

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

**November 16, 2021
5:30 PM**

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Carlos Bello
Rueben Pascual

Leasa Engel

Cindy Parra

DIRECTOR ABSENT:

Erika Dixon

ATTORNEY PRESENT:

Jim Worth

STAFF PRESENT:

Karen King
Janet Sanders
Victor Honorato
Sharon Pierce

Steve Barnes
Ricardo Perez
Nicholas Hubbert

Chris James
Robert Williams
Michael Flowers

OTHERS PRESENT:

Melissa Cabezzas

Suzanne Campbell

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

Roll Call was taken and Directors Bello, Engel, Parra, and Pascual were present for the Board meeting. Director Dixon was absent.

AUDITOR'S REPORT: JUNE 30, 2021 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Director Parra introduced Ms. Melissa Cabezzas from Brown, Armstrong Associates LLC. Ms. King praised the Finance staff and commented that Ms. Ash has the highest professional standards in her work ethic and that despite all of the circumstances surrounding this year, the FY 2019-20 CAFR will be completed shortly.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Attorney Worth stated that one (1) item arose after the posting of agenda which needed immediate attention and that pursuant to California Government Code Section 54954.2(b)(2) the Board could

place the item on the consent agenda with a 2/3 vote of the Board. The matter that needs to be added and placed on the agenda: Compliance with AB 361. Director Engel moved and Director Bello seconded a motion to add Compliance with AB 361 to the consent agenda. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Bello, Engel, Parra, and Pascual
ABSENT: Dixon

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Director Pascual moved and Director Bello seconded to adopt the consent agenda (Agenda, Accounts Payable Check and ACH Disbursements, Board Meeting Dates for Year 2022, Amended Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program for FY 2022-2024; Chief Executive Officer Authorization Resolution No. 2021-11, and Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Golden Empire Transit District Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for the Period of November 16, 2021 Through December 17, 2021 Pursuant to AB 361). The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Bello, Engel, Para and Pascual
ABSENT: Dixon

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

OCTOBER 2021 FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Mr. Barnes discussed with the Board the October 2021 financial statements and other matters regarding District finances. This was an informational item only.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/BOARD COMMENTS

Director Bello congratulated staff on the marketing award at the CTA Conference for innovation. He commented that the Downtown Business Symposium will be held tomorrow where various businesses and nonprofits will share their visions for the future of the downtown core. He asked if staff could give an update on the possibility of a Downtown circular. He also asked about the small bus shelters for narrow sidewalks within the city. He congratulated Ms. King on her election as Chair of the CTA for 2022. He suggested the GET look into developing a pipeline for GET's workforce to improve communication. He shared that he had used On-Demand to return home from the train station and commented that it was very tight to hold his luggage.

Director Engel congratulated Mr. James, Director of Maintenance on the completion of so many projects on GET's 2021 Board Initiatives Update.

Director Parra suggested that Kern COG is looking for applications for their awards. Director Parra suggested that On-Demand be suggested for an award. She also asked about the possibility of considering a downtown circular. She recognized the challenge that GET has right now in getting drivers, but asked that consideration be given to dedicating two On-Demand vehicles to

Old Kern and Downtown with an appropriate us wrap when we have more staff. She stated that Blue Zone would like to give a presentation at the December 7, 2021 Board meeting. The Blue Zone is sponsored by Adventist Health. The purpose is to build a healthier community.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT/COMMENTS

Mrs. King reminded everyone of the December 7, 2021 Board meeting. She asked the Board to hold February 15th for a strategic planning workshop at 11:30 am, followed by a regular Board meeting at 5:30. These meetings would be held office site. GET partially sponsors a softball team through the City Parks and Recreation Department. They will be playing for first place at 8:15 pm at Mesa Marin this evening. Our staff are people of many talents! Happy Thanksgiving!

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board moved into executive session at 6:28 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 returned to open session at 6:36 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Attorney Worth stated that the Board met with legal counsel and staff on the item referenced in the executive session on the agenda. No action was taken that would require disclosure under the Brown Act.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Parra moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary of the Board of Directors