

MPTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

November 18, 2021

**Minutes 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM**

**BOARD AGENDA**

**8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

1. Call to Order – 8:31 A.M.
2. **Roll Call**

Margaret Donahoe

Sherry Munyon

Alan Herrmann

Luther Wynder

Daryn Toso

Joanne Brackey

LuAnn Bleiler

Nick Lemmer

Ted Nelson

Tiffany Collins

Kendra Kotzer

Brenda Brittin

Matt Fyten

1. Additions or Changes to the Agenda/Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: Nick Lemmer Second: Mike Klauda

Motion passed.

**Old Business**

1. Approval of August 26, 2021 Minutes (Attachment)

Motion to approve: Nick Lemmer Second: Brenda Brittin

Motion passed.

**New Business**

1. Legislative Update **– Sherry Munyon**

* Sherry informed everyone it’s a bit early to give decent information on the election but that we are starting to see more challenges against young democrats running against older democrats. An issue that comes up is school board members as well as union members. She predicts there will be an increase in people running. She will send out a list of who has announced their retirement and who will run as of now and update moving forward.
* Sherry stated they’ve been scheduling and holding meetings with legislatures covering two issues. It can be about current transit systems, what changes you’ve had to make, covid impacts, and what you continue to deal with. The other issue is volunteer drivers. Some met with Senator Nelson, Torkelson, and Stevenson to discuss these issues. They will continue to set up meetings.
* In-person legislative sessions are not looking plausible unless there is a drastic change in the number of COVID cases. One of the issues is security around the state capital.
* Sherry asks for three board members to assist with the legislative agenda. She aims to get it finished before the retreat. Luther volunteers Ryan Daniels as a volunteer. Nick Lemmer volunteers as well.
* Sherry discusses legislative funding and the transit funding gap in Minnesota.
* Yesterday the MNKota board met. They had renewed their support for federal mileage reimbursement. We asked that they provide leadership at the federal level. Sherry informed us that we will most likely not know more until the next session.

1. Advocacy Update – **Margaret Donahoe**

* The Federal bill has been signed into law. Margaret informed the group that the Alliance is working with MnDOT to host a workshop. She encourages people to sign up and provide input for a larger audience of MnDOT and OTAT staff.
* We will be gearing up for a session, this year is a bonding year. We are aiming to have Transportation Day at the Capitol and for more opportunities to meet with legislators this upcoming year. In the fall we aim to do more regional meetings with legislative stakeholders. It’s important to let those know that we still have issues with volunteer drivers, fuel issues, etc.
* Margaret gave an update on the transportation conference. She informed everyone she will be speaking with the upcoming WIPTA president to have another joint conference in 2023 being the 2022 conference is already set. A challenge that we have to figure out is the distribution of these joint conferences. It brings up the question, how do we divide the proceeds?

1. Program Coordinator – **Kendra Kotzer**

* There were no major updates.

1. President’s Update – Luther Wynder (for **Ryan Daniel**)

* Luther discusses the retreat coming up in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

1. Financial Report – **LuAnn Bleiler**

* LuAnn stated we aren’t making as much as we used to. We have some outstanding vendor invoices that haven’t been paid and there are a lot of members that haven’t paid their dues since 2020. We did make money off of the Conference and Roadeo.

Motion to approve the financial report: Alan Hermann Second: Nick Lemmer.

Motion Approved.

1. MCOTA Update – **Tiffany Collins**

* The MCOTA meeting took place yesterday. The bulk of the meeting was finalizing decisions from the previous meeting. They’re working on developing four workgroups. They are to remove transportation barriers on funding, driver shortages and how to address those issues, a group dealing with systems like Uber and Lyft, and volunteer drivers - focusing on legislation and how to get more drivers.
* June 22 is the next senior leadership meeting.

1. Events 2021

* Roadeo: The next Roadeo will be in Austin, MN
  + Hotels are secured

1. Next Meeting – January 27, 2021
2. Other Business
3. Adjourned – 9:48 a.m.