
BOARD MEMBERS: Mr. Scott Brown; Ms. Laura Frein; Mr. Jeffrey Guzy; Mr. John Kennedy; Mr. Tom Kohler; Ms. Jeannette Quirus;

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Ms. Janet Cunningham; Ms. Allison Slizofski; Mr. John Wichner

GUESTS ATTENDING: Mr. Josh Harkins (via phone) and Ms. Jocelyn Jones, Keystone Acquisition Services

STAFF ATTENDING: Ms. Crystal Gilchrist; Mr. Matt Popek; Ms. Robin McLean; Mr. Carl Shelow; Mr. Brian Phillips; Mr. Henry Stroud

I. Call to Order / Public Comment

The Montgomery County Transportation Authority (MCTA) meeting was called to order by Mr. Scott Brown, Chairman. There was no public comment.

II. Approval of July 11, 2019 Minutes

The minutes from the July 11, 2019 MCTA Meeting were approved by the Board.

Motion: Mr. Kohler motioned and Mr. Kennedy seconded to approve the July 11, 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 January 1 - August 8, 2019

Mr. Shelow: Gave an update on the MCTA's finances; detailed the expenditures and grant revenues for 2019 through August 8 as well as reviewing the check register with the Board for July. There was only one deposit which was \$18.16 in interest. The six checks that were prepared for authorization by the Board, including three that are for relocation payments to Pratt Brothers, total \$40,707.51.

IV. Chester Valley Trail Extension

A. Authorization to Approve Business Relocation Payment Package – Pratt Brothers Services LLC (Parcel 60-64)

Mr. Popek: Explained that the authorization is for part of the Chester Valley Trail (CVT) extension. The right-of-way is just about cleared except for parcel 60-64 that is owned by 106 DeKalb Inc. At present, we are working to acquire two buildings on the western frontage of DeKalb Street for fee simple roadway and permanent trail easement to allow the CVT to travel

the west side of DeKalb. It will cross the street at a realigned intersection at Front Street and cross over to the eastern side to continue along DeKalb Pike over the bridge into Norristown. There are 3 business tenants and 5 residential tenants on the premises. Part of the payment package the acquiring agency is responsible for includes expenses incurred while relocation from the property. Our right-of-way negotiation team, Josh Harkins and Jocelyn Jones from Keystone Acquisition, made sure all of the payments are acceptable.

Pratt Brothers is the first of the 3 business tenants that have moved out of the building to another location in Bridgeport. Keystone Acquisition worked with Pratt to negotiate the moving costs since they got several quotes on their own. The relocation package includes: business dislocation damages of \$30,484 (is the average annual net earnings for the business in a year) and two non-residential moving expenses of \$1,081.80 (60% of self-moving estimate) and \$4,579.20 (use of 2 storage units for 12 months). The board asked if they are running the business out of their home, if they are moving somewhere else and can they come back again. Keystone and our staff said they could not.

Ms. Jones stated that one of the residents is taking this seriously and is looking to relocate. Mr. Harkins spoke about the business tenants. The hairdresser is looking to relocate in Norristown and the dental office is looking in the King of Prussia and Bridgeport areas. Both business tenants have been very cooperative.

Mr. Popek mentioned they are looking to quickly relocate the tenants to receive full right-of-way clearance from PennDOT. PennDOT has asked that we submit for conditional right-of-way clearance in order to receive full right-of-way clearance to allow the project to proceed, hopefully by the end of the year. Mr. Stroud added that we are at the end game for the design plans for this trail; which were submitted to PennDOT earlier this week and have a target advertising date of September 5th for the project. PennDOT may allow us to obligate funds for the project in August using conditional right-of-way that would give us 60 additional days to relocate the tenants.

The legal update was discussed in the Executive Session.

Motion: Mr. Guzy motioned and Ms. Frein seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 19.8.1 authorizing MCTA to approve the business relocation payment package to Pratt Brothers Services LLC for parcel 60-64 for \$36,145. The resolution was approved by all present.

V. County Bridges Project

A. Authorization to Award Contract for Appraisal Services for County Bridge 162 – Stump Road

Mr. Popek: This is a county bridge and we are through the first part of the appraisal's three step processes and are now ready to award the appraisal contract. There are two properties: one is owned by Montgomery Township and the other by Village of Neshaminy Falls Partnership. Three quotes were requested from PennDOT's approved list, all of which were revised and Indian Valley Appraisal was chosen. There doesn't seem to be too much issue with these appraisals since Indian Valley does a good job with their turnaround time. Mr. Brown asked about the status of the bridge whether it's open or not. Mr. Popek said that it is open, which was verified by Mr. Phillips.

Motion: Ms. Quirus motioned and Mr. Kennedy seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 19.8.2 authorizing to enter into a contract with Indian Valley Appraisal Company of Souderton, PA, for a price not to exceed Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) to complete appraisals for parcels 1 and 2 of the Stump Road Bridge Replacement Project.

VI. Authorization for Payment of Checks and Invoices

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

VII. County Roads, Bridges and Trail Projects Update

Mr. Popek: Gave a status update of the following:

Cross-County Trail (Erdenheim)

- 5 of 7 properties have been acquired.
- Discussions concluding regarding the remaining 2 properties (no change)

Chester Valley Trail

- Upper Merion: 6 of 6 properties is finished
- Bridgeport: County responses to 106 DeKalb POs filed in late July; waiting for court disposition

County Bridge 262 – Moyer Road, Salford

- Cleared (pending final condemnation releases and EJC payments)

County Bridge 150 – Camp Wawa Road, Lower Salford

- Cleared (pending final condemnation releases, EJC payments & MOU)

County Bridge 27 – Fetters Mill Road, Lower Moreland/Bryn Athyn *

- APAs handled through PennDOT/ARROW; MCTA to do appraisals and negotiations
- Appraisal are underway

County Bridge 163 – Lutheran Road, New Hanover

- APA contract executed today

** Of note regarding County Bridge 27, Bryn Athyn Borough is discussing land acquisition procedures with the Solicitor's office.*

VIII. Lafayette Street Extension Project Updated

Ms. Gilchrist spoke about how Lafayette Street is moving forward nicely. The Miller Brothers, who were contracted to do the duct bank work, are leaving the site for a couple of weeks to work somewhere else, but the project is a couple of weeks ahead of schedule and this will not affect to

overall completion date for the duct bank work; October finish date is still set. The utility work for the section between Ford Street and DeKalb Street is on schedule and the paving of that section should start within a couple of week. SEPTA is working on the details for the signal at Ford Street. That section of Lafayette Street should be opened this fall and then connect with the MGP section.

IX. Ridge Pike Improvement Project Update – Plymouth Township

Ms. Gilchrist said that we are finalizing the right-of-way claims in Plymouth Township area. We are currently working with property owners on agreements for access from the jug handle and on paving in the area. We are working through the process with the Solicitor's office and the property owners. We should be wrapping up the right-of-way issues soon and move onto construction. Date should be determined later.

X. Ridge Pike Improvement Project Update – Whitmarsh and Springfield Townships

A. Crescent Avenue to Philadelphia Line - Section D

Ms. Gilchrist: We starting on the right-of-way acquisition for this section and the plans are just about finished. A packet is being put together for the appraiser and the APAs. Some will be waiver valuation and may move quickly. This will start a long process of working through the individual right-of-way claims for this section. A video of the cemetery work was viewed.

B. Butler Pike to Crescent Avenue Status - Section C

Ms. Gilchrist: We are moving along with preliminary engineering and were successful with a meeting with Whitmarsh Shopping Center (Butler & Ridge Pikes). The shopping center submitted a minor land development to the township. The township was adamant about the need for sidewalks and the developer didn't want to rebuild the existing wall and add sidewalks. We have come to an agreement that we will get the right-of-way and temporary construction easements at no cost. The wall and sidewalks will be part of the project when it is constructed.

XI. Other Business

A. County Transportation Program. The program is in its second year is underway and the applications just have been submitted. There were 12 applications for over \$2 million of requests. Unfortunately the amount of money available (\$1 million) will not cover all the applications. The selection committee will have to review the applications and make the final recommendations to the Commissioners. The committee is on a rotating basis. Year one committee members were: Scott Brown, Jeannette Quirus and John Wichner. Earlier this year the new committee members for Year Two were decided to be: Tom Kohler, Allison Slizofski, and Jeff Guzy. All three have agreed to participate and the meetings are being scheduled this week for two separate days for reviews, and staff hopes to be able to recommend projects in late September and allow the Commissioners to announce them at an October board meeting.

The minutes show that the committee is a rotating basis through the 9-member board, with 3 members at a time based on seniority. The first year was the officers and the next two years will be the rest of the members. This was agreed on last year and is noted in the minutes.

- B. December Board Meeting Date. The December 12th meeting date has conflicts with over half the board. The board decided to change the date to December 19th that will work out with their schedules. This meeting date change will be advertised.

A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Quirus to reschedule the December 12, 2019 meeting date to December 19, 2019. The motion was approved by all present.

XII. Adjournment

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

An executive session was held to discuss legal matters



The next MCTA Board meeting will be September 12, 2019 at 1:00 pm.