



## REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tuesday, January 21, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.

14150 US Hwy 31 Beulah, MI 49617

**Minutes approved as presented March 18, 2025**

1. Call To Order by Chair Anne Noah @ 5:33PM
2. Roll Call To Determine Quorum: Present: Sara Miller, Brian Halliday (remote), Dorene Strang, Chris Kitchen, John Morse, Anne Noah, and Evan Warsecke. Excused: Jeannette Feeheley. Staff Present: Jessica Carland, Chad Hollenbeck, Wendy Wedemeier and Nancy Hunt.
3. Welcome And Recognition Of Visitors: Tyler Watters, P.C.
4. Consent Agenda: **Motion** by Kitchen with support by Morse to approve consent agenda as presented. All ayes, **motion carried**.
  - a. Correspondence
  - b. Approval of September 30, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes
  - c. Approval Of November 19, 2024 Meeting Minutes
  - d. Manager Reports
  - e. BTA Organizational Goals - Update
5. Amendments/additions to Agenda: None
6. Public Comment: None
7. Approval of Agenda: **Motion** by Kitchen with support by Morse to approve agenda as presented. All ayes, **motion carried**.
8. Call for Conflict of Interest: None
9. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda: None
10. Presentation: FY2024 Audit Report-Tyler J Watters, P.C. presented the audit report, indicating a "clean opinion" on the financial statements. Key financial highlights included increased farebox revenues (up \$41,000) due to contract rate increases and higher ridership, increased advertising revenue (\$27,000), increased property taxes (\$58,000) due to rising property values, and decreased federal revenues (\$394,000) offset by increased state revenues (\$222,000). The overall net position increased by \$492,000. A recommendation was made to explore extending the video surveillance storage time beyond one month.
11. Reports to the Board (Written)
  - a. Chairperson's Report
  - b. Executive Committee Report
  - c. Finance Committee Report
12. Old Business
13. New Business



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- a. FY2026 Proposed Budget & Service Expansion Plan- Carland gave an explanation and overview of the FY 2026 Preliminary Budget, which includes provisions for cost of living wage increases, additional labor for service expansion, and a potential switch from the current retirement system to Social Security. The budget also accounts for PTO rollover, workers' compensation, and unemployment claims. Conversation about rolling out service expansions incrementally and creating a sustainable budget.  
**Motion** by Miller and support by Kitchen to approve the FY 2026 proposed budget as presented. All ayes, motion carried. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Kitchen, Morse, Miller, Strang and Noah. Nays: None, **motion carried.**  
**Motion** by Strang and support by Miller to grant permission to the management team to consult with an attorney regarding opting back into Social Security. All ayes, **motion carried.**
14. Public Comment: None
15. Board Roundtable: Discussion arose regarding procedural changes proposed by the Executive Committee, specifically concerning the format and submission of committee reports. Noah explained the rationale for these changes, emphasizing the need for consistency and efficiency. Kitchen explained the Board Chair is permitted to make procedural decisions regarding the meeting agenda and reports. The board agreed to review the executive committee's recommendations at the next regular board meeting. Discussion occurred about potential collaborations with external organizations for grants and resources, including a donor interested in supporting employee transportation.
16. Next Meeting: March 18, 2025
17. Adjournment @ 6:50PM

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Nancy Hunt, Recording Secretary

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Date