

**Transportation Authority of Calhoun County Committee Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2024
Marshall City Hall, Training Toom
323 West Michigan Avenue, Marshall, MI 49068**

Call to Order

The TACC meeting was called to order by acting chairperson Doug Ferrell at 9:05 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members: Paul Watson, Tom Tarkiewicz, Amy Evans, Linda Morrison, Erick Stewart, Jenasia Morris, Vivian Davis

Support Staff: Doug Ferrall, Mallory Avis, Kristy Grestini, Matthew McKee

Election of Officers

Motion: It was moved by Paul Watson and supported by Amy Evans to elect the following slate of officers. Motion carried.

Erick Stewart – President

Tom Tarkiewicz – Vice President

Vivian Davis – Secretary

Linda Morrison – Treasurer

Agenda Approval

Chairperson Erick Stewart conducted the remainder of the meeting, beginning with approval of the agenda as presented.

Motion: A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

New Business

a. 2024 Meeting Schedule

The meeting schedule for TACC will be arranged according to the convenience of all members. Presently the schedule will remain as planned. Contact will be made with Battle Creek Public Schools Superintendent Kimberly Carter regarding Jenasia's attendance policy and Jenasia's TACC attendance and committee participation during the school day.

b. 2024 Ballot Initiative

A discussion was held regarding the voting timeline for the August and November election and factors that will impact the outcome of the election.

- Important factors regarding the voting timeline include the creation of a budget, other items on the ballot, the negative consequences of an a-la-cart approach, offering a variety of options and time schedules that are not presently implemented, the feasibility of an August vs November ballot proposal (May 14 for August 6 election, August 13 for November ballot), home values vs use of service, proposal selling points, funding gaps, types of vehicles to meet the needs of the communities by considering electric vs fossil fuel, work force, benefits, durability of equipment, and positive marketing to address the impact of negative perceptions.
- Mallory and Doug are to develop a dream budget to meet programming needs to be presented at the February 27 meeting.
- The date for the ballot proposal will depend on the budget and language for four cities working together.

City and County Report

Update on TACC Consultant

Doug shared comments and guidelines for the authority:

- Peter Varga, Inner-Urban Contract Consultant, is recommended at the contracted expense of \$250,000. The consultant is expected to be on board within the next 30 days.
 - All cities have given confirmation and will get final approval from their board.
 - ARPA Funds are available for use by the municipalities.
 - The duration of contract is 14 months.
 - Recommendations from this body will be reviewed and approved by local city councils and commissions.
- Discussion of millage campaigns
 - Donations must be tracked in accordance with election guidelines.
 - An Elections Group may be formed, which includes a treasurer. LAC potentially has representatives to serve as Friends of Transit.
 - It is recommended that Chuck Asher be contacted.
 - A VOTE YES Campaign Committee is needed to address the needs for four communities that are interconnected. Separate campaigns must be organized to address the needs and accessible equability in each community.

Articles of Incorporation and Amendments

- Articles of Incorporation Amendment must be approved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Committee Follow up Recommendations:

A request to staff by the committee include:

- A list of acronyms will be shared with the committee to familiarize each member with the lingo used in committee discussions.
- A list of home price values within our communities should be prepared to effectively develop strategies for possible support of the bond proposal.
- Collaborate with other local initiatives involving transportation needs.
- Look at marketing agencies that has a massaging arm that include commonly known facts as "Transportation increasing home values"

Commissioners Time:

- Zoom will be an option at the February 27 meeting for participation without voting.
- An elevator speech will be prepared for citizens to use to support the proposal.
- Contact should be made with Senator Gary Peters regarding requesting capital for startup efforts.
- Budgeting, planning, and applying for funds should be the responsibility of the Vote YES Committee.
- A list with names, email addresses, and home/cell phone numbers will be given to TACC committee members.

Public Comment

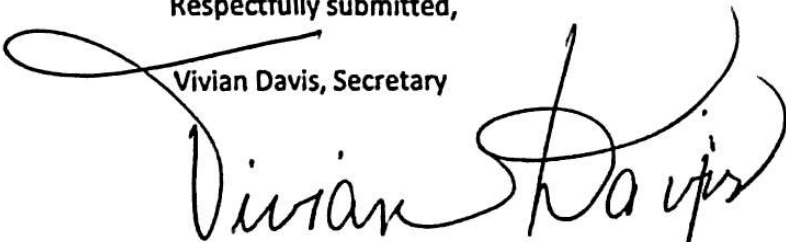
None

Adjournment

The TACC meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next TACC meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Davis, Secretary



Vivian Davis
2-27-2024