

County Connection

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CCCTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

September 19, 2019

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/CONFIRM QUORUM

Chair Candace Andersen called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9:25 a.m. Board Members present were Directors Haydon, Hoffmeister, Hudson, Schroder and Tatzin. Directors Dessayer, Noack, Storer, Wilk and Worth were absent.

Staff: Ramacier, Chun, Allison, Cheung, Churchill, Glenn, Gray, Hedgpeth, Hill, Horta, Huerta, Kamara, Martinez, McCarthy, Reebbs and Rettig,

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER:

Recognition of Employees of the 2nd Quarter, 2019

Administration: Christine Kisiluk

Maintenance: Juan Huerta

Transportation: Juan Lopez and Octavio Diaz

Public Comment: None

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: Director Hudson moved approval of the Consent Calendar, consisting of the following items: (a) Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 15, 2019; (b) CCCTA Investment Policy-Quarterly Reporting Requirement; (c) Resolution No. 2020-06, Increasing Cafeteria Amounts for Non-Represented Employees; (d) Resolution No. 2020-08, Approving Citizens' Advisory Committee Bylaws Amendment. Director Tatzin seconded the motion and it received the following vote of approval:

Aye: Directors Andersen, Haydon, Hoffmeister, Hudson, Schroder and Tatzin

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Directors Dessayer, Noack, Storer, Wilk and Worth

REPORT OF CHAIR:

Seating of CCCTA Officers

Chair: Candace Andersen

Vice Chair: Keith Haydon

Secretary: Dave Hudson

2019-2020 Committee Assignments

Administration & Finance Committee

Al Dessayer
Sue Noack
Don Tatzin

Marketing, Planning & Legislation Committee

Keith Haydon
Laura Hoffmeister
Rob Schroder
Amy Worth

Operating & Scheduling Committee

Dave Hudson
Robert Storer
Kevin Wilk

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER:

Final Draft CCTA Transportation Expenditure Plan

General Manager Rick Ramacier explained that CCTA has released a proposed transportation expenditure plan (TEP) to be funded by a new sales tax within Contra Costa County. At this time, it is the intent of CCTA to place a measure on the ballot in Contra Costa County for March 2020. This TEP is now in the process of being placed on the agendas of various city councils in Contra Costa County for their consideration. This TEP is heavily invested in improving and promulgating a public transportation system in the county that is customer centric, modern, and aimed at getting people to drive alone less. This was an informational item only, and the General Manager will report back when new information is available.

Status report on FASTER Bay Area Effort

General Manager Rick Ramacier informed the Board that there is a group led by the Bay Area Council, SPUR, the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, Facebook and Genentech, that is considering sponsoring a November 2020 ballot measure to raise \$100B for major public transportation projects that will benefit transit. The measure will cross nine counties and different transit agencies, and some potential projects include a second BART tube, a second Bay Bridge and rail on the Dumbarton Bridge. He will keep the Board informed on this project.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Administration & Finance Committee

Retrofit Batteries and Battery Management System-1600 Series Buses and Resolution No. 2020-07

Director Tatzin explained that in 2016, County Connection purchased four (4) prototype electric buses from Gillig using a 2012 Clean Air Grant for use on the Route 4 in Walnut Creek. The 2016 buses were built by Gillig using XALT batteries with a 4C battery management system and BAE drivetrain. County Connection has experienced an unacceptable level of battery system problems, which has resulted in limited availability of the buses and a high rate of service interruptions and accelerated battery degradation. XALT has stopped using 4C for their battery management system, making it difficult to support. County Connection has been working with Gillig to resolve these issues. Gillig has recommended, and County Connection staff agrees, the best way to resolve these issues is to retrofit the 1600 batteries and management system to match the 1800 series buses that have improved range and reliability and use a different battery management system and battery pack. The cost to retrofit four (4) buses with new batteries and

management system with a three (3) year warranty is \$594,126. Gillig is willing to take on \$364,126 of the cost. The remaining \$230,000 will be paid for by County Connection using a LCTOP Grant that is programmed to support the electric vehicles.

MOTION: Director Tatzin moved adoption of Resolution No. 2020-07 authorizing the General Manager to enter into an agreement with the Gillig Corporation to retrofit four (4) electric buses with new battery pack and battery management system, with the cost to County Connection not to exceed \$230,000. Director Hudson seconded the motion and it received the following vote of approval:

Aye: Directors Andersen, Haydon, Hoffmeister, Hudson, Schroder and Tatzin

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Directors Dessayer, Noack, Storer, Wilk and Worth

Operating & Scheduling Committee

Fiscal Year 2019 Fixed Route Performance Report

Ruby Horta explained that while the March 2019 service restructure reduced overall hours and operators needed for full service, it was implemented late in the fiscal year, so most of the year had higher service levels. Other service changes in FY19 included the launch of BART Early Bird Express (EBX) 712 (a long route to Downtown Oakland) and 715 in February 2019, the addition of two Route 21 trips in Winter 2018, and the launch of Route 99X and extra Route 316 trips started in Fall 2018, all of which increased revenue hours. Staff expects service hours to continue to drop with a full Fiscal Year 2020 of the new service restructure, as well as some additional savings as part of the efficiencies gained from the planned Bishop Ranch service changes in Winter 2019. These changes as well as the new LCTOP funded free fares on Routes 11, 14 and 16 should level off the downward ridership trend, with the potential possibility for ridership growth in FY2020

FY2019 fare trends reflect an ongoing shift to Clipper from all other fare media. At the end of FY2018, 72% of all fares on paid routes used Clipper. County Connection has also seen significant adoption of Clipper by Seniors and the Disabled population, which would account for much of the 17% drop in paper fares.

Fiscal Year 2019 Paratransit Performance Report

Rashida Kamara, Manager of Accessible Services, gave the Board a brief summary on paratransit service performance, to supplement the staff report.

In December 2018 the board approved the release an RFP for Paratransit services. Interviews were held in March 2019 where six transit companies submitted proposals. Those companies included Transdev, First Transit, A-Paratransit, Ascendal, Ride-Ride and National Express. The new RFP specifically asked for innovative solutions to common transit issues, user friendly technologies and transportation partnerships. Staff collaborated with Contra Costa Transit Authority (CCTA) and Contra Costa County providing panel members to evaluate the bids. The panel reached a unanimous decision to recommend Transdev as the new contractor. The Board approved that recommendation and Transdev's contract commenced July 2019.

Choice in Aging Demonstration Project Update

Rashida Kamara, Manager of Accessible Services, explained that in response to a growing number of complaints from Mount Diablo Rehab regarding service failures, the County Connection Board approved a pilot project with Choice in Aging to provide enhanced ADA trips for 12 participants or 24 round trips a day for specific participants using a Transportation Network Company (TNC) called SilverRide. The CCCTA/Choice in Aging/SilverRide pilot is a six month demonstration program to determine cost-effectiveness, rider experience, on-time statistics, and no-show/cancellations for approximately twelve Choice in Aging participants who were previously using County

Connection LINK paratransit services. Participants selected for this program were individuals in the Memory Care Program that had difficulty in coping with long paratransit rides, variability in departure and arrival times as well as different operators. Participants with Alzheimer's disease have difficulty dealing with the variability a typical paratransit service provides.

The Pilot program commenced on June 10th and the Manager of Accessible services for County Connection was on site for the return rides. Immediately we recognized, smaller vehicles like a Honda SUV and Ford Fusion, which provided a much less intimidating ride. Drivers were pleasant. Each vehicle took three passengers and promptly returned within 45 minutes to take a second set of three passengers. Boarding for these passengers was simple, rider times shorter, and turnaround for a second set of passengers less than 45 minutes, thus increasing productivity. We've received quite a few letters of support and positive feedback.

Report from the Advisory Committee

Appointment of Rich Eber to Advisory Committee Representing City of Concord

MOTION: Director Hoffmeister moved that Rich Eber be appointed to the Advisory Committee representing the City of Concord. Director Haydon seconded the motion and it received the following vote of approval:

- Aye: Directors Andersen, Haydon, Hoffmeister, Hudson, Schroder and Tatzin
- No: None
- Abstain: None
- Absent: Directors Dessayer, Noack, Storer, Wilk and Worth

BOARD COMMUNICATION: None

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Andersen adjourned the regular Board meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Minutes prepared by

Lathina Hill
Assistant to the General Manager

Date