

**Morris County Board of Transportation Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 7, 2009**  
**30 Schuyler Place, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**Morristown, NJ**

**In Attendance:**

Board Members	Staff	Others Attendees
Milverne E. Cooke	Deena Cybulski	Donald Hertel
Ilene Dorf Manahan, Chairperson	Gerald Rohsler	
Freeholder James Murray (ex-officio)		
Frank T. Reilly		
Art Valand		
Dudley Woodbridge, Secretary		

**I. Call to Order:** Chairperson Ilene Dorf Manahan called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

**II. Open Public Meeting Statement:** Staff person Deena Cybulski read the Open Public Meetings Act compliance statement.

**III. Roll Call:** *Chairperson Manahan* read the roll call. Five voting members were present.

**IV. Approval of Minutes from March 3, 2009:** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dudley Woodbridge. The motion was seconded by Art Valand. All members voted in favor; the minutes from the March 3, 2009 meeting were approved.

**V. Discussion/Action Items:**

**A. Changes to the Board of Transportation:** The Division of Transportation staff has been in search of a new board member to fill the current vacancy for some time. Ms. Cybulski provided the members with a resume for a woman that is interested in becoming a member of the Board of Transportation. Her name is Erika Bocian and she resides in East Hanover. Ms. Bocian is a GIS Specialist with Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor, LLC. She has interest in transportation, particularly in alternative modes, such as biking and walking. The Board members agreed that Ms. Bocian would be a good addition to the membership. Chairperson Manahan asked Freeholder Murray if he could consider the appointment with his fellow freeholders and he agreed.

Gerald Rohsler presented the Board with cost-saving scheduling changes to consider. These changes were previously summarized for Board consideration in a letter mailed to each Board member on March 11, 2009. The first consideration was a change from approximately eight scheduled meetings a year to quarterly meetings with a summer trip. After some discussion, Frank Reilly made a motion to adjust the Board meeting schedule

to quarterly meetings and a summer trip. Mr. Valand seconded that motion. All members voted in favor of the motion and it was approved.

Mr. Rohsler then presented a recommendation by staff to change the meeting time from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. This change would eliminate the parking fee issue and would reduce the cost of food service, since dinner would no longer be provided to the Board. However, beverages and snacks would be available at future meetings. The members also discussed what day of the month they meet would be the best for the group. The members settled on the second Tuesday of the month and decided to have meetings in January, April, September, and November, with a July trip. Melverne Cooke made a motion on this new meeting schedule. Mr. Valand seconded the motion. The scheduling change was unanimously approved, and the Board will now meet quarterly on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. Therefore, the Board will meet the following days to finish out the 2009/2010 meeting schedule. Additional dates for 2010 will be determined at the January 12, 2010 reorganization meeting.

July Trip  
September 8, 2009  
November 10, 2009  
January 12, 2010

**B. Draft By-Laws:** A By-Laws Committee was created at the March 3, 2009 meeting to review a draft of the Board of Transportation By-Laws prepared by staff. The following board members agreed to participate on the committee: Ilene Dorf Manahan, Hester Wharton, and Dudley Woodbridge. The committee members provided revisions to Ms. Cybulski, which were incorporated into the document prior to the meeting. The draft by-laws were presented to the Board members and additional changes were made. Ms. Cybulski requested that all additional revisions be submitted to her by May 11, 2009. The final draft by-laws will be reviewed by County Counsel. It is anticipated that the Board of Transportation By-Laws will be adopted at the September 8, 2009 meeting.

**C. Summer Board Trip:** Mr. Rohsler provided a few ideas for the summer board trip. The members decided that it would be best to tour transportation infrastructure in New Jersey. Divisional staff will explore a trip that includes a ride on the Newark Light Rail system, a tour of the maintenance yard at the end of the Newark Light Rail in Bloomfield, a tour of Penn Station-Newark, and a visit to the Aviation Museum at the old Newark Airport facility. This trip is expected to take place in July.

## **VI. Old Business:**

**A.** Ms. Cybulski provided copies of *The Transportation Planning Process Key Issues: A Briefing Book for Transportation Decisionmakers, Officials, and Staff* to members who had not received the resource at the March 3, 2009 Board of Transportation meeting.

## **VII. New Business:**

**A.** Mr. Reilly announced that the new location of the State Railroad Museum is Boonton. He is a member of the United Railroad Historical Society and the group is working diligently to transform the new location into a successful tourist destination and a safe

area for storage of rail equipment and valuable collections. The group is currently looking for funds to finance a fence for security. There will be an open house at the new State Railroad Museum on Saturday, April 16, 2009 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The board members are interested in touring the facility, with Mr. Reilly as their guide, some time in June. Mr. Rohsler told Mr. Reilly that NJDOT was making available Transportation Enhancement Grant funds, of which this activity may be eligible.

**B.** Freeholder Murray explained that he was contacted by a resident who was looking to permanently display model trains in an exhibit at a museum-type facility. Mr. Reilly provided the freeholder with his contact information to supply to the resident.

**C.** Ms. Cybulski alerted the Board that Roman (Ray) Zabihach, Morris County Planning Director has announced his retirement. His last day will be June 30, 2009.

**D.** Mr. Valand suggested that NJ Transit offer discounted weekend fares to encourage usage during off-peak times and increase tourism in the region. Other members commented that this type of offer had been offered in the past.

**E.** Mr. Rohsler announced that the Morristown & Erie Railway in coordination with Norfolk Southern and the U.S. Marine Corps would be conducting a “Toys for Tots” fundraiser on December 13, 2009. He offered to forward announcements to the Board members when received.

**F.** Chairperson Manahan referenced the March 31, 2009 Star Ledger article on the upcoming freight study to be managed by divisional staff. Mr. Rohsler explained the project and the members were provided with a document outlining the study methodology.

**G.** Mr. Reilly informed the Board members that the first segment of the Lackawanna Cut-off passenger rail line will be moving forward shortly and has received \$5 Million in American Recovery and Reinvestment funds. Mr. Rohsler added that the project was still awaiting a Finding of No Significant Impact from the Federal Transit Administration.

**H.** Mr. Woodbridge inquired about the progress of the Chester Branch rehabilitation project. Mr. Rohsler explained that the county is working through the details with the NJDOT to secure the \$5.8 Million in American Recovery and Reinvestment funds.

**I.** Mr. Rohsler expressed the idea of changing the name of the Board from the Board of Transportation of Morris County to the Morris County Board of Transportation. After some discussion, the Board members seemed to agree to the change. However, it was decided that the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders would have to make the decision and officially change the name of the Board.

**VIII. Public Comments:** Don Hertel reported that the two large state projects in Dover are progressing. This included the Salem Street Bridge over NJ Transit and US 46/NJ 15 reconstruction projects.

**IX. Next Regular Meeting:** September 8, 2009

**X. Adjournment:** A motion was made by Ms. Cooke to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Valand seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

*Minutes Submitted by Deena Cybulski*