

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

**April 17, 2020  
5:30 PM**

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

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Carlos Bello  
Ruben Pascual

Cindy Parra

Leasa Engel

**DIRECTOR ABSENT:**

Jim Baldwin

**ATTORNEY PRESENT:**

Jim Worth

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Karen King  
Candra Cheers  
Victor Honorato

Robert Williams  
Chris James  
Jeanie Hill

Steve Barnes  
Deidre Brown  
Amanda Villanueva

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Bob Snoddy

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

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Director Leasa Engel moved and Director Carlos Bello seconded to approve the consent agenda (Agenda, Minutes of April 17, 2020, Accounts Payable Check Disbursements, and Board of Directors' Standing Committee Assignments). (See Attachment A – Standing Committee Assignments.) The motion carried with three (4) ayes and two (1) absent (Baldwin). The motion carried unanimously.

**REVIEW AND CSUB: CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AWARD CONTRACT**

The Facilities and Equipment Committee recommends that the Board award a contract to DL Brown in the amount of \$784,249.00 for the CSUB Transit Bus Facility Project based on being the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

Director Leasa Engel moved and Director Carlos Bello seconded to approve the consent agenda (Agenda, Minutes of April 17, 2020, Accounts Payable Check Disbursements, and Board of

Directors' Standing Committee Assignments). (See Attachment A – Standing Committee Assignments.) The motion carried with three (4) ayes and two (1) absent (Baldwin). The motion carried unanimously.

### **ZERO EMISSION BUS FLEET TRANSITION PLAN DEVELOPMENT AWARD CONTRACT**

The Facilities and Equipment Committee recommends that the Board award a contract to The Leflore Group in the amount of \$195,500.00 The Zero Emission Bus Transitioning Plan, Based on being the highest qualified, lowest bidder. The total contract price will be funded using local TDA funds.

Director Leasa Engel moved and Director Carlos Bello seconded to approve the consent agenda (Agenda, Minutes of April 17, 2020, Accounts Payable Check Disbursements, and Board of Directors' Standing Committee Assignments). (See Attachment A – Standing Committee Assignments.) The motion carried with three (4) ayes and two (1) absent (Baldwin). The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: None**

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

Director Carlos Bello he has seen catchy billboards around Bakersfield. Director Bello expressed how Marketing and Staff in general were all very proactive in ramping up advertising and bringing a message of togetherness to the community during this time. Director Parra thanked Robert Williams for setting up and handling the teleconference, and doing a great job.

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

Mrs. King expressed to the Board Members that no financial report had been included in this month's agenda, wanting to provide a brief and simple agenda. However the financial report was prepared and could be emailed should the board members wish it to be. In regard to the CARES Act money possibly being utilized for a Downtown Circulator/Trolley, unfortunately the funds being received are apportioned to Bakersfield would not cover future service expansion, the funds are allocated to cover for any loss in revenue. At this time we have seen a 70% decline in ridership trending downward. Service has been adjusted to seven days a week on our Saturday schedule. Bus operators are issued towels, and disinfectant to properly clean their buses at the end of the day those towels are placed into a receptacle to be laundered. Operators have the option to wear masks. The District has been closely been following CDC protocols and when it was advised to wear masks, the District ordered them. They are held up in customs in Long Beach, CA they are washable masks, once they arrive we will issue out three to each. We have asked operators to keep the flip up seats in the upright position, interior cards have been placed in buses to help implement social distancing, and shadow buses have been staged to pick up any extra passengers. Extra seating has been removed from the employee breakroom, employees have been asked to wait in their vehicles until ten minutes prior to signing in for their shift. Starting this Friday employees will be scanned with a non-contact digital forehead thermometer; employees having a temperature of 100.4 will be sent home and asked to see their Primary Care Physician. Staff has posted COVID-19 updates to bring clarity to employees. Videos, and

signage promoting social distancing are posted throughout the company. Random acts of Kindness are also being done in appreciation of the employees, on April 10, 2020 with the employee's checks they were also given a care package which included: toilet paper, water, and snacks. April 16, 2020 was a nationwide event Honk the Horn for all Bus drivers because they are front line workers too. The District is trying its very best to stay on top of it as everything changes. Drivers that feel ill while on duty bring their own bus back to the yard and the relief operator takes out another clean vehicle while the one brought back gets disinfected. At this point we are fortunate to not of had any occurrences.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Director Parra moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Secretary of the Board of Directors