



Benzie Transportation Authority - Special Meeting of Board of Directors
Tuesday, April 7, 2020 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
14150 US Highway 31, Beulah, MI 49617 & Video Teleconference Available PHONE
929.276.0507,
CODE 989288167

Minutes approved as amended May 19, 2020

1. Welcome Guests & Call to Order: Chairperson Herczak called meeting to order at 5:04PM.
2. Roll Call –PRESENT: Jennifer Kolinske, John Morse, Anne Noah, Amy Herczak and Eric VanDussen., Rhonda Nye present to replace Evan Warsecke. Susan Kirkpatrick joined at 5:10PM. Staff present, Bill, Nancy, Chad, Jessica and Wendy. Guests present: Mark Willette-Green.
3. Approval of Agenda as presented. **Motion** by Anne, support by John. Roll call vote: Jennifer-yes, Eric-yes, Anne-yes, John-yes, Amy-yes, Susan not yet present. All ayes, **motion carried**.
4. Public Comment: None
5. Approval of February 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented. **Motion** by Anne, support by John. Roll call vote: Jennifer-yes, Eric-yes, Anne-yes, John-yes, Amy-yes, Susan not yet present All ayes, **motion carried**.
6. Chairwoman's Report
 - i. Board Member Succession Planning- Anne has decided to pursue another term. Eric Vandussen's term expires April 30 and he will not be seeking reappointment. Patty Roth's seat remains vacant, leaving 2 open seats on the Board. There are several really good potential candidates. Strong support for both Bruce Ogilvie and Mark Willette-Green.
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Ad Hoc Succession Planning-There was discussion regarding the Covid-19 pandemic and whether proceeding with the selection of a new E.D. is the responsible action to take amid all of the uncertainty. All members agreed that the search should be suspended at this time. **Motion** by Jennifer to rescind the original letter presented to Bill informing him that his contract would not be renewed. A new letter and interim contract will be drafted by the FPP, with some changes. It was the Board's intent to allow this interim contract to renew at intervals to be proposed. The full Board will vote on approval of both of these documents. Support by Anne. Roll call vote: Jennifer-yes, Eric-yes, Anne-yes, John-yes, Amy-yes, Susan-yes. All ayes, **motion carried**. Letters will be sent to all applicants informing them of the hiring suspension. No press release is planned.



- b. Finance: Essential Worker Compensation- Bill went over the present financial situation, which is very good and shared that about half of the staff is currently on furlough. A comparison of wages was presented between staff that was on furlough and what wage increase would be comparable to compensate staff that is still working. A \$4 per hour of “essential worker pay” was recommended. **Motion** by Jennifer and support by Anne to increase hourly staff wages by \$4 per hour for hours worked. Management is to receive an increase of \$200 per week. Increases are retroactive to when the “stay at home” order was ordered on March 24th and will end when management and the Board feel it is prudent. .Roll call vote: Jennifer-yes, Eric-yes, Anne-yes, John-yes, Amy-yes, Susan-yes. All ayes, **motion carried**.
8. Old Business
 - a. E.D. Contract Expiration: Addressed under 7 a. Ad Hoc Succession Planning.
9. New Business: None
10. Board Roundtable- General Announcements: Eric was recognized for his years of service in making BTA more accountable, legally compliant with OMA/FOIA and his views and leadership. Management will decide whether the April 21st BTA Board meeting is needed. Anne gave praise to Bill, management team and entire staff for all they are doing for the community during these difficult times. Jennifer agreed with the sentiment.
11. Public Comment : None
12. Adjournment at 6:25 PM

Nancy Hunt, Recording Secretary

Date