

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

September 15, 2020
5:30 PM

1830 GOLDEN STATE AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93301

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Carlos Bello
Rueben Pascual

Leasa Engel
Jim Baldwin

Cindy Parra

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

None

ATTORNEY PRESENT:

Jim Worth

STAFF PRESENT:

Karen King
Steve Barnes
Jill Smith
Ricardo Perez

Deidre Brown
Candra Cheers
Robert Williams
Amanda Villanueva

Jeanie Hill
Chris James
Victor Honorato

OTHERS PRESENT:

Bob Snoddy

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: None.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Director Engel moved and Director Pascual seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda (Agenda, Minutes of August 18, 2020, Accounts Payable Check Disbursements, State of Good Repair Authorization Resolution- Door Access Control and Reupholster bus seat Project. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Bello, Engel, Parra, Pascual, and Baldwin
ABSENT: None

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

Short Range Transit Plan

Planner Ricardo Perez gave a clear and concise presentation relevant to the SRTP. Showing a five (5) year plan initiating a Downtown shuttle and BRT line service. The Operations and Service Development Committee met on September 8, 2020 and reviewed the Agency Short Range Transit Plan.

Director Pascual moved and Director Engel seconded a motion to adopt a resolution approving the Short Range Transit Plan. COG. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

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

4th Quarter and FY 2019-20 Year-End Performance Metrics

Mr. Perez gave a detailed presentation on the performance metrics of Golden Empire Transit's system. Which included Ryde, fixed route, and paratransit services from 2019-20. Director Bello stated the presentation was very informative and helpful especially breaking down the numbers. Director Parra stated Mr. Perez did a good job. Director Pascual appreciated the information. Director Engel inquired as to what would occur if routes were to be removed? Mrs. King's response to this question was seventy-five (75%) percent of Golden Empire Transit's resources should go to high performing routes and twenty (25%) percent go to lower performing routes. Policy routes are a third (3rd) option; routes that are needed for social and political reasons.

August 2020 Financial Position and Results of Operations

Mr. Barnes gave a presentation on the financial standing of Golden Empire Transit. The CARES funding would potentially last for another seven (7) months of this fiscal year. Director Parra stated the slides are better. Not having enough vehicles is a good problem to have. Director Bello looks forward to more updates, the future of GET looks promising. Mr. Barnes did state Clinica Sierra Vista has inquired about potential trips. Director Engel asked when the medical would expand. Mr. Barnes replied we needed more vehicles and drivers.

APTA Seal of Commitment

Mrs. King gave a presentation and spoke on the National Transit Public Campaign; to resolve the image for transit being a safe way to travel. There are marketing material with decals to market, riding public transit is not a hazard to your health.

Director Bello, inquired if anyone has contracted COVID-19 at GET from work or a customer. Mrs. King replied that in contact tracing no one has been found to have contracted it from a work. Director Pascual stated this is a good step to getting customers back. Director Baldwin, GET should also incorporate their part into the signage. Director Engel creating top of mind awareness is good.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/BOARD COMMENTS

Director Bello wants to thank Golden Empire Transit staff regarding Free Ride Days and the Promotion of them.

Director Baldwin Appreciated the quality of the presentations, he also cautioned as to any changes for service in the future.

Director Pascual also noted the appreciation for the presentations and quality.

Director Engel expressed how Marketing is coming along nicely.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT/COMMENTS:

Mrs. King expressed how the Zero Emission Bus Plan Had been approved by CARB. A plan which will be revisited in approximately one year to date. On Sunday September 15, 2020 Bob Price gave a favorable report about public transit in the newspaper. Effective next week Ricardo Perez is being promoted to Emery Rendes' old position as Transit Planner. September 9, 2020 Governor Newsom signed a bill that provided eighty (80) hours to employers impacted by COVID-19. As of September 1, 2020 we have re-implemented the absenteeism policy in an effort to raise the attendance rate and increase driver presence at work. The city has also reconstituted its bus stop committee beginning Wednesday September 16, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Parra moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary of the Board of Directors