

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

**JULY 19, 2022  
4:30 PM**

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

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Carlos Bello

Leasa Engel

Cindy Parra

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Erika Dixon

**ATTORNEY PRESENT:**

Jim Worth

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Karen King  
Steve Barnes  
Janet Sanders  
Dustin Molieri  
Crystal Jenkins

Melissa Ash  
Toddash Kim  
Ricardo Perez  
Sharon Pierce

Michele Warren  
Deidre Brown  
Alexis Lyster  
Melanie Silva

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Temecia Ricks  
Sharon Anderson

Susanne Campbell  
Kathy Chambers

Tracey Mench  
Jim Moore

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

Roll was taken and Director Dixon is absent.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Director Engel moved and Director Bello seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda. (Agenda, Minutes of June 21, 2022, Accounts Payable Check and ACH Disbursements, AB361 Remote Meeting Resolution). Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan. 2022 Strategic Plan Update:

AYES: Bello, Engel, and Parra  
ABSENT: Dixon

NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Ms. Sharon Anderson would like to request that on-demand services go out towards Union, Chester and the fair grounds. She currently has to call a cab to get within the perimeter to utilize the services. She also asked if there was a way to get picked up same-day with ride bus and that she deserves to be picked up at home. Lastly, Ms. Anderson mentioned that the drivers should be trained on helping the public exit the bus first before others get on the bus.

Karen King announced Sharon Pierce's retirement

## **FARE RATIONALIZATION STUDY PRESENTATION (MOORE & ASSOCIATES)**

Jim Moore and Kathy Chambers have been working with Karen King, Janet Sanders and Ricardo Perez for a few months regarding the Fare Rationalization.

Jim gave a brief presentation regarding the average family salary, various service fares and the amount of time since Golden Empire Transit District has adjusted their fares.

They further discussed the financials and statistics and what their recommendations would be.

Director Bello mentioned that there was a brief discussion during the Operations and Service committee meeting and wishes to take some time to discuss it further.

Chairperson Parra would like Jim and Kathy to come back with a formal fare proposal

Karen King stated that they'll review all options and come back with a specific proposal.

Director Engel moved and Director Bello seconded a motion to accept the consultation report and to direct staff to work with the consultant to finalize recommendations and fare proposal.. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Bello, Engel, and Parra  
ABSENT: Dixon

NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None

## **BOARD POLICY NO. 18: DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT**

Ms. Michele Warren presented the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion statement and asked the Board to adopt the policy.

Chairperson Parra stated she is glad APTA has provided information to help us develop this policy. Director Bello moved and Director Engel seconded a motion to accept that staff can move forward with action items. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Bello, Engel, and Parra  
ABSENT: Dixon

NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None

## **FY 2021-22 FOURTH QUARTER AND YEAR-END PERFORMANCE REPORTS FOR MOTOR BUS AND DEMAND RESPONSE SERVICES**

Mr. Perez discussed with the Board the fourth quarter and year-end June 2022 performance reports. This was an informational item only.

## **JUNE 2022 FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The board received the Financial Reports for June 2022. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Bello, Engel, and Parra  
ABSENT: Dixon

NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None

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

Chairperson Parra inquired about arranging shuttles for the conference in October from Downtown to Old Town Kern. Mrs. King stated that we will wait for the city sponsor to reach out to marketing before we make arrangements.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board moved into executive session at 6:04 p.m. to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel– [Government Code Section 54956.9(D)(4)] and Conference with Legal Counsel [Government Code Sections 54957(b)(1) and 54957.6] Discuss Performance Evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer. The Board returned to open session at 6:51 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.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE SESSION COMPENSATION**

The Board discussed the goals and accomplishments of the CEO during the 2021-2022 year in considering a potential salary adjustment. All Board members noted the exceptional work of the CEO during this past year. The CEO's ability to keep operations functioning while ensuring the safety of the public was and is of great benefit to the District. The Board feels it is in the best interest of the District to maintain continuity in these uncertain times. Director Engel moved and Director Bello seconded that the District and CEO enter into a new one-year Employment

Contract, effective July 1, 2022 with the CEO's new salary to reflect a cost-of-living salary adjustment, retroactive to July 1, 2022, as specified in the CEO's Employment Contract, a one-time "incentive" payment in the amount of \$5,000 to maintain continuity moving forward and the ability to sell back to the District, any unused sick leave. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Parra, Bello and Engel

NOES: None

ABSENT: Dixon

None

ABSTAIN:

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairperson Parra moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Secretary of the Board of Directors