



Transportation and Airport Committee Minutes

Thursday, 8 May, 2014 – 09:00 a.m.
Gaylord Regional Airport 1100 Aero Drive
P.O. Box 1396 Gaylord, MI 49734

MINUTES

Commissioner Liss called the meeting to order at 09:00 a.m.

Roll call – Present: Paul Liss, Ken Borton, Doug Johnson

Others present: John Burt, Theron Higgins, Matt Barresi

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Borton to approve the minutes of 10 April 2014. Motion Carried.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Johnson to approve the agenda, Motion Carried.

A. Transportation Manager's Report

1. Bus Finance Report

Higgins provided QuickBooks balance report. Motion by Commissioner Liss to acknowledge report as shown, all in favor, Motion Approved.

2. Part Time Drivers Hours

Higgins informed the Committee that due to the "Affordable Health Care Act" and the hours used to justify full time employees under this "Act", the County Bus cannot afford to give our part time employees more than 29 hours a week and are currently working to institute a revised schedule to meet those requirements. Part of the process involves hiring extra Drivers for Meals-on-Wheels and not use current employees for this purpose as some of the routes will put the employee over 30 hours weekly. Higgins also wanted to inform the Committee that some Commissioners might receive calls from their constituents that they are having trouble getting a ride in a timely fashion or as quick as they were used to in the past. This is also due to not using our part time drivers to help with getting the most passengers we can on board our buses due to the new hourly full time justification provided in the "Affordable Care Act". Higgins stated the County Bus will try to limit the impact as much as possible but it is inevitable that we will not be able to transport as many County passengers as we could in the past.

3. HeadStart

Higgins informed the Committee that the County Bus is considering not renewing the Transportation Agreement for the coming 2014/2015 program year. This decision is based on Cost for payroll and administrative time, weekly hours for driver and bus aide continually exceed 30 hours even though the program is Monday through Thursday only. The County Bus would use the two drivers that are currently transporting HeadStart children for Gaylord School Transportation since we are losing two drivers this summer. Not renewing the Transportation agreement would improve our ability to continue service to the Gaylord

Schools' Special Needs program. NEMCSA HeadStart has the capability to get two buses and transport on their own as they have in the past. NEMCSA HeadStart needs to know before May 22nd, 2014 so they can prepare their budget accordingly and acquire the necessary buses for their program. Higgins will inform NEMCSA of this decision before their deadline. Commissioner Liss thanked Higgins for his efforts in working to please his customers and taking care of problems as quick as they arise.

B. Airport Manager's Report

1. Airport Financial Report

Barresi presented his monthly financial reports to the Committee. Motion by Commissioner Borton to acknowledge the financial report. All in Favor, Motion Approved.

2. Airshow Update 2014

Barresi informed the committee on continued planning for the 2014 Wings over Gaylord Airshow. Donations this year have been slower with so many local events in a relatively short time period to contribute to. However Barresi feels that weather permitting the event has fostered enough publicity over the past 4 years that the attendance could make up the difference. The inclusion of the inflatable amusement park Kid Zone will be an added draw this year to help bring in a newer and younger kid friendly audience. Barresi also added that for the first time some businesses have sought out the airshow to sponsor and be a part of rather than the event always contacting the business. In addition to the financials of the event the airport crew is working on making the existing infrastructure compatible with large numbers in attendance. Now that the snow has gone work has started on compacting a path from the main parking lot to the ramp pavement that will be better for parents with baby strollers to walk on.

The next meeting date will be on Thursday, 12 June 2014 at 9:00 am in the airport conference room. The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Liss at 9:45 am.