

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

**APRIL 16, 2019
5:30 PM**

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Jim Baldwin

Carlos Bello

Leasa Engel

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Cindy Parra

ATTORNEY PRESENT:

Jim Worth

STAFF PRESENT:

Karen King
Steve Barnes
Emery Rendes
Sharon Pierce

Deidre Brown
Candra Cheers
Ricardo Perez

Jeanie Hill
Chris James
Robert Williams

OTHERS PRESENT:

Delores Black
Lisset De La Rosa

Farideh Sayre
Ali Akram

Bob Snoddy
Vinh Bui

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Director Baldwin moved and Director Engel seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda with three (3) ayes and one (1) absent (Parra).

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Delores Black stated that she lives in the Senior Building at Mill Creek Village. There are many seniors who do not drive and depend on transit. The current bus stop is at Q and 21st Street which is too far for many of the senior residents of Mill Creek Village. Ms. Black recognized that Mill Creek Village is new – only about three year old and was not part of the original service route; however, she would like to see a bus stop at 18th Street or 19th Street.

Ms. Farideh Sayre commented that she also lives in Mill Creek Village and uses public transportation regularly. The nearest bus stop is at 18th and Union Avenue on Route 44. This bus stop has many homeless people around it and is very scary to use. There are no trash cans at the bus stop. In order to get to the Downtown Transit Center it takes her about an hour. She would like better access to the Downtown Transit Center. Another concern is that some of the drivers are disrespectful of the elderly and do not always put the ramp down when asked.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Ms. King stated that according to the District’s enabling legislation, election of a chair and a vice-chair is to occur at the first meeting of the Board following the first Monday after the first day of January of each year. At the January 16, 2019 Board meeting Director Young Spath was elected Vice Chair. Director Young Spath has resigned as a member of the Board, leaving the position of Vice Chair vacant.

Director Bello moved and Director Engel seconded a motion to elect Director Baldwin as the Vice-Chair for the year 2019. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and one (1) absent (Parra).

LOW CARBON TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM (LCTOP) AUTHORIZATION RESOLUTION

Mr. Barnes commented that GET has submitted a grant application to Caltrans to use \$992,400 in LCTOP funds to provide free fare subsidies to riders in low-income and disadvantaged areas. As a requirement for the grant, the Board by resolution must authorize the Chief Executive Officer or designee to enter into this financial agreement.

Director Engel moved and Director Baldwin seconded a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-07 – Authorization for the Execution of the Certifications and Assurances and Authorized Agent Forms for the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) for the Following Project(s): Free Fare Subsidy Program, \$992,400 FY 2018-19. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Baldwin, Bello, and Engel
ABSENT: Parra

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

FY 2019 COMPETITIVE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: LOW OR NO EMISSIONS GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION RESOLUTION

Mr. Barnes shared that Golden Empire Transit District would like to apply for funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the replacement of four (4) CNG buses with low or no emission buses and funding for charging station equipment.

Director Baldwin moved and Director Engel seconded a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-08 – FY 2019 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission Grant Program. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Baldwin, Bello, and Engel	NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Parra	ABSTAIN:	None

2019 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Ms. King reviewed the strategic plan and highlighted information in several items shared in the 2019 Board Initiatives Update. This was an informational item only.

THIRD QUARTER FY 2018-19 PERFORMANCE REPORTS FOR MOTOR BUS AND DEMAND RESPONSE SERVICES

Mr. Rendes updated the Board on third quarter ridership for both GET-A-Lift and fixed route. GET-A-Lift total unlinked passenger trips year-to-date was 14,041, a 1.1% decrease from the previous year. Second quarter unlinked passenger trips on fixed routes was 1,500,695, a 3.3% decrease from the previous year. Mr. Rendes stated that on time performance for the quarter was 85% compared to 86% last year. This was an informational item only.

UNIFORM SERVICE

Director Baldwin moved and Director Engel seconded a motion to approve the award of a five-year contract in an amount not to exceed \$150,625 for uniform services with Ameripride services. The motion carried with three (3) ayes and one (1) absent (Parra).

FUNDING ORIENTATION

Mr. Barnes shared that the District was established as a California Special District as defined originally in the Public Utilities Code plus the California Code. This designation has allowed the District to be identified and qualify for State Transportation Development Act and Federal Transit Administration funding that is the foundation for the establishment and continuance of mass transit in the metropolitan Bakersfield area. Mr. Barnes gave a PowerPoint presentation on GET’s funding. This was an informational item only.

MARCH 2019 FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Mr. Barnes reviewed the March 2019 financial reports. This was an informational item only.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/BOARD COMMENTS

Director Bello commented that there is a lot of work that still needs to be done to increase GET's farebox ratio. He is looking forward to an update on RYDE. The opportunity to partner and cross market service with Airport Valet Express is exciting.

Director Engel commented that she is eager to see how the ridership of RYDE improves.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT/COMMENTS

Ms. King introduced Deidre Brown, GET's new Chief Operating Officer. Ms. King commented that the TDA Triennial Performance-based Audit has been completed with no findings. GET has not yet received the dates for the FTA Triennial Audit. Ms. King has been accepted into the APTA Study Mission the first week in June. The Health and Wellness Faire for employees will be held on May 16, 2019 beginning at 10 am and ending at 3:30 pm. Service and Safety awards will also be presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board moved into executive session at 7:31 p.m. to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel pending Litigation [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] – One Matter - Hill.

The Board returned to open session at 7:37 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Attorney Worth stated that no action was taken that would require disclosure under the Brown Act.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Bello moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary of the Board of Directors