



Transportation and Airport Committee Minutes

Thursday, 10 Sept, 2015 – 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 – Paul Liss, Ken Borton, Doug Johnson
Others present: Theron Higgins, Matt Barresi
Excused:

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes of 13 Aug 2015. Motion Carried.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Liss to approve the agenda, with the addition of item C. Open Comment regarding the meeting location. Motion Carried.

A. Transportation Manager's Report

1. Bus Finance Report

Higgins provided a QuickBooks balance sheet, and a BS&A Revenue and Expenditure report. Motion by Commissioner Johnson to acknowledge report as shown. All in favor, Motion approved.

2. School Routes

Higgins informed the Committee that the School year has begun and the County Bus is utilizing 4 bus drivers and 4 bus aides to accommodate the transportation for the school children. This is the same amount of drivers and bus aides we use each year for the school routes.

3. Bike Routes

Higgins stated that he had received an email from John Burt/Paul Beachnau concerning the Traverse City Bike Trails and how the Bay Area Transit Authority (BATA) takes the bike riders on their buses to the different trails in the Grand Traverse region. Their buses are equipped with bike racks on the back of the buses and some racks on the inside of the buses. Paul Beachnau was wondering if we could do something similar in Otsego County. Higgins had a meeting with Paul Beachnau and John Burt to discuss options and it was determined that Bike riders could park in Gaylord and be bused up to Vanderbilt and dropped off at the North trail head in Vanderbilt and they could bike south back into Gaylord, which is a 9 mile ride. Higgins stated to the Committee that he is still looking into it to determine the costs related, days of the week that would work best, and get input from local bike groups such as the Northern Michigan Mountain Bike Association. Higgins will attempt to have information within a couple months and determine a start date in the spring.

4. New Employees

Higgins briefed the Committee that 4 part time seasonal employees did not return for the 2015/2016 School year routes, as they got different jobs this summer. The Bus System had to hire 1 driver and 3 new bus aides to ensure the Transportation Agreement we have with the Gaylord Schools could be met.

B. Airport Manager's Report

1. Airport Financial Report

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

2. Taxi lane Project

Barresi briefed the committee on the completion of the project to replace the hangar taxi lane pavement north of the airport parking ramp and parallel to Aero Drive. This project replaces the last poorly rated pavement at the Gaylord Regional Airport which is estimated to be over 30 years old. He also briefed on the road construction bordering the airport.

C. Open Comment

1. Meeting Location

Commissioner Liss suggested that since the Transportation Airport Committee represents both the airport and bus elements of Otsego County that the committee should meet at both locations. It was agreed that the committee would meet on 12 Nov at the bus garage and decide at the end of each meeting the next location to meet back the following month.

The next meeting date will be on Thursday, 8 Oct 2015 at 9:00 am in the airport conference room. The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Liss at 9:35 am and all in attendance toured the airport taxi lane project