

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF AUTHORITY
County of Lackawanna Transit System
March 17, 2021

The regular meeting of the County of Lackawanna Transit System Authority was held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. at the Lackawanna Transit Center.

Present were:	Martha Dougher	Larry Wynne
	Gregg Nieto	Michael Dougherty
	Brian Doughton	Atty. Joseph DeNaples
	Atty. Timothy Hinton	Robert Fiume
	Jane Farrell	Michael Loeffler
	Michael Brown	

Mr. Larry Wynne opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Wynne added that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss personnel matters.

Mr. Wynne requested a roll call of the board members. Larry Wynne and Brian Doughton were present. Martha Dougher, Michael Dougherty and Gregg Nieto participated via phone.

Acceptance of Minutes

Mr. Wynne requested a motion to approve the February 2021 meeting minutes. Martha Dougher made a motion to accept the minutes and Brian Doughton seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Acceptance of Financial Documents

Mr. Wynne requested a motion to approve the Financial Statements for the month of February 2021. Michael Dougherty made a motion to accept the financial documents and Gregg Nieto seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Public Comment/Agenda Items

Mr. Wynne welcomed comments from the public regarding agenda items; there were none.

Executive Director's Report

- A. Mr. Robert Fiume presented the ridership report for the month of February 2021 for fixed route. The fixed route average daily ridership for February 2021 was 1,198, which is down a few from January 2021. The lower ridership is due to the reduction in service and lack of manpower. Mr. Fiume stated that fixed route has returned to full service effective March 15, 2021 and the transit center has reopened. The ridership yesterday was over 1,400 for the day. Mr. Fiume felt that the ridership will increase due to the weather getting better and people getting their vaccination.

- B. Mr. Fiume stated that the Department Reports are included in the board packet. He asked the members to let him know if they had questions.

Other Business

- A. Mr. Fiume requested a motion for the Resolution Certifying the Local Match for State Operating Financial Assistance. Mr. Fiume noted that this is something that is done every year. The resolution has to be approved so it can be sent to the County. Brian Doughton made a motion for the resolution and Michael Dougherty seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- B. Mr. Fiume requested a motion for the Resolution of the Board of COLTS to Adopt Proposed Amendment to the Article of Incorporation for COLTS to increase its term of existence to a date not exceeding 50 years from the date of the approval of the Articles of Amendment and to take any and all other actions related thereto. Atty. Joseph DeNaples explained that this is amending our Articles of Incorporation for a fifty-year extension. The initial filing of the charter only took us to November 1, 2022, under the code, you are only allowed fifty-year charters. This is just renewing it for an additional fifty years. Once it is approved by COLTS, it will be sent to the County. Gregg Nieto made a motion to adopt the resolution. Martha Dougher seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Public Comment/Other Business

Michael Brown, asked if the board discussed the drivers that were out sick. Mr. Fiume stated that it was a personnel issue and that is discussed during Executive Session. Mr. Brown asked about filters for the buses. Mr. Fiume stated that they are looking at options for filters on the buses. The maintenance department is working on it. Mr. Fiume stated that they are also looking at better enclosures for the drivers. He said that there was an expert brought in to look at the conditions and they felt that a complete enclosure is more harmful if there isn't proper filtration. Mr. Brown explained that the drivers are having a problem with the bungee cord on the enclosure.

Michael Loeffler stated that he appreciates everything the board has done for the drivers throughout the pandemic.

Brian Doughton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Submitted by:
Jane Farrell, Administrative Specialist