

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

**OCTOBER 18, 2022  
4:30 PM**

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

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Carlos Bello  
Erika Dixon

Leasa Engel

Cindy Parra

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

**ATTORNEY PRESENT:**

Jim Worth

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Karen King  
Steve Barnes  
Janet Sanders  
Chris James

Melissa Ash  
Toddash Kim  
Ricardo Perez

Michele Warren  
Robert Williams  
Victor Honorato

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Susanne Campbell

Irene Gonzalez

Alexa Kolosky

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

Roll was taken and all directors are present.

**REVISED AGENDA**

Director Engel moved and Director Dixon seconded a motion to add a closed session item – 54956.9D4 to the agenda.

AYES: Bello, Dixon, Engel, and Parra  
ABSENT: None

NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Director Dixon moved and Director Bello seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda. (Agenda, Minutes of September 20, 2022, Accounts Payable Check and ACH Disbursements, AB361 Remote Meeting Resolution). Board Initiatives Update, Technical Writer Approval, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District:

AYES: Bello, Dixon, Engel, and Parra  
ABSENT: None

NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None

## **KERN TRANSIT PRESENTATION – (KING)**

Ms. King introduces Alexa Kolosky from Kern Transit. Ms. Kolosky gives a presentation about the potential of collaboration with routes between Kern Transit and Golden Empire Transit District.

Ms. Kolosky also mentions that Kern Transit is doing free rides for BC students until December of 2022. This is on a grant.

Chairperson Parra asked Ms. Kolosky if they plan on adding any routes, however, they are also experiencing driver and supply shortages. She also mentions that their Electric Bus is currently not in operation due to electrical issues.

## **FY 2022-23 FIRST QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORTS FOR MOTOR BUS AND DEMAND RESPONSE SERVICES – (PEREZ)**

Mr. Ricardo Perez gives the first quarter Performance Reports.

Director Dixon inquires if there are solutions to improve ridership and Ms. King responds that with the IBI report, there are plenty of solutions to help improve ridership, however, given the driver and supply shortages, they aren't able to be implemented at this time. There has been heavy recruitment the past couple of months at GET but still short in the maintenance department.

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

The board received the Financial Reports for September 2022.

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

Director Dixon reflects on her APTA TRANSform Conference experience recently and notifies the public and Board members that the issues we are seeing at GET is nationwide. This gives transit districts hope as it opens up conversations to begin creating solutions for the ongoing problems post COVID.

Director Dixon also recommends that GET sends someone to ARC services and give an informative presentation regarding on-demand services. Also says that this is something that should be happening with any organization that can benefit from our on-demand services.

Chairperson Parra thanks everyone for their hard work during ridership week and would also like to have some promotion on clean air week as well as keeping in mind potential partnerships with the housing projects around Kern County. She thanks the staff for their hard work during the Kern County Fair. Chairperson Parra also recommends that GET goes out to senior living facilities and offer information on the on-demand services.

Director Engel recommends that we publicize the ability that the public can take GET and Kern Transit throughout Kern County and go up to Los Angeles, CA.

Director Dixon offers her condolences on the loss of GET Pamela Chambers.

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

Ms. Karen King shares some information regarding the fare changes and the public hearing on the November 1, 2022 meeting.

Ms. King also brings up the Economic Summit that Bakersfield will be hosting. GET will be offering shuttle services from the Padre hotel to the convention center first thing in the morning.

The current update regarding the high speed rail authority is that they are going to continue to move forward with the acquisition of GET Bus property.

November 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am will be the ribbon cutting ceremony for the hydrogen station.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Singh discussed his issue with the on-demand service not being in his area and having to walk a quarter of a mile to be picked up and dropped off.

Ricardo Perez has been communicating and helping resolve Mr. Singh's issues.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Attorney Worth stated that the Board met with legal counsel and staff on the items referenced in the executive session on the agenda. No action was taken that would require disclosure under the Brown Act. Executive session closed at 6:18 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairperson Parra moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Secretary of the Board of Directors