

**GOLDEN EMPIRE TRANSIT DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**APRIL 18, 2017  
5:30 PM**

**1830 GOLDEN STATE AVENUE  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93301**

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Carlos Bello

James Hunter

Cindy Parra

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Jim Baldwin and Evelyn Young Spath

**ATTORNEY PRESENT:**

Jim Worth

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Karen King

Steven Woods

Gina Hayden

Candra Cheers

Sharon Pierce

Bruce Seibel

Jeanie Hill

Emery Rendes

Ricardo Perez

Braulio Mendoza

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Dora Martinez

Sierra Flores

Ethel Weaver

Michael Harless

Blake Shermen

Miralda Coon

Karla Quintero

Jorge Gonzalez

Cristina Berrelleza

Elizabeth Urias

Buddy Graham

Jackie Huh

Phil Klinkon

Fernando Lujan

Emily King

Bob Snoddy

Matthew Barnes

Dennis Heffernon

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Bob Snoddy led the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

**PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED FARE RESTRUCTURING**

Mr. Woods reviewed the four criteria outlined in Board Policy #1 Fare Philosophy, Goals and Strategies, to be considered when proposing fare adjustments.

Director Hunter stated that GET would receive public testimony identifying and commenting on proposed fare restructuring. Notices of the hearing were placed in *The Bakersfield Californian* and *El Popular* newspapers as well as posted on the buses, the GET website, Facebook, and twitter pages.

Ethel Weaver commented that she felt that service should be increased if rates are raised.

Buddy Graham commented that customer surveys were done earlier this month and asked how the other riders felt about the rate increase.

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Director Parra moved and Director Bello seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and two (2) absent (Baldwin, Young Spath).

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dora Martinez submitted a letter to the Board (Attachment A) and commented that there is no transit service close to where she lives, which makes riding the bus difficult and lengthy. She is concerned that drivers allow passengers to stand up in front of the bus over the yellow line on the floor and talk to the coach operators while they are driving.

Miralda Coon stated that she had boarded route 45 at Niles and Haley Street. She put in \$1.60 in change and then had five pennies. The driver told her that GET does not accept pennies and that she would have to get off the bus. When she asked for her money back, she was told that she would have to go to the office for a refund. The driver was very rude and embarrassed her. She asked that the drivers be educated.

Michael Harless commented that the Wi-Fi at the Southwest Transit Center hasn't been working and that the bus stop at White Lane and Stine Road needs to be fixed.

Ethel Weaver stated that the printed 31-day bus passes need to be replaced – either the ink wears off or the strip stops working. She asked that Route 61 start earlier and run later. She also supports pennies being accepted.

Buddy Graham commented that pennies should be accepted.

## **CSUB TRANSIT CENTER**

Mr. Woods introduced Phil Klinkon and Jackie Huh with RNL Designs. Ms. Huh updated the Board on the status of the design for the CSUB transit center. This was an informational item only.

## **2017 STRATEGIC PLAN**

Director Parra moved and Director Bello seconded a motion to adopt the 2017 Strategic Plan. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and two (2) absent (Baldwin, Young Spath).

## **PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGE EFFECTIVE JULY 2, 2017**

Director Parra moved and Director Bello seconded a motion to adopt the proposed service change effective Sunday, July 2, 2017. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and two (2) absent (Baldwin, Young Spath).

## **THIRD QUARTER FY 2016-17 PERFORMANCE REPORTS FOR MOTOR BUS AND DEMAND RESPONSE SERVICES**

Mr. Rendes stated that total unlinked passenger trips on fixed routes were 1,281,037, a 5% decrease from the same quarter one year ago. GET-A-Lift total unlinked passenger trips (14,922) decreased slightly 3.1% for the quarter compared to the same period last year. This was an informational item only.

## **MARCH 2017 FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Mr. Woods reviewed the March 2017 financial reports. This was an informational item only.

## **HIGH SPEED RAIL UPDATE**

Ms. King reported that the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which was scheduled to be released in April, has been moved to June. Ms. King has a call into Ms. Diana Gomez with the CHSRA.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/BOARD COMMENTS**

Director Bello thanked the public for attending and providing their comments.

Director Parra reported that Bluegogo will be giving a presentation on bike sharing at the Kern COG meeting on Thursday.

Director Hunter stated that he will be giving a presentation on performance metrics at the APTA Bus and Paratransit Conference in May.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT/COMMENTS**

Ms. King stated that she will be attending the APTA Bus and Paratransit Conference the first part of May. Seven new paratransit vehicles have been received. Five of the vehicles are to replace older vehicles and two of the vehicles are to add service.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Director Hunter moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Secretary of the Board of Directors



Submitted April 18, 2017

## Notice OF Public Hearing

To: Golden Empire Transit District  
1830 Golden State Avenue  
Bakersfield, California 93301-1012

My Name is Nora L. Martinez and I have a disability; and I get around in a electric wheel chair. and I live at 110 Kentucky Street Apartment 11 Bakersfield, California 93305.

Where I live there isnt any Public Transportation. The across street are Union Avenue Overpass and the other across street is Monterey street. If I want to catch bus 45 into town I have to go Trusten Avenue and Baker Street. Or go to Bernard and Alta Vista and catch bus 43 into town.

Or if I want to catch bus 21 out to my doctor across <sup>from</sup> CSUB I have to go to the Welfare Office on California Avenue. And if I need to go to a friend of mine out on White Lane I have to catch Bus 44 on Baker Street and Monterey Street.

There no service for us at all. So if I need to get into town I have to ride my wheel chair from my apartment into town. But we need service over where I live. The other promble I have about the bus service is with the driver who let the passenger stand up in front of the bus over the yellow line on the floor while they are driven and talk to driver. What good is it to have cameras on the bus and sign posted if you continue to let the passenger talk to the drivers.

Thank You: Nora L. Martinez