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**BOARD MEMBERS:** Mr. Scott Brown; Ms. Janet Cunningham; Ms. Laura Frein; Mr. Jeffrey Guzy; Mr. John Kennedy; Mr. Tom Kohler; Ms. Jeannette Quirus; Ms. Allison Slizofski; Mr. John Wichner

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**GUESTS ATTENDING:** Mr. Dean Dortone, Montgomery County Chief Financial Officer

**STAFF ATTENDING:** Mr. Matthew Edmond; Ms. Crystal Gilchrist; Mr. Tom Landauer; Mr. John Marlatt; Mr. Matt Popek; Ms. Denise VanBuskirk

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**I. Call to Order**

The Montgomery County Transportation Authority (MCTA) meeting was called to order by Mr. Scott Brown, Chairman.

**II. Approval of February 14, 2019 Minutes**

The minutes from the February 14, 2019 MCTA Meeting were approved by the Board.

*Motion: John Wichner motioned and John Kennedy seconded to approve the February 14, 2019 Authority Meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by all present.*

**III. Finance Director Report**

*Two (2) handouts were given to the Authority: MCTA 2019 Financial Activity; Project Payment Breakdown for March 2019*

Mr. Landauer: Gave an update on the MCTA's finances; detailed the expenditures and grant revenues for 2019 through February; and reviewed the check register with the Board totaling \$24,240.00 for March. Deposits include: \$3,486.07 in rental income; and \$20.42 in interest for February. The expense checks, which the Board will be asked to approve later on the Agenda, are detailed on the Payment Breakdown sheet for March.

Also, received the final 2018 Financial Audit conducted by Maillie, LLP which Staff is reviewing. The final report will be on the Agenda for the MCTA's approval at its public meeting in April.

Mr. Edmond: Hard copies of the Financial Audit report will be sent to the MCTA members for their viewing prior to April's public Board meeting.

#### **IV. Adopted County Capital Budget for 2019 Presentation**

*Two (2) handouts were given to the Authority: Montgomery County Pennsylvania 2019 Budget and Capital Improvement Program 2019-2023, Adopted December 14, 2018; Presentation Pamphlet of the 2019 Budget for the MCTA*

Mr. Dortone: Presented an overview of the 2019 County Capital and Operating budget which was adopted on December 14, 2018. The County budget continues the commitment of funding current County assets and infrastructure, improvements and expansions, and a major investment in bridges. A projected investment of approximately \$52M of major capital improvements planned for 2019 includes \$15M to fund roads and bridges projects using revenue bonds made possible by the new County \$5.00 Motor Vehicle Registration Fee. Revenue collected from the fee in 2018 was \$3.7M due to a loophole in legislation where only \$5.00 was collected for a two-year or five-year registration. Hopefully, for 2019 the revenue generated from the fee will be in the \$4M range due to the closing of that legislation loophole, allowing for the collection of \$5.00 for a one-year registration; \$10.00 for a two-year registration; or \$25.00 for a five-year registration. In addition, for 2019 the County will allocate \$1M of the \$5.00 motor vehicle registration fee revenue to a new grant program which Mr. Edmond will explain.

Mr. Edmond: Explained the new grant program which Mr. Dortone referred to. The legislation allows the County to distribute some of the money collected from the \$5.00 fee to their municipalities. PennDOT confirmed this to be correct as long as the money gets used for the things that it is statutorily used for, similar to the liquid fuels tax, such as improving, paving and widening roads, fixing traffic signals, and sidewalks and trails only if they are part of a roadway project. The competitive grant program would be similar in some ways to the Montco 2040 grant implementation program.

Mr. Dortone: Explained that the transportation projects that are underway and funded by the 2019 Capital Improvement budget include: 36 bridge improvements, which one-third of those bridges will be funded with the \$5.00 registration fee revenue; and the road repaving program. The Lafayette Street Extension project will continue to be fully funded, \$10.9M in 2019; and the Ridge Pike Improvement Project will be funded, \$4.3M in 2019 for design of all portions of the Project. These projects will be funded by County dollars, state and/or federal grant programs.

#### **V. County Bridge Projects**

##### Authorization to Award Appraisal Services Contract – County Bridge 150 (Parcels 2, 3, 4, 5)

Mr. Edmond/Mr. Popek: Explained that the Camp Wawa Road Bridge (Bridge 150) over the East Branch of the Perkiomen Creek in Lower Salford Township, which is currently closed, needs to be replaced. There are five properties (Parcels 2, 3, 4, & 5) that need to be acquired in part or in whole for furthering of the Bridge 150 Replacement Project. The APAs have been completed by Appraisal Review Specialists, LLC (ARS) and the next step is appraisals on the five parcels for future right-of-way acquisition. After consultation with ARS, MCTA utilized PennDOT's list of approved appraisal service providers to request cost proposals. Three Pennsylvania firms were contacted and responded with cost proposals:

Van Fleet Appraisals Inc., Clarks Summit - \$3,000; Indian Valley Appraisal Company, Souderton - \$3,400; and C.F. Appraisal and Consulting, Carlisle - \$3,800. Van Fleet Appraisals submitted the lowest bid of a sum not to exceed \$3,000 to conduct appraisals on the parcels needed for acquisition. The Board is being asked to enter into a contract with Van Fleet Appraisals, Inc. of Clarks Summit, PA to conduct appraisals for the above-mentioned parcels.

*Motion: Mr. Kennedy motioned and Ms. Quirus seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 19.3.1 authorizing MCTA to enter into a contract with Van Fleet Appraisals, Inc. of Clarks Summit, PA for a not-to-exceed sum of \$3,000.00 to complete appraisals of Parcels 2, 3, 4, & 5 for furthering of the County Bridge 150 Replacement Project in Lower Salford Township. The resolution was approved by all present.*

## **VI. Cross-County Trail Extension Project**

Mr. Edmond: Resolution 19.3.2 was removed from the Agenda due to a delay in signed documentation.

## **VII. Chester Valley Trail Extension Project**

Mr. Edmond: Resolution 19.3.3 was removed from the Agenda due to a delay in signed documentation.

## **VIII. Authorization for Payment of Checks and Invoices**

Mr. Popek: Reviewed the project payment breakdown for March 2019 in detail and explained the purpose of each check and invoice.

*Motion: Ms. Quirus motioned and Mr. Guzy seconded to approve the authorization for payments of checks and invoices. The motion was approved by all present.*

## **IX. County Road, Bridge and Trail Projects Update**

Mr. Popek: Gave the following project updates along with additional details:

### Cross-County Trail (Erdenheim)

- 4 of 7 properties have been acquired.
- Discussions concluding regarding the remaining 3 properties

### Chester Valley Trail

- Upper Merion: 5 of 6 properties acquired
- Bridgeport: 1 in appraisal corrections, the other 2 in negotiations

County Bridge 262 – Moyer Road, Salford

- 5 property appraisals reviewed & approved on 3/12/19; delivered to negotiator

County Bridge 207 – Ludwig Road, New Hanover

- Waivers of valuation finished for 2 properties
- Negotiations ongoing; likely to reach conclusions next month

County Bridge 150 – Camp Wawa Road, Lower Salford

- Appraisal authorization just granted at today's MCTA meeting
- Negotiator selection is forthcoming

County Bridge 274 – Henry Road, Douglass

- Waivers of valuation and negotiation contract awarded to Interstate Acquisition Services

**X. Lafayette Street Extension Project Update**

Mr. Edmond: Steve Ryan, the PennDOT engineer on the project has retired and is now in the private sector working for JBC. The engineering team is finalizing some new MPT and staging plans with PennDOT and approvals for those plans are expected very soon. The south side of Lafayette Street is rebuilt; the north side is not. PECO's designers are getting underway for the replacement of duct banks underneath Lafayette Street from Cherry Street to DeKalb Street. In the next couple of weeks Allan Myers will be lining an underground sewer pipe that Norristown Municipal Waste Authority owns underneath SEPTA, the trail and the job. Staff is working with Dave Adams at PennDOT to get approval for the signal at Ford and Lafayette Streets, which has been added back into the project. The target date for completion of Section MGN is June 2020.

Mr. Kohler: Commented on the hazards of driving down Swede Street to make a left onto Lafayette Street. Suggested that Staff contact the contractor to see if there was a way to have that section temporarily paved over.

**XI. Ridge Pike Improvement Project Update – Plymouth Township**

Mr. Edmond: Waiting on PennDOT to process the updated supplement with Pennoni, as well as an updated reimbursement agreement. We have right-of-way costs that have not been reimbursed. Working with Plymouth Township and Pennoni to locate sewer laterals and figure out whether to replace the sewer line.

**XII. Ridge Pike Improvement Project Update – Whitmarsh and Springfield Townships**

Crescent Avenue to Philadelphia Line Section D

Mr. Edmond/Ms. Gilchrist: Right-of-way plans are nearly complete and Staff will be choosing a right-of-way negotiator very soon. Staff has spent considerable time talking to property owners and addressing the issues that will arise during this project. As a reminder, this section of the project is 100% funded by the County.

Butler Pike to Crescent Avenue Status Section C

Ms. Gilchrist: Staff will be having the first public meeting and presentation regarding the project on April 30<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Barren Hill Fire Banquet Hall at no cost to the MCTA. Details will be forthcoming. Also, Staff has spent considerable time talking to property owners, many who have property borders close to the roadway. The goal is not to turn this section into a major highway, but to keep it a community road, pending input from the public meeting.

**XIII. Other Business**

Mr. Edmond: Asked the Board to consider another tour of the various project areas along Ridge Pike and Lafayette Street, especially with the addition of the MCTA new Board members.

**XIV. Adjournment**

*A motion was made by Mr. Kohler and seconded by Mr. Brown to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion was approved by all present.*



The next MCTA Board meeting will be April 11, 2019 at 1:00 pm.