
BOARD MEMBERS: Ms. Allison Slizofski; Ms. Cathy Farrell; Ms. Laura Frein; Mr. Jeffrey Guzy; Ms. Kourtney High; Mr. John Kennedy

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Ms. Janet Cunningham; Ms. Lydia Grose; Mr. Tom Kohler

GUESTS ATTENDING: Star Ernst (Stantec); Jayne Price (AECOM); Allen Thompson (ALROWS, LLC)

STAFF ATTENDING: Mr. Matt Edmond; Mr. Brian Phillips; Mr. Tom Benner; Mr. Matt Popek; Ms. Laureen Sendel-Grant; Mr. Andrew Turner; Ms. Ann Marie Meehan

I. Call to Order

The Montgomery County Transportation Authority (MCTA) meeting was called to order by Ms. Allison Slizofski, MCTA Board Chair.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approval of July 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the July 14, 2022 MCTA meeting were approved by the Board.

Motion: Mr. Kennedy motioned and Ms. High seconded to approve the July 14, 2022 Authority Meeting minutes. The motion was approved by all present.

IV. Finance Director's Report

Two handouts were presented to the Authority: MCTA Cash Report as of August 8, 2022, and the MCTA Check Register (Transaction Detail), August 2022.

Mr. Tom Benner of the County Controller's Office, reported that there was an interest deposit in July in the amount of \$36.65. Four checks totaling \$22,970.66 will be issued in August.

V. MCTA Administration

A. Rescind Resolutions 22.7.1 and 22.7.2

Mr. Edmond explained that he has withdrawn his resignation and is remaining with the County Planning Commission as Assistant Director of Transportation and Long-Range Planning, which is also the MCPC's Transportation Section Manager. Mr. Edmond explained that this action item is an

opportunity for the MCTA Board to decide whether or not to undo last month's action appointing Mr. Matthew Popek as MCTA Executive Director in Mr. Edmond's absence, and reinstate Mr. Edmond in the role. Mr. Edmond explained that MCTA staff unanimously felt that it is appropriate for the role of the MCTA's Executive Director to be held by whomever is the MCPC Transportation Section Manager.

Ms. Slizofski and the Board members discussed and decided to reinstate Mr. Edmond as MCTA Executive Director. Mr. Edmond added that if he was reinstated as the MCTA's Executive Director, the Authority's bank signature card would not need to be updated.

Motion: Ms. Slizofski motioned and Mr. Guzy seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 22.8.1 to reinstate Matthew Edmond as MCTA's Executive Director and rescind the update of the MCTA's bank signature card. The motion was approved by all present.

VI. County Road/Bridge Projects

A. Authorization to Award Contract for Appraisal Services

i. County Bridge 172 – Swamp Pike (Appraiser)

Mr. Turner said that there are four properties with acquisitions needed for County Bridge 172 at Swamp Pike over Minister Creek in the Township of New Hanover. Three of those properties have fee simple acquisitions and all four have temporary construction easements. Three appraisers were invited to bid (Indian Valley Appraisal Co., Van Fleet Appraisals, and Gontram Appraisal & Consulting). Gontram declined to bid; staff recommends that the appraisal firm offering the best value, Indian Valley Appraisal Co. of Souderton, be awarded the contract.

Motion: Ms. Farrell motioned and Mr. Guzy seconded to approve resolution 22.8.2 to award a contract for appraisal services to Indian Valley Appraisal Co. of Souderton, PA, for four parcels for furthering the County Bridge 172 Replacement Project in the Township of New Hanover. The motion was approved by all present.

B. Authorizations for Condemnation

i. Mayer Pollock, Inc. (County Bridge 190, Parcel 2)

Mr. Popek said that 26,005 square feet of fee simple and 27,312 square feet of temporary construction easement is needed at Parcel 2 for County Bridge 190 project at Keim Street over the Schuylkill River in the Borough of Pottstown. Mayer Pollock, Inc., owners of the property, have been slow to move on efforts by Star Ernst of Stantec to negotiate. Total appraisal value is \$118,600.00; the owner is in the process of obtaining an independent appraisal. Ms. Ernst added that the owner's legal counsel reached out to her and she hopes that this condemnation action will move the owner towards settlement.

Ms. Kourtney High, MCTA Board member, advised the Board that she would abstain from voting on the action.

Motion: Mr. Kennedy motioned and Ms. Frein seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 21.8.3, to authorize a declaration of taking to acquire fee simple and temporary construction easement for

Parcel 2, at 301, 302 & 320 South Keim Street, owned by Mayer Pollock, Inc., in Pottstown Borough, to further the County Bridge 190 Replacement Project. The motion was approved 5-0, with one abstention.

ii. Contrast Leasing, Inc., (County Bridge 190, Parcel 3)

Mr. Popek said that 7,405 square feet of fee simple and 2,919 temporary construction easement is required from Parcel 3, owned by Contrast Leasing Inc., at 310 South Keim Street in Pottstown Borough for the County Bridge 190 Project. Total appraised value is \$30,000.00. Negotiation requests have been ignored so far, but Mr. Popek said staff is hoping that a declaration of taking notice letter will spur the owner to action.

Ms. Kourtney High, MCTA Board member, advised the Board that she would abstain from voting on the action.

Motion: Ms. Frein motioned and Ms. Farrell seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 21.8.4, to authorize a declaration of taking to acquire fee simple and temporary construction easement for Parcel 3, at 310 South Keim Street, owned by Contrast Leasing Inc., in the Borough of Pottstown to further the County Bridge 190 Replacement Project. The motion was approved 5-0, with one abstention.

iii. Michael and Ingrid Mullen (County Bridge 146, Parcel 4)

Mr. Popek said that 378 square feet of fee simple and 2,037 square feet of temporary construction easement is needed at Parcel 4 owned by Michael and Ingrid Mullen over East Branch Perkiomen Creek in Lower Salford Township.

Mr. Allen Thompson of ALROWS said negotiations are ongoing; the owners are seeking compensation for landscaping items and have not yet presented their counter-offer. He is hopeful that additional negotiations will ensue upon Board action and letter of condemnation notice delivery.

Motion: Ms. Farrell motioned and Ms. High seconded to approve MCTA Resolution 21.8.4, to authorize a declaration of taking to acquire fee simple and temporary construction easement for Parcel 4, at 690 Bergeys Mill Road, owned by Michael and Ingrid Mullen, in Lower Salford Township further the County Bridge 146 Replacement Project. The motion was approved by all present.

VII. Authorization for Payment of Checks and Invoices

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

VIII. County Road, Bridge and Trial Projects Update

Mr. Popek provided a brief status update on these projects; some highlights included:

1) Cross County Trail-Erdenheim Farm: End of August meeting with Erdenheim attorneys and staff is scheduled.

- 2) County Bridge 27 (Fetters Mill, L. Moreland/Bryn Athyn): Negotiations via ARROW; 4 of 5 properties done; Rivera property EJC approved for deposit.
- 3) County Bridge 190 (Keim St., Pottstown): Appraisals finished & reviewed; ALROWS presented offers; condemnation actions for Mayer Pollock, Inc. and Contrast Leasing approved today.
- 4) County Bridge 146 (Bergey's Mill, L. Salford): Waivers of valuation completed; ALROWS presented offers; Act 70 funding coordination with Township; Mullens condemnation action taken today.
- 5) Bridge 38 (Moreland Ave): Awaiting signed appraiser contract from Christie Davies; ALROWS sent notice of acquisition to property owners.
- 6) Bridge 172 (Swamp Pike): Appraisal contract approved today; ROW negotiator selection imminent.
- 7) Bridge 115 (Unionville Pike): R & B request received this week, expecting to use waivers for appraisal valuations.

IX. Ridge Pike Improvement Project Update

Mr. Edmond provided the following updates to the Board about each section of the project:

- A. DB-116 and County Bridge #0 (TP&D): Kicked off final acquisition regarding geotech for large retaining walls.
- B. Belvoir Road to Chemical Road (Pennoni): Advertising for construction still expected at year end 2022; NPDES permit acquired; construction inspection firm has been selected. One final claim on Section B - Norfolk Southern, to be settled in the near future.
- C. Butler Pike to Crescent Avenue (RK&K): SHPO Historic outcome: no effect finding. Close to clearing historic assessments and approaching final design.
- D. Crescent Avenue to Philadelphia Line (Gannett Fleming): County construction team is pressing to get preparations completed to begin construction during the last week of August.

X. Articles of Incorporation & By-Laws

A. Report of Founding Documents Committee

Mr. Edmond reported that he spoke with Mr. Lee Soltysiak, the County's Chief Operating Officer about presenting the MCTA Founding Documents Committee's recommendations for potential changes to the authority's Articles of Incorporation to the County Commissioners. Mr. Soltysiak said he would speak with the Commissioners and it most likely will be addressed in late summer/early fall.

XI. Other Business

Mr. Edmond said it was the 5th year of the County Transportation Program, and he asked the Board to select 3 of their members to serve on the Steering Committee that selects projects to be funded with the \$1 million in funds for the program. Fifteen applications will be under consideration and scored over 2 meetings. The final list of selected projects will be presented to the Commissioners in October. He suggested that the Board's 3 newest members (Ms. Grose, Ms. Farrell and Ms. High) might like to have the experience of serving on the Committee. After consideration, the Board agreed to recommend Ms. Grose, Ms. Farrell and Ms. High to the Steering Committee. As well, it was proposed that Mr. Jeff Guzy would serve as Alternate.

XII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Slizofski and seconded by Ms. High to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by all present.

The next MCTA Board meeting will be held on September 8, 2022 at 1:00 pm.

FINAL