

Approved Harsens Island Transportation Authority Meeting Minutes

Meeting held March 11, 2023 at the Lions Club

Meeting called to order at 10:32AM by Harold Bain

Roll Call – Harold Bain – Present
Gary Beaulac – Present
Paul Cassidy – Present
Dennis Szymanski – Present
Wayne (Skip) Tornow – Excused Absence

Public Comments:

Numerous comments regarding Public Comments moved to the beginning of meeting, consensus prefers moving to end of meeting like it has always been.

Motion by Dennis Szymanski to modify the motion to also add Public Comments to the end, seconded by Harold Bain, motion passed.

Review of January 30, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Motion by Szymanski to approve meeting minutes seconded by Bain, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Gary Beaulac

Half-way through March so numbers are really end of February. Treasurer's report will be posted on website. Still to receive the remaining \$125,000 grant when we have spent the balance of \$80,000 and have until 12/23. Discussion around the proposed budget presented.

Agreed to table approval on the budget as there are lots of changes coming that may affect proposed budget.

Still working with Clay Township required audit to correct discrepancies, will need to hire an accountant and implement software and will work with a local accountant.

Working with Grant Writer Linda on Federal Grant Funding applications. 60% complete but a very complex system we must use for Federal Grants.

Old Business

Option to purchase Update:

Bain reported the option to purchase is signed and all set, HITA

SEMCOG Update:

Status quo for now, still attending meetings, making contacts and bringing HITA top of mind.

HITA Assistant Report - Boury

SEMCOG Membership – Clay is now a member again.

Established report with new transportation authority, Mackinac Island Transportation for information sharing.

SEMCOG and SCCOTS - Attending meetings.

Grant Writer and Feasibility Study – Working w/ Grant Writer Linda-Davis-Kirksey on applications.

Received quote for feasibility study and passed onto HITA Board.

Blue Water Transportation Authority – Next meeting 3/22/23 discussing HITA, will be asking Clay Township Board for letters of support at the 3/20/2023 meeting.

Website – Anticipate this week both websites will merge together on www.harsensita.org.

Delta News Article – HITA will provide an article to the Delta News by 3/30/23, the article has been submitted to the board for their approval.

New Business

Feasibility Study – Have received a quote to review. Dennis Szymanski asked where the money is coming from to pay for it, Linda explained that there is lots of funding for local and to review the quote and prioritize what immediately needs to be done. MDOT review also.

Lions Club Donation for use of the hall.

Motion by Dennis Szymanski to follow HISFCA & others to give the Lions a donation for the use of the hall which should be \$1000.00 for 2023. Seconded by Harold Bain, motion carried.

Public Comments:

Harold asked Harold Stieber what became of the MSU study which he said has been completed and sits in the MSU graduates hands, Maureen Boury to follow-up. MDOT hired MSU to do think tank study on ferries. HITA provided traffic studies.

Harold Stieber will provide HITA with a letter of support from HISFCA.

Conversation regarding the location of the landing/take-off for alternative ferry system, unable to provide that information at that time. Need a landing/take-off location for the Feasibility Study.

Motion to adjourn made by Szmanski, 2nd by Beaulac at 11:29AM