

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

**AUGUST 16, 2016
5:30 PM**

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Jim Baldwin
Cindy Parra

James Hunter

Elliott Kirschenmann

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

None

ATTORNEY PRESENT:

James Worth

STAFF PRESENT:

Karen King
Gina Hayden
Bruce Seibel
Ricardo Perez
Melissa Ash

Steven Woods
Candra Cheers
Sharon Pierce
Emery Rendes
Debbie Ockerman

Jeanie Hill
Chris James
Judi Daunell
Eileen Brush
Sally Martin

OTHERS PRESENT:

Debbie Sotello
Bethany Simmons
Dennis Heffernon

Michael Harless
Jacob Shaw (Marcom)
Dr. Abbas Grammy

Ryan Nielsen
Becky Napier

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Hunter led the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

PRESENTATION – GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS’ ASSOCIATION

Mr. Woods introduced Mr. Ryan Nielsen from Brown, Armstrong Associates LLC and then the Finance Department staff: Melissa Ash, Debbie Ockerman, and Sally Martin. Mr. Nielsen commented that the GFOA encourages better, more thorough financial reporting beyond annual

audit reporting with the preparation and use of a more comprehensive format and in-depth analysis known as a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, or CAFR. The District was notified by GFOA in July 2016 that the report merited their highest honor, Excellence in Financial Reporting, and a certificate and plaque commemorating this achievement. This is the third year in a row that GET has received this award.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Baldwin moved and Director Parra seconded to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Michael Harliss commented that the distance between the Route 22 stop on Chester Avenue between California Avenue and 3rd Street is 1.3 miles apart, making the distance challenging for some riders. He suggested that the stop at Mt. Vernon/Heritage on Route 44 could be eliminated and the stop on Chester Avenue between 3rd and California Avenue be added. He asked when the Community Advisory Council appointments would be made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Director Kirschenmann moved and Director Parra seconded a motion to approve the amended minutes of July 19, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHECK DISBURSEMENTS

After some discussion, Director Baldwin moved and Director Kirschenmann seconded to approve the accounts payable check disbursements. The motion carried unanimously.

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF GOLDEN EMPIRE TRANSIT

Dr. Abbas Grammy was introduced by Mr. Woods. Dr. Grammy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the economic and environmental contributions of GET to the community. In Dr Grammy's presentation, he commented that for every \$1.00 GET spends and invests, the Bakersfield Metropolitan Area gains \$4.83.

ASSET DISPOSAL, PROCUREMENT, AND INVESTMENT POLICIES

Mr. Woods reviewed the contents of the policies. Director Parra moved and Director Kirschenmann seconded a motion to affirm Board Policy #5 – Asset Disposal Policy, Board Policy #6 – Procurement Policy, and Board Policy #8 – Investment Policy. The motion carried unanimously.

FOURTH QUARTER FY 2015-16 PERFORMANCE REPORTS FOR MOTOR BUS AND DEMAND RESPONSE SERVICES

Mr. Rendes stated that the Performance Reports provide operating data and key performance indicators for motor bus (fixed route) and demand response (GET-A-Lift) service. GET-A-Lift total unlinked passenger trips for the quarter were 16,009, and total unlinked passenger trips for the quarter on fixed routes were 1,302,016. This was an informational item only.

CSUB TRANSIT CENTER ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN CONTRACT

Mr. James discussed the proposals received from RNL and Wheeler & Gray, Inc., in response to the Statement of Qualifications for Architectural and Engineering Services for the CSUB transit transfer site. Director Kirschenmann stated that the Facilities and Equipment Committee met on August 2, 2016 and discussed the proposals. After Board discussion, Director Parra moved to award the contract to RNL in an amount not to exceed \$228,885.60. The motion died for lack of a second. Director Kirschenmann then made a motion to have local architects prepare conceptual drawings for the design of the project. After further discussion, Director Kirschenmann withdrew his motion. Director Baldwin moved and Director Kirschenmann seconded the motion to have staff reissue the RFQ and initiate a new procurement process for the project. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and one (1) no (Parra). Director Baldwin moved and Director Kirschenmann seconded a motion to reject the proposals received from RNL and Wheeler & Gray, Inc. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and one (1) no (Parra).

ROUTE AND SYSTEM PERFORMANCE REPORT FY 2015-16

Mr. Rendes summarized the FY 2015-16 Route and System Performance Report which included charts showing fixed route and GET-A-Lift ridership as well as missed trip data, on time performance, and financial performance by route. This was an informational item only.

JULY 2016 FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Mr. Woods reviewed the financial reports for July 2016. This was an informational item only.

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND POLICY COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Parra stated that she had attended a KernCOG meeting in July where a workshop on smart water meters was presented. A contract was approved with Alta Planning and Design for the Kern region Active Transportation Plan.

HIGH SPEED RAIL UPDATE

Ms. King commented that an email flyer was provided to the Board members regarding a community meeting for the Bakersfield High-Speed Rail Station Area Plan on Tuesday, August 23rd beginning at 5:30 at the Rabobank Convention Center's lobby. She also stated that GET

staff and members of the High Speed Rail Authority would be meeting on Wednesday, August 17th at 11 am to discuss property acquisition.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Administration and Finance – Baldwin

A meeting was held on August 5, 2016 to review Board Policies 5, 6, and 8.

B. Facilities and Equipment – Kirschenmann

A meeting was held on August 2, 2016 to review the proposed contract for CSUB Transit Center Architectural Design.

C. External Affairs – Hunter

No meeting was held.

D. Marketing and Business Development – Parra

No meeting was held.

E. Operations and Service Development –

No meeting was held.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/BOARD COMMENTS:

Director Parra inquired about the status on improvements for the Downtown Transit Center. She also shared that she had run into the Bakersfield Police Chief. The Chief offered to provide additional training for the guards who provide security at the transit centers and increasing patrols around the downtown transit area.

Director Baldwin thanked Dr. Grammy for his outstanding report, stating that Dr. Grammy's expertise in the economic field is recognized throughout the community and academia. Dr. Grammy's report highlighted several items, one of which is the importance of the circle of taxes and how it benefits the community.

Director Kirschenmann announced that tonight's meeting would be his final meeting as he has moved out of the district, thus making him ineligible to serve as one of the City of Bakersfield's appointee. He thanked the Board members and GET employees for enlightening him about transit and the impact GET has on the community. Director Kirschenmann was also very complimentary of Dr. Grammy's report and the relevance it can have on future budget decisions, including capital expenditures.

Director Hunter stated that he is sad to see Director Kirschenmann leave, but he understands his reasons. He thanked Director Kirschenmann for his service and wished him well. Director Hunter also commented on the value and strength of the economic report provided by Dr. Grammy. He felt that it could be instrumental in providing direction for future endeavors of GET. Director Hunter also stated that he has made inquiries of the County regarding the appointment of the vacant County appointee to the Board of Directors.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT/COMMENTS:

Ms. King stated that the BYD tour and ride on one of their forty-foot electric buses here at GET today was cancelled. BYD is a Chinese bus manufacturer with an assembly plant in Lancaster, California. The Community Advisory Council applications are due on Friday, August 19, 2016. An agenda item is scheduled for the September 6th Board meeting to consider the appointment of members to the Community Advisory Council. The Board Chairman had asked that a Board Self Evaluation item be scheduled for a future Board meeting. That item is scheduled for the September 6th Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board moved into executive session at 7:57 p.m. to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation [Government Code Section 54956.9(e)(3)] – Three Tort Claims; Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] – One Matter, and Conference with Legal Counsel [Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)] – Discuss Performance Evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer. The Board returned to open session at 8:42 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Attorney Worth stated that the Board met with legal counsel and staff on the item referenced in the executive session on the agenda. No action was taken that would require disclosure under the Brown Act.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Hunter moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary of the Board of Directors