

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: March 21, 2024 - 6:30 – 9:00pm

Members: Kathleen Mozak (Chair), Mike Allemang (Treasurer), Jesse Miller (Secretary), Chris Allen, Simi Barr, Rich Chang, Julie Grand, Susan Pollay, Kyra Sims (virtual attendee)

Location: Ann Arbor District Library (4th Floor)
Virtual attendance available via Zoom

Chairwoman Mozak called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Agenda Item

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Approve Agenda

Mr. Chang motioned to accept the agenda, seconded by Ms. Pollay.

All in favor of approving the agenda:

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The approval of agenda passed unanimously.

**Ms. Sims attended virtually and did not participate in voting.*

1.2 Public Comment

Leon Linderman shared his concerns and recommendations for safer boarding and passage for senior riders based on his experiences and years of ridership with the AAATA.

Jim Mogensen thanked the Board for holding the February meeting in Ypsilanti and shared a recent positive experience with staff at the Dawn Gabay Operations Center. He also shared that the Central Student Government Airbus airport service may have impacts to Michigan Flyer services and partnerships might be explored.

**Mr. Allen joined the meeting at 6:33pm*

**Ms. Grand joined the meeting at 6:36pm*

1.3 General Announcements

Chairwoman Mozak read a proclamation for Transit Workers Appreciation Week – along with the entire Board of Directors, she expressed her appreciation for the workers who provide essential services each day to the community.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Board Meeting Minutes February 22, 2024

2.2 Committee Meeting Summaries

2.3 Vehicle Accessibility Plan Approval

Mr. Allemang motioned to accept the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Miller.

All in favor of approving the Consent Agenda:

All in favor of approving the agenda:

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The approval of the Consent agenda passed unanimously.

3. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE

3.1 Open Dialogue Task Force Updates

Mr. Chang shared that the ODTF met and are working to address 3 primary challenges: understand priorities/values/needs of ownership, if Ends or policies cover those priorities/values adequately, and why do people not utilize public transportation services. He shared that Dr. Hugh Clark will be presenting at the April Board meeting and share information related to community needs based on a 2021 phone survey.

4. MONITORING

4.1 Financial Conditions & Support to the Board (2.5)

Ms. Reed presented the Financial Conditions & Support (policy 2.5) monitoring report. The Finance Committee had discussed survey comments related to policy 2.5.4.1 and the reasonableness of using \$250,000 as the policy dollar amount threshold for when the board would need to be notified of fraudulent activity. She also noted that in the monitoring report CEO notes, the 2nd comment could be disregarded as it had already been addressed.

Board members discussed the comments raised for policy 2.5.4.1 and it was noted the dollar amount threshold percentage is small in relation to the overall operating annual operating budget. The comments had been raised out of concerns whether the threshold amount had to be met before the board was notified as many slightly smaller incidents of fraud could accumulate to a much larger amount. After a thorough discussion the Board was in agreement that the \$250,000 threshold was appropriate and moved forward with the recommendation from the Finance Committee to accept the monitoring report as (A) Compliant.

Ms. Grand motioned to accept Financial Conditions & Support to the Board (2.5) as (A) Compliant, seconded by Mr. Miller.

All in favor of accepting Financial Conditions & Support to the Board (2.5) as (A) Compliant:

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to accept Financial Conditions & Support to the Board (2.5) as (A) Compliant, passed unanimously.

4.2 Cash & Investments (2.6)

Ms. Reed presented the Cash & Investments (policy 2.6) monitoring report and noted that due to recent monitoring schedule updates, the report covered 9 months instead of a fully year to align with the revised monitoring period.

Mr. Chang motioned to accept Cash & Investments (2.6) as (A) Compliant, seconded by Mr. Allen.

All in favor of accepting Cash & Investments (2.6) as (A) Compliant:

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to accept Cash & Investments (2.6) as (A) Compliant, passed unanimously.

5. POLICY

6. BOARD EDUCATION / DISCUSSION

6.1 Innovation Presentation

Mr. Carpenter presented his yearly innovation presentation ([Board packet, page 73](#)) related to trends and applicable technologies / innovations organizationally introduced or implemented within the last year. He included an overview of trends (demographics, land development, social/economic, pandemic and politics) and the impact to ridership growth. He shared innovation implementations / successes from the past few years along with new ideas recently introduced, soon-to-be introduced or in observation. He also outlined areas of Board innovation related to how they give direction and conduct their own work.

Mr. Carpenter fielded a variety of questions from board members with several expressing interest in exploring expanding partnerships with local schools and continuing to learn more about innovations other agencies are utilizing.

7. OPERATIONAL UPDATES

7.1 FY24 Q1 Service Report

Mr. Brooks presented the FY24 Q1 Service report and highlighted that fixed route ridership continues to increase, paratransit on-time performance is 98%, trip denials have been reduced by 50% and D2A2 ridership has leveled off after a slight reduction. He also shared that on-time performance has continued to improve and is currently above 80%.

7.2 CEO Report & ZEB Update

Mr. Carpenter shared highlights within his CEO Report and noted that staff had recently presented to the Ypsilanti City Council on the YTC terminal project.

Mr. Pfeifer shared that an earmark request to help fund a hydrogen fueling station had been submitted to Senator Peters office. Another request aligned with hydrogen project will be submitted to Congresswoman Dingell when her office releases earmark request guidelines.

Ms. Reed provided an update to the Board regarding an initial funding projection from MDOT. Due to current economic challenges and increased funding needs, transit funding amounts may be reduced but no determination has been made at this time. She stated the organization is working with partners in Lansing, carefully considering other revenues, and will inform the Board as updates are received.

8. EMERGENT ITEMS

9. CLOSING ITEMS

9.1 Action Item Recap

ODTF will be asking for feedback on a survey being sent out, Mr. Carpenter will be incorporating peer best practices for the next innovation presentation and board members will be sent information on conference opportunities.

9.2 Topics for Next Meetings

ZEB Updates
Communication & Support to the Board (2.9)
Environmental Sustainability (2.11)
April: Telephone Survey Results, Transition Plan
May: Whistleblower Procedure
June: Advocacy Agenda

9.3 Public Comment

No public commenters.

9.4 Adjournment

Mr. Barr motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Allen.

All in favor of adjourning the meeting:

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

Chairwoman Mozak adjourned the meeting at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah Holt