

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

**OCTOBER 17, 2023
4:30 PM**

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Carlos Bello
Charles Van De Voorde

Leasa Engel
Kay Henry

Cindy Parra

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

ATTORNEY PRESENT:

Jim Worth

STAFF PRESENT:

Toddash Kim
Steve Barnes
Ricardo Perez
Deidre Brown

Victor Honorato
Janet Sanders
Yolanda Hamen
DeAnna Sanderson

Chris James
Robert Williams
Karen King

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sarah Ricks
Adrian Hernandez

Bob Snoddy
Phillips Rudnick

Steven Kemp

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Roll was taken and Directors Bello, Engel, Henry, Parra, and Van De Voorde were present.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Director Bello seconded a motion by Director Engel to approve the consent agenda items A-F and item H. (Agenda, Minutes of September 19, 2023, Accounts Payable Check and ACH Disbursements, Board Committee Minutes of October 5, 2023, 2023 Board Goals Update, 2023 Equal Employment Opportunity Plan Update, Wash Bay Hoist Procurement/Replacement). FY 2023-24 1st Quarter Ridership and Performance Metrics, September 2023 Financial Position and Results of Operations, California SB 125 TIRCP and ZETCP Program Funding, Hydrogen Fueling and EV Charging System Procurement, and Hydrogen Fueling Technology Presentation. Director

Engel requested that item 1G - Solar Powered Bus Stop Sign Procurement be considered separately. The motion carried with the following voice vote:

AYES: Bello, Engel, Parra, Henry, and Van De Voorde
ABSENT: None

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

After a presentation from Mr. Honorato, Director Van De Voorde moved and Director Engel seconded a motion to award a contract to SELS USA LLC in the amount of \$337,994.62 for the purchase and installation of solar powered bus stop lighting. The motion carried on the following voice vote:

AYES: Bello, Engel, Parra, and Van De Voorde
ABSENT: Henry

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Sarah Ricks was heard concerning paratransit evening service.

Ms. Yolanda Hamen was heard concerning work schedules for ExtraBoard and On-Demand drivers.

Mr. Adrian Hernandez was heard concerning evening service hours for paratransit.

FY 2023-24 1st QUARTER RIDERSHIP AND YEAR-END PERFORMANCE REPORTS – (PEREZ)

Mr. Perez discussed with the Board the performance reports for the Fixed route and On-Demand services. This was an informational item only.

SEPTEMBER 2023 FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS – (BARNES)

Mr. Barnes discussed with the Board the September 2023 financial statements and other matters regarding District finances. This was an informational item only.

CALIFORNIA SB 125 TIRCP AND ZETCP PROGRAM FUNDING - (BARNES)

Mr. Barnes discussed the passing of the SB 125 funding bill benefits and impact upon the District's budget.

Director Engel moved and Director Bello seconded a motion to authorize staff to submit planning to Kern COG for TIRCP funds to be applied to operations. The motion carried on the following voice vote:

AYES: Bello, Engel, Parra, and Van De Voorde
ABSENT: Henry

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

HYDROGEN FUELING AND EV CHARGING SYSTEM PROCUREMENT – (JAMES)

Mr. James discussed with the Board the need for additional fueling resources and presented information on the proposed system.

Director Van De Voorde moved and Director Engel seconded a motion to award a contract to Kaizen Clean Energy in the amount of \$6,293,200.00 for the purchase and delivery of a hydrogen fueling and electric vehicle charging system. The motion carried on the following voice vote:

AYES: Bello, Engel, Parra, Henry, and Van De Voorde
ABSENT: None

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

HYDROGEN FUELING TECHNOLOGY PRESENTATION – (JAMES)

This presentation will be moved to the November Board Meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/BOARD COMMENTS

Director Van De Voorde inquired into the status of the X-92 route. Ms. King advised that staff is still working on obtaining information as directed by the Board at the September meeting.

Director Parra asked staff about bus wraps for the holidays. The Director also reported on information and education gained at the APTA conference attended earlier in the month.

Director Engel also reported on information and education gained from the APTA conference.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT/COMMENTS

Ms. King presented a video covering recent events. The video highlighted the GET booth at the Kern County Fair and the Annual Employee Picnic, participation in Kern Ridershare Week, new student passes for the free ride program, night service, an upcoming DEI employee engagement survey, a Haunted Halloween bus, the strategic planning workshop, and Board meetings for the remainder of the year.

Ms. King further discussed the California High Speed Rail Authority project updates and station area plan that was in design.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Parra moved that the meeting be closed. The meeting concluded at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary of the Board of Directors