

Beaver Island Transportation Authority

Regular Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2015

12:00 Noon

In Attendance:

BITA: Bob Tidmore, Ed Troutman, Don Vyse, Larry Hansz

BIBCO call in: Margo Marks

MDOT call in: Valerie Schultz

Others call in: John Drury

Others: Mary Cook, Elaine West, Jon Fogg

Quorum was determined and meeting called to order by Tidmore at 12:00 pm.

Approval of the October 20, 2015 regular meeting minutes. Motion by Hansz, seconded by Troutman. Motion carried.

Approval of the October 20, 2015 annual meeting minutes. Motion by Vyse, seconded by Hansz. Motion carried.

Tidmore reviewed the agenda and asked if there were any additions: Tidmore stated there would not be any consideration to go into closed session for the real estate discussion. This would be part of the regular public meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Cook reviewed financial reports and overview of capital grants and utilization of funds. Discussion of the dollar amount that would be requested from the state for the next fiscal year.

Audit scheduled to begin next week.

Director's Report:

Email from MICat stating the transmission bill is being looked at by their engineering team and they are also still working on the engine warranties.

Fuel Tank Cleaning and IBA quotes are in and waiting for approval from MDOT to proceed. Power washer has been received. Shaft has been ordered. Chair lift warranty and service agreement need to be reviewed.

Fares Committee Report: Tidmore reported that nothing had been decided. Mostly discussed repairs Beaver Islander needs.

Islander Generator/Resolution: Discussion began on what type of support could be given to the Beaver Island Boat Co for the Beaver Islander's new generator/fire pump. This was tabled to be continued until after the agenda item "Real Estate". Valerie Schultz and John Drury had called in for real estate segment of the meeting.

Real Estate: Jon Fogg presented property owned by himself, his wife, and RB Lyons that is located in Ironton that could be a potential operation location for the M/V Emerald Isle to operate out of. There are approximately five acres. This is the only commercial docking property between Frankfurt and Mackinaw City. Jon has other potential buyers interested in the property, but feels it would be an asset for the Island and would allow for ample space for parking, and loading and unloading of freight. Ridership could also increase do to not dealing with the Charlevoix congestion. A Phase Two study was completed five years ago. Discussion of Charlevoix congestion, ice conditions, and lease backs.

Motion by Vyse to continue feasibility studies for the Ironton property, seconded by Hansz. Motion carried.

Islander-Generator/Resolution: Discussion continued on the generator/fire pump replacement and board members shared concerns on using dollars intended for the Emerald Isle on a privately owned vessel while also realizing the importance of a backup vessel. One of the main concerns is the future funding for the Emerald Isle being jeopardized. It was decided to request from the state up to \$75,000 of supplemental funding with assurances from the state this will not have any impact on Emerald Isle funds.

Adopted Resolution of Seeking Financial Assistance for the Replacement of the M/V Beaver Islander Main Generator/fire pump, Roll Call Vyse – yes, Hansz – yes, Tidmore – yes, Troutman – no

Other Pertinent Business: None

Public Comment: Fogg stated the Beaver Island Transportation Authority should own the property in discussion and would like BITA to come up with something in the next month. West stated the state has changed its rulings on property purchases and all upfront costs are not considered part of the total project.

Correspondence: None

Motion by Hansz to adjourn at 1 pm, seconded by Vyse. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cook  
Executive Director