

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

**OCTOBER 17, 2017  
5:30 PM**

**1401 – 19<sup>th</sup> STREET, 3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93301**

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Carlos Bello  
Evelyn Young Spath

James Hunter

Cindy Parra

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Jim Baldwin

**ATTORNEY PRESENT:**

Jim Worth

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Karen King  
Jeanie Hill  
Emery Rendes  
Sharon Pierce

Steven Woods  
Chris James  
Jill Smith

Candra Cheers  
Deekay Fox  
Braulio Mendoza

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Bob Snoddy  
Michael Harless  
Veronica Huerta

Ethel Weaver  
Richard E. Reed

Tracey Mensch  
Ahron Hakimi

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Tracey Mensch led the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

**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**

Ms. Weaver thanked GET for expanding service on Route 47 to run on weekends and for the improvement to the bus stop at Stockdale and Ming. Ms. Weaver commented that 1 hour service on many routes is too long. She would like to see 30 minute headways and extend service later in the evening.

Mr. Reed commented that scheduling of routes in general needs to be more closely watched. Routes 45 and 61 needs to be adjusted because the time between the departures are too close and do not allow riders to transfer between buses. Mr. Reed stated that the bus stop near Trader Joe's at Coffee Road and Stockdale Highway is unsafe because of construction and should be temporarily moved. He also stated that the restrooms at the transit centers are dirty and need to be cleaned more frequently. Mr. Reed asked why the bus stop at Hosking /Road and Hughes Lane was taken away.

Director Young Spath entered the meeting at 5:44 pm.

Mr. Harless asked that weekend service be extended until 9 pm. Mr. Harless stated that a water park at Hart Park has been discussed and asked if GET would provide service to Hart Park if the water park were constructed. Mr. Harless also asked about the status of a bus stop at Brundage Lane and Cypress Street.

Written comments were received from Zachery Kasper and read into the record: "All buses should run all 7 days from 6 am to 11:30 pm every 15 to 30 minutes all day till they shut down. It's more convenient when all buses are running every 15 minutes or every 30 minutes from 6:00 am to 11:30 pm. It will make the community much happier and less complaints will be made. If you have any questions call me."

Shane Stewart submitted written comments which were read into the record: "I am concerned about the distance between bus stops in Bakersfield. So many times I have missed the bus because of having to race for the bus before it takes off. Can't this be dealt with?"

## **CUSTOMER COMMENT/COMPLAINT PROCESS**

Ms. Smith reviewed the process used to handle customer complaints. This was an informational item.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REPORT**

Mr. Mendoza gave a PowerPoint presentation on general information about the EMS program and the District's progress in the continual improvement of its Environmental Management System. This was an informational item only.

## **FIRST QUARTER FY 2017-18 PERFORMANCE REPORTS FOR MOTOR BUS AND DEMAND RESPONSE SERVICES**

Mr. Rendes stated that GET-A-Lift total unlinked passenger trips (14,896) decreased 4.2% for the quarter compared to the same period last year. Total unlinked passenger trips on fixed routes were 1,224,931, a 7.8% decrease from the same quarter one year ago. This was an informational item only.

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

Mr. Woods provided an overview of the financial position and results of operations for September 2017. This was an informational item only.

## **2017 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

Ms. King provided an update on the status of the Board initiatives, which implement the Strategic Plan. This was an informational item only.

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

Director Bello shared information about his bus ride last Thursday and the APTA Annual Conference. Some highlights from the conference were electric bus technology, and funding options for electric and hydrogen cell buses. Director Bello commented that the GET Gives outreach program is touching lives in the community and providing a valuable service.

Director Parra stated that she had attended the Kern COG September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. Dick Taylor, Kern County Veteran Services Officer gave a presentation on services provided to veterans and their families. Director Parra commented that Amtrak will change in 2018 with the addition of the "Morning Express" (which makes all stops) service from Fresno to Sacramento, and cuts the first train from and last train to Bakersfield to ending at Fresno (with bus service to Bakersfield and Los Angeles). Director Parra asked if restroom maintenance is contracted out or handled by GET maintenance staff. Bike Bakersfield has received 800 sets of bike lights and will be handing out free bike lights at various locations on Thursday evenings from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. to help riders stay safe.

Director Young Spath commented that lots of great information was provided at various workshops at the APTA Annual Conference, and that the Education and Career Awareness Subcommittee meeting was informative and interesting. CSUB President Horace Mitchell's retirement celebration will be held on June 9, 2018 at the Marriott. Patrick Jacobs, Associate Vice-President Facilities at CSUB will be retiring at the end of December.

Director Hunter commented that the Veterans GI bill has been extended.

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

Ms. King commented that she had received a summary of the October 17<sup>th</sup> Board Governance Workshop. A follow-up session will be held in January. GET will again be honoring veterans during the month of November. A bus has been wrapped to celebrate veterans and will alternate between the routes during the month. Veterans and active-duty military personnel will ride for free. The next Community Advisory Committee meeting will be October 24<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm in the Kern COG Hearing Room. A media event will be held on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at the Caltrans yard at 1200 Olive Drive. The purpose of the media event is to focus on the good made possible by the passage of SB1. The December 5<sup>th</sup> Board meeting will be held at the Sheraton Four Points. The Strategic Planning Workshop will begin at noon followed by the regular Board meeting at 5:30 p.m. Ms. King shared that she and Ms. Fox have been meeting with local officials and anticipate completing those meetings in November.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board moved into executive session at 7:26 p.m. to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel Potential Litigation [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)] – One Matter; and Conference with Legal Counsel – [Government Code Section 54957] – Discuss Appointment of the Chief Financial Officer. The Board returned to open session at 8:11 p.m.

## **OPEN SESSION**

Attorney Worth stated that the Board met with legal counsel and staff on the items referenced in the executive session on the Agenda. Mr. Worth stated that no action was taken that requires disclosure under the Brown Act.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Director Hunter moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Secretary of the Board of Directors

all busses should run all  
7 days from 6am to 11:30pm  
every 15 to 30 minutes all day  
till they shut down its ~~more~~  
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11:30pm It ~~will~~ will make  
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and Less complaints will be  
made. If you have any  
questions call me  
661 316 2621

Zachery  
Kasper

8-30-17

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bus stops in Bakersfield.  
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of having to race for  
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Shane Stewart  
808-359-5973

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