



MPTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
August 26, 2021
Minutes 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM

BOARD AGENDA
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

I. Call to Order – 8:31 A.M.

II. Roll Call

Margaret Donahoe
Sherry Munyon
Alan Herrmann
Ryan Daniel
Daryn Toso
Matt Fyten
Joanne Brackey
LuAnn Bleiler
Nick Lemmer
Ted Nelson
Tiffany Collins
Kendra Kotzer
Brenda Brittin
Paul Coyour
Luther Wynder
Mike Klauda

III. Additions or Changes to the Agenda/Approval of Agenda
Motion to approve: Alan Hermann Second: LuAnn Bleiler
Motion passed.

Old Business

IV. Approval of July 29, 2021 Minutes (Attachment)
Motion to approve: Margaret Donahoe Second: LuAnn Bleiler
Motion passed.

New Business

V. Legislative Update – **Sherry Munyon**

- Sherry informed us there was not a lot of news at the State Level.
- The legislative committee is looking at how to divide up 250 million dollars to front line workers. They're mostly focused on healthcare and first responders for these funds. As of now, there has

been no mention of transit workers for these funds. A decision on this will be made in the next couple of weeks.

- There will be a special session to vote on how these funds get distributed.
- Ryan brought up the question if any employees had to furlough their employees, to give Sherry some recommendations and insight.
- Luther suggested MNDOT/Met Council use the federal dollars for recruitment and retention and staff. Multiple group members agreed. We are also look into getting the ‘Hero Pay.’
- Sherry updated us on the issue of volunteer drivers. October 1st is the meeting of MNkota and the issue is on the agenda.

VI. Advocacy Update – Margaret Donahoe

- At the Federal Level there will be a lot of action going on between now and the end of September. Margaret asked the group to reach out to Representatives.
- We are looking at setting up a meeting to have with transportation stakeholders and invite legislators in order to reconnect post covid. The goal is to explain what is happening with the transit systems, is ridership back, etc. Margaret asked for input/ideas on the location and other details for the meeting.

VII. Program Coordinator – Kendra Kotzer

- Transit Conference:
 - More participants are starting to sign up, as of now looks to be around 100, 55 or so vendors/sponsors (\$62,450), and 40 people signed up for the Vista Harbor Tour which closes at 50 registrants.
 - There are currently 8 nominations for the MPTA Awards.
- Fly In:
 - Margaret and I have both reached out to the D.C. staff for scheduling and we’re starting to hear back.
 - There are two meetings set so far, with Emmer and Fischbach. Multiple schedulers reached out to us and said they’d let us know the availability when they start making the September schedules for the Congressman.

VIII. President’s Update – Ryan Daniel

- Ryan informed us on the RTAP Scholarships. Only the 5310 systems are eligible for reimbursement. OTAP made a commitment for \$7,000 in regards to this year’s conference.
- With regards to the CDL, Ryan had not heard back yet.
- He updated on vendor calling/dues. The issue has come up in a recent audit where systems are suing federal dollars to go to MPTA. We are trying to work around that. He poses the question, how can we utilize MPTA without using federal dollars?
 - Up to 80% of dues went into lobbying.
 - Margaret stated they’re looking into reducing what is considered lobbying and also getting more private dollars from the industry.
- Ryan brought up the interest from people in the Annual Meeting.

IX. Financial Report – LuAnn Bleiler

- LuAnn informed us there were questions for people about attending the Conference and if it will remain in person.

Motion to approve the financial report: Alan Hermarmann Second: Nick Lemmer.

Motion Approved.

X. MCOTA Update – Tiffany Collins

- Tiffany informed us there was not much of an update because there hadn't been a MCOTA meeting since our last update.
- Many of the subjects Tiffany had to bring up were already discussed earlier in the meeting.

XI. Events 2021

- a. Washington, DC Fly-In Sept 21-23, 2021
- b. Transit Conference – October 4-6, Duluth
- c. Future Transit Conferences – St. Cloud Oct 23-25, 2022; joint conference 2023?

XII. Next Meeting – November 18, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

XIII. Other Business

- a. Margaret brought up the idea of rebranding MPTA.
- b. Margaret mentioned having a board retreat towards the end of the year.
- c. Kirk Kuchera hopped on the meeting to discuss next year's Roadeo.

XIV. Adjourned – 9:50 a.m.