agreement for the Unified Planning Work Program with The Luzerne County Planning Commission

Mr. Strelish then asked for a motion to accept the 2011-12 Interagency Agreement for the Unified Planning Work Program which is done each year between LCTA and the Luzerne County Planning Commission. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Maher and seconded by Mrs. Riccetti. Motion carried.

D. Motion to Continue Banking Services with Fidelity Bank for One (1) Year

Mr. Strelish next addressed three (3) proposals which were received from three Banking institutions, Pennstar, KNBT and Fidelity to provide banking services to LCTA for a one year period. Mr. Strelish stated he and Mr. Najib, Controller had reviewed the proposals and recommended accepting the proposal received from Fidelity who would provide an interest rate of .5% and a "no fees" banking policy. Mr. Strelish asked for a motion to accept the proposal. Motion was made by Ms. Lombardo and seconded by Mr. Baldo. Motion carried.

E. Schedule Board Meeting for Month of December, 2011

Mr. Strelish next mentioned the need to schedule a Board meeting for the month of December, 2011. After discussion it was decided to hold the meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2011 with the work session at 3pm and the public meeting at 4pm.

F. Report by Operations Supervisor

Operations Supervisor Mr. Henderson reported that he received a call from the Bureau Of Aging who requested applications in order to register Senior Citizens for free bus transportation and then would return the applications to LCTA.

G. 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 Mrs. Riccetti and seconded by Ms. Lombardo. 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 stated ads have been placed in the newspaper for a full time Procurement Manager and a part time janitor. Mr. Chepalonis stated the part time janitor would be 24 hours per week. Mr. Strelish stated applications were received and the review process is ongoing.

12. Old Business:

Mr. Strelish mentioned that we are looking into the possibility of converting to CNG vehicles for the Shared Ride programs once the consolidation of services with the Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Transportation Department is complete. Mr. Strelish stated that a meeting was held with UGI for information on the installation of a gas filling station and the various systems that are available. Mr. Strelish stated that new vehicles will be purchased within the next year or two and if feasible, may be converted to purchasing CNG vehicles.

13. New Business:

There was no New Business to discuss at this time.


14. Remarks:

Chairman Mr. Licata once again acknowledged and thanked the retired Board members, Mr. Frascella, Mr. McCormick and Mrs. Valenti for their combined many years of service and dedication to the Board and the Authority and the positive results the Authority recognized from their efforts.

15. Adjournment:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Theresa Chapman".

BY: Theresa Chapman, Secy to the Board
FOR: Paul Maher, Secy of the Board