

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

**OCTOBER 18, 2016  
5:30 PM**

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

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

James Hunter

Cindy Parra

Evelyn Young Spath

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Jim Baldwin

**ATTORNEY PRESENT:**

James Worth

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Karen King

Steven Woods

Jeanie Hill

Gina Hayden

Candra Cheers

Chris James

Sharon Pierce

Ricardo Perez

Anthony Ruiz

Luis Carrillo

Emery Rendes

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

James Francis

Craig Pope

Jacob Shaw (Marcom)

Bethany Simmons

Jeremiah Bush

Tracey Mensch

Samantha Rosas

Jennifer Flores

Nick Fidler

Debbie Sotello

Ron Ferguson

Barbara Emerson

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Director Young Spath moved and Director Parra seconded to approve the agenda. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and one (1) absent (Baldwin).

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mr. James Francis asked that placement of a bus stop be considered on the opposite side of the current bus stop at Barton and South Union Avenue.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Director Parra moved and Director Young Spath seconded a motion to approve the amended minutes of September 20, 2016 and October 4, 2016. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and one (1) absent (Baldwin).

## **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHECK DISBURSEMENTS**

Director Hunter moved and Director Parra seconded to approve the accounts payable check disbursements. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and one (1) absent (Baldwin).

## **COUNTY OF KERN BUS STOP IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE**

Mr. Craig Pope, Kern County Director of Public Works, gave a presentation on the bus stop improvements. The highest concentration of complaints received by the County was along Route 46 on Virginia Avenue. This project includes 3,500 feet of ADA compliant sidewalk, 55 drive approaches, 22 curb ramps as well as relocation of six utility poles. PTMISEA funds have been used to improve access to seven bus stops. This was an informational item.

## **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Ms. Hayden reviewed the purpose of creating the Community Advisory Council. It was agreed that the first meeting of Community Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m.

Director Young Spath moved and Director Parra seconded a motion to appoint three applicants to a two (2) year term. Those appointees were: Pamela Jean Banks, Arlena Mae Dyer, and Rondell Ferguson. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and one (1) absent (Baldwin).

## **AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WITH THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Woods stated that periodically it is prudent to update authorization documents with the FTA.

Director Parra moved and Director Young Spath seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2016-08 authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to enter into Federal financial assistance agreements. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Hunter, Parra, Young Spath

ABSENT: Baldwin

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

## **AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOLDEN EMPIRE TRANSIT DISTRICT AND CITY OF BAKERSFIELD**

Mr. Nick Fidler, City of Bakersfield Public Works Director, stated that the agreement for \$779,317.40 for bus stop improvements within the city limits has been approved by the Bakersfield City Council.

Director Hunter moved and Director Parra seconded a motion to approve an agreement with the City of Bakersfield in the amount of \$779,317.40 to be used for bus stop improvements. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and one (1) absent (Baldwin).

## **CANCELLATION OF BOARD MEETING**

Director Parra moved and Director Young Spath seconded a motion to cancel the Board meeting of November 15, 2016. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and one (1) absent (Baldwin).

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

Mr. Rendes updated the Board on first quarter ridership for both GET-A-Lift and fixed route. GET-A-Lift total unlinked passenger trips were 15,551. Total unlinked passenger trips on fixed routes were 1,329,177. This was an informational item only.

## **2016 BOARD INITIATIVES UPDATE**

Ms. King gave an update on the status of the 2016 Board Strategic Plan. This was an informational item only.

## **SEPTEMBER 2016 FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Mr. Woods reviewed the September 2016 financial reports, commenting that July through September completes the first quarter of FY 2016-17. This was an informational item only.

## **OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH GET-A-LIFT AND FIXED ROUTE SERVICE**

Ms. Cheers introduced new dispatchers - Anthony Ruiz and Luis Carrillo. She also updated the Board on recent activities in the Operations Department. Some of those activities included:

- ◆ Safety campaigns on September 30, 2016 on the patio, which included the distribution of a variety of safety information.
- ◆ 142 onboard ride checks in 2016 by Transportation Supervisors.
- ◆ Operations provided a four bus shuttle service on Sunday September 11, 2016 for the Bakersfield Fire Department's ceremony for the unveiling of the memorial piece acquired from the World Trade Center 9-11-2001.
- ◆ Eight additional buses on Route 44 to service the late night fair attendees on the weekends from 8:00 pm until 12:00 am.

## **HIGH SPEED RAIL UPDATE**

Ms. King commented that she has been participating in the City of Bakersfield High Speed Rail Station Area Plan Stakeholders Group. The participants are looking out 10, 20 and 30 years in the future as to what the downtown area may look like. On September 21<sup>st</sup> she met with the CHSRA property acquisition representatives.

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

Director Parra asked if there might be a need at GET for wood chips. She shared that the City of Bakersfield has an abundance of wood chips that is available. Director Parra also stated that she will be attending the California Transit Association's annual meeting in November.

Director Hunter commented that he was happy to report that Director Baldwin is recovering nicely.

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

Ms. King stated that an Open House for employees and their families will be held on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> beginning at 11 am and ending at 4 pm. There will be a Flu Shot Clinic on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, and the Halloween bus will be participating in Third Thursday and Safe Halloween events.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board moved into executive session at 7:15 p.m. to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)] – 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 8:02 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 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Secretary of the Board of Directors