

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

**JUNE 7, 2016
5:30 PM**

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Jim Baldwin | James Hunter |
| Elliott Kirschenmann | Cindy Parra |

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

ATTORNEY PRESENT: Dan Raytis

STAFF PRESENT:

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Karen King | Jeanie Hill | Candra Cheers |
| Chris James | Gina Hayden | Sharon Pierce |
| Emery Rendes | Matthew Sgherzi | Ed Loyd |
| Felix Ibarra | | |

OTHERS PRESENT:

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Dennis Heffernon | Kate Eucee | Kimberly M ^c anally |
| Robin Cody | Michael Carter | |

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED FY 2016-17 BUDGET

Director Hunter opened the public hearing on the FY 2016-17 Proposed Budget stating that the Golden Empire Transit District would now receive public testimony. Any person wishing to present testimony related to the FY 2016-17 Proposed Budget may do so at this time. Persons were asked to state their name and address for the record. If they wished their statements to be verbatim, they must be in writing for inclusion in the official record of this hearing. Notice of

the hearing was placed in *The Bakersfield Californian* and *El Popular* newspapers, on the GET website, and on GET's Facebook page. Director Hunter asked for public testimony.

No comments were made on the FY 2016-17 Proposed Budget. Director Hunter closed the Public Hearing.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Hunter asked that the agenda be amended to delete Item #17 – Executive Session. Director Parra moved and Director Kirschenmann seconded to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Director Baldwin moved and Director Kirschenmann seconded a motion to approve the minutes of May 17, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHECK DISBURSEMENTS

Director Kirschenmann moved and Director Parra seconded to approve the accounts payable check disbursements. The motion carried unanimously.

CANCELLATION OF BOARD MEETINGS

Director Baldwin moved and Director Kirschenmann seconded a motion to approve the cancellation of the regular Board meetings of July 5, 2016 and August 2, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

LETTER TO CONGRESS

Ms. King shared that the Board Chair has received an appeal from APTA to send a letter to Golden Empire Transit District's Congressional representatives over the Chair's signature to garner support to adopt a permanent funding solution to address the Highway Trust Fund's (HTF) ongoing structural revenue deficit.

Director Baldwin moved and Director Kirschenmann seconded a motion to approve sending a letter to GET's legislative representatives supporting a long-term funding source to be adopted by Congress prior to the end of the FAST Act. The motion carried unanimously.

SHORT RANGE TRANSIT PLAN

Mr. Rendes stated that the Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) is the primary planning document that guides the routine decisions associated with operating a public transit system. The SRTP is also used to develop transit capital programming documents for state and federal funding

decisions. The SRTP is regulated under Section 8 of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964 (as amended) and is a precondition for receiving funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). It typically is updated annually to chart the course of the agency over a five-year period. Director Parra moved and Director Baldwin seconded a motion to approve the Short Range Transit Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

GET-A-LIFT PARATRANSIT SERVICE AREA

Ms. King shared that Board member Baldwin requested that staff place an item on the Board's agenda regarding the GET-A-Lift service area. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), paratransit functions as a 'safety net' for persons whose disabilities prevent them from using the regular fixed route system (bus or rail). It is not intended to meet all of the transportation needs of all persons with disabilities, all of the time. As such, the level of service provided is required to be comparable to that available on the fixed route system; the hours and days of operations must be the same, and service must be provided to origins and destinations within three-fourths of a mile of a bus route (or between points within a three-fourths of a mile radius of different rail stations).

There was quite a bit of discussion about incorporating the needs of the ADAK clientele with extending paratransit service in the White Lane and Buena Vista Road area. Staff was directed to review the timeline in the Short Range Transit Plan for service improvements and report back to the Board.

BOARD POLICY #3: SPECIAL TRANSIT SERVICE/CHARTER POLICY ANNUAL REVIEW

Ms. Hayden shared details about how and when special transit service/charter service may be provided. Director Parra moved and Director Baldwin seconded a motion to affirm Board Policy #3 – Special Transit Service/Charter Policy. The motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Ms. King introduced Mr. Robin Cody with Sunrise Consulting Services who developed the draft five year Information Technology strategic plan. Mr. Cody reviewed the plan on GET's technology challenges/needs for the next five years and made recommendations in the following areas:

1. Network architecture
2. Telephone Systems
3. Servers and Storage
4. Desktop upgrades
5. Program applications
6. e-Office
7. Stakeholders
8. Policy and plans

This was an informational item only.

UPDATE ON MARKETING AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Ms. Hayden gave an update on Marketing and Business Development activities. Some of those activities include: community newsletters; campaigns for Stuff the Bus food drive in March; Earth Month in April; Public Hearing Fare Change in April; Summer Youth Pass beginning in May and running through August; and the annual Community Report in the Bakersfield Californian. This was an informational item only.

HIGH SPEED RAIL UPDATE:

Ms. King commented that the California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) met in Bakersfield on May 10th. During that meeting, the CHSRA Board adopted Resolution # HSRA 16-13 Concurrence with the Staff Recommended Preliminary Preferred Alternative for the Fresno to Bakersfield Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS in the Bakersfield Area. On Thursday, June 2nd, the monthly conference call with the CHSRA, FTA, FRA and GET staff took place. During that conference call, CHSRA suggested that GET submit a hardship letter. The hardship letter may allow the timeline for the acquisition of GET's property to accelerate.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Administration and Finance – Baldwin

No meeting was held.

B. Facilities and Equipment – Kirschenmann

A meeting was held on June 1, 2016. The Information Technology Five-Year Strategic Plan item was discussed.

C. External Affairs – Hunter

No meeting was held.

D. Marketing – Parra

No meeting was held.

E. Operations and Service Development –

A meeting was held on June 1, 2016. The GET-A-Lift Service Area and Board Policy #3 items were discussed.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/BOARD COMMENTS

Director Parra asked if the Facility and Equipment Committee or full Board would be actively involved in reviewing parcels for eligibility as GET's new location. Director Parra also commented that GET's Downtown Transit Center is the face of GET and that it appears that it needs to be freshened up a bit. She referred this item to staff to bring back to the Board as a future agenda item.

Director Kirschenmann agreed with Director Parra about the Downtown Transit Center needing a facelift. He commented that it would be a strategic investment to modernize the facility. Director Kirschenmann asked if the CHSRA's plans would include moving the Downtown Transit Center, and if so, how quickly would that happen.

Director Baldwin asked if GET provides rides to cooling centers. One of the bus stop improvement projects that GET will be partnering with the County on updating is Virginia Street between Mt. Vernon and Oswell Street. Director Baldwin suggested that all Directors visit the Virginia Street area. It is truly in need of attention to make it accessible for our customers. He asked that staff invite Mr. Pope from the County back to update the Board on the status of bus stop improvement projects that GET partnered on with the County. Director Baldwin also suggested that GET partner with the Bakersfield Police Department to help fund additional officers to patrol the Downtown Transit Center area.

Director Hunter shared with the Board that he has submitted an application to become a member of APTA's National Board of Directors. He commented that he will be asking for letters of support from GET's Board members.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT/COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Hunter moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary of the Board of Directors