

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

**JULY 20, 2021  
5:30 PM**

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

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Carlos Bello  
Rueben Pascual

Erika Dixon

Cindy Parra

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Leasa Engel

**ATTORNEY PRESENT:**

Jim Worth

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Karen King  
Chris James  
Victor Honorato

Deidre Brown  
Janet Sanders  
Ricardo Perez

Steve Barnes  
Robert Williams  
Sharon Pierce

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Keith Nettleson

Temecia Ricks

Suzanne Campbell

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Director Pascual moved and Director Dixon seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda (Agenda, Minutes of June 15, 2021, Accounts Payable Check Disbursements, 2021 Strategic Plan Update, and Community Transit Advisory Group). The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Bello, Dixon, Parra, Pascual

ABSENT: Engel

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Ms. Temecia Ricks stated that customer service was rude to her when she contacted them asking about night service. She would also like to see at least some night service on the weekends.

Mr. Keith Nettleton commented that the customer service telephone lines need to be shut off when service shuts down for the day as the loop on the recorded line leads the caller to believe that service is still running. He also shared that the current night service end time leaves some customers stranded and that he suggests that transit supervisors drive the routes to make sure that customers are safe and not stranded.

#### **FOURTH QUARTER FY 2020-21 PERFORMANCE REPORTS FOR MOTOR BUS AND DEMAND RESPONSE SERVICES**

Mr. Perez shared performance data for the fourth quarter for fixed route, On Demand (paratransit, NEMT, and microtransit) services. This was an informational item only.

#### **JUNE 2021 FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Mr. Barnes reviewed the June 2021 financial reports. This was an informational item only.

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

Director Dixon shared that she may have a contact with Clinica Sierra Vista for NEMT service for their new Clinica Sierra Vista building.

Director Pascual was interested in the recalculation for farebox ratios.

Director Bello asked about the COVID vaccine rate for staff and the possibility of offering vaccines onsite. He would also like an update in the future on bus operator and Maintenance Department staff hiring.

Director Parra asked if there are different types of shade structures – off-the-shelf or custom-designed – for the eight bus stops which have challenges for standard bus shelters.

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

Ms. King shared that the state has passed the budget bill; however, there are still trailer bills to be passed. Funding for the CHSR is among those trailer bills. Hiring for openings within GET’s organization is very challenging for all departments, but particularly challenging for coach operators and maintenance staff mainly due to late hours and/or work on weekends. Staff is to be commended for making daily pullout as some days it is almost impossible. AB149 addresses TDA farebox ratio with some relief which will allow an opportunity to look at service options that would never have been considered under the previous TDA farebox ratio rules.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board moved into executive session at 6:39 p.m. to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel– [Government Code Section 54956.8] Portion of APN 173-200-09 - District Negotiator: Karen King - Negotiating with: John Ritchie, ASU & Associates 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 7:06 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 Parra moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Secretary of the Board of Directors