

County Connection

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CCCTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

November 17, 2022

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/CONFIRM QUORUM

Chair Amy Worth called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9:00 a.m. Board Members present were Directors Andersen, Haydon, Hudson, McCluer, Noack, Schroder, Storer, Tatzin and Wilk. Director Hoffmeister arrived after the meeting was convened.

Staff: Churchill, Sherman, Dixit, Duran, Glenn, Hill, Horta, Johnson, Kamara, McCarthy, Mitchell, Reeb and Rettig

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: Director Noack moved approval of the Consent Calendar, consisting of the following items: (a) Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 20, 2022; (b) Resolution No. 2023-016, Declaring that the Proclaimed State of Emergency for the COVID-19 Pandemic Continues to Impact the Ability for the Board and its Committees to Meet Safely in Person, and Directing that Virtual Board and Committee Meetings Continue, (c) Accept Revised OPEB Actuarial Valuation and GASB 75 Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022, (d) Resolution No. 2023-017, Authorizing Cap and Trade Grant (LCTOP) Funds Transfer, (e) Pass2Class Update, (f) On-Call Planning Services Update, (g) Go San Ramon Update. Director Andersen seconded the motion, and it received the following vote of approval:

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

REPORT OF CHAIR: None

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER:

CCCTA Thanksgiving Feast on November 17, 2022

General Manager Bill Churchill informed the Board that County Connection will be bringing back our annual Thanksgiving feast for employees and the Board members as well.

CCCTA Holiday Party on December 17, 2022

General Manager Bill Churchill informed the Board that County Connection will host a Christmas party for employees, Board members and guests. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact staff.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Operations & Scheduling Committee

Weekend Monument Free Update

Director Storer introduced the item and turned it over to Pranjal Dixit, Manager of Planning. Mr. Dixit gave a brief background stating that in July 2019, County Connection started offering free rides on three of its weekday bus routes – Routes 11, 14, and 16. All three routes serve the Monument Corridor in Concord and connect from Concord BART to various destinations in Martinez, Pleasant Hill, and Walnut Creek, including BART stations, Martinez Amtrak and Contra Costa Regional Medical Center. The project is being funded by a grant through California’s Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP), which distributes cap-and-trade proceeds to support programs and projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and serve disadvantaged communities (DACs).

At the March 2022 Board meeting, the Board approved an expansion of the project to include the three weekend routes on the Monument Corridor – Routes 311, 314 and 316. This was a result of increased available funding for FY 2021-22, as well as rollover funding from previous years that wasn’t spent due to reduced ridership as a result of COVID-19.

The expansion of free rides to weekend Routes 311, 314 and 316 had an instant impact on ridership with all three routes performing better than the previous fiscal year. The weekend Monument Corridor routes grew by 32% compared to the previous fiscal year average, while the other weekend routes grew by only 19%. Route 314 grew by 30% compared previous fiscal year average and was 8% higher than its pre-COVID levels. Route 311 grew by 29% and Route 316 grew by 38% compared to previous fiscal year.

The expansion of free rides has accelerated ridership recovery as of September 2022, the weekend Monument Corridor routes are only 7% below pre-pandemic levels compared to other weekend routes that are 28% below pre-pandemic levels. A Title VI equity analysis will be conducted along with a subsequent public hearing at the December Board meeting on the proposed continuation of the Monument Free Program for the weekend routes. This was an information only item.

Taking Actions to Preserve CCCTA’s Access to Certain Funds and Resolution No. 2023-018

Director Hoffmeister arrived at 9:22 a.m.

General Manager, Bill Churchill explained that in October of 2019, the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) received a Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant, to engage in a regional transportation study, specifically focusing on the gaps in services associated with seniors, persons with disabilities and disadvantaged persons. To conduct this study and offer recommendations, CCTA engaged Nelson Nygaard consulting firm, which convened two committees, one a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that was familiar with the transportation needs of the area as well as a Policy Advisory Committee (PAC). The TAC comprised of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) managers, volunteer service organizers specializing in transportation for seniors, transit riders and various senior advocacy groups. The PAC was mainly comprised of Transportation Agency General Managers, Executives of Social Service Agencies, and City Council members. Although significant progress was made, due to grant constraints, the Accessible Transportation Strategic (ATS) Plan was required to be completed by February 28, 2021, ending the study before all solutions could be contemplated.

County Connection staff supports the concept of developing a Coordinated Entity (CE) that could provide a single source of information for individuals seeking accessible transportation in Contra Costa, across all existing modes of transportation as well as new programs, as they are developed. Potential customers could call a single number and then be routed to the program that best fits their needs whether it be a public paratransit provider or a non-profit service such as the Lamorinda Spirit or something else not yet conceived of.

On October 13th, CCTA provided Contra Costa's three transit operators, County Connection, TriDelta and WestCat, with a copy of a proposed framework for a CE. CCTA staff invited the operators to a meeting on October 19th to provide feedback and comments regarding the framework before taking it to their respective Board for approval in December. At the meeting, operators were informed that CCTA has been working on being designated a Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) making the CCTA eligible for Transportation Development Act (TDA) 4.5, State Transit Assistance (STA) Revenue and Measure J funds. The three operators were unanimous in expressing their concern that such a designation could have profound negative impacts to existing revenue streams, severely compromising the paratransit services that exist today. Additionally, the lack of clearly defined roles and responsibilities for the CE creates the potential that the CE might take over transportation functions currently provided existing operators. It was suggested that the ATS Guiding Principles would prevent the CE from performing the transportation functions of the existing operators but, in their current form they do not prevent this potential outcome.

A CTSA designation for CCTA may jeopardize the existing TDA 4.5, STA Revenue and Measure J funds used to operate the County Connection LINK service (and other existing Contra Costa County paratransit providers) for the provision of paratransit services. The current budget projects these three revenue sources at \$4,639,748

MOTION: Director Storer moved approval Resolution 2023-018 in support of CCTA's development of a CE with a set of clearly defined roles and responsibilities that does not erode or impede the existing public Transit Operators ability to provide their existing accessible transportation programs and to formally oppose CCTA having access to the existing TDA 4.5, STA and Measure J funds for the suite of paratransit and accessible services currently provided by the Contra Costa County public Transit Operators. Director Andersen seconded the motion, and it received the following vote of approval:

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

Report from the Advisory Committee

Marji McWee, Chair of the Advisory Committee gave a brief report on the last two meetings of the committee. The committee's officers for 2023 were elected at the last meeting. For the coming year, Marjorie McWee (county member at large) was elected to a second term as committee chair. She will be joined by Ian McLaughlin of the Walnut Creek District. The advisory committee is excited to be gaining momentum in its advisory role and collaboration with staff. It will continue to organizationally develop itself in 2023. This will include participating and engaging with the Board and its efforts. Director Worth suggested a joint meeting. The committee was encouraged by this idea and agreed it would be beneficial. Now that election season has passed, we look forward to such a meeting in 2023. We still have a few openings with the City of Clayton, Martinez, Lafayette and San Ramon, hopefully we will be able to fill these seats in 2023. Their next meeting is scheduled January 10, 2023.

BOARD COMMUNICATION: None

CLOSED SESSION:

The Board of Directors went into closed session at 10:10 a.m.

Conference with Labor Negotiator (pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6)

Employee Organizations:

Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 1605, AFL-CIO, Bus Operators

Machinists Automotive Trades District Lodge No. 1173, Machinists

Teamsters, Local 856, Transit Supervisors

Public Employee Performance Evaluation; Conference with Labor Negotiator

(pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957, 54957.6)

Agency Designated Representative: Board Chair

Position: General Manager

OPEN SESSION:

Report of Action(s) taken during the Closed Session

The Board of Directors came back from closed session at 11:23 a.m.

Director Worth reported that the Board met in closed session with Labor Negotiator, Pat Glenn, regarding the status of negotiations with Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1605, Machinists Automotive Trades District Lodge No. 1173, and Teamsters Local 856. We would like to thank the Machinists and the Teamsters for reaching out to the Authority, your initiative and cooperative spirit has been instrumental in completing the early adoption of a 3 year package, for your members' benefit.

MOTION: Director Noack moved the following:

Machinists: 5% wage increase, effective for the pay period that includes November 1, 2022
3 month early adoption for the 1st year wage increase
4% wage increase, effective for the pay period that includes February 1, 2024
3% wage increase, effective for the pay period that includes February 1, 2025
\$2500 Tax Free Payment Reimbursement for expenses that occurred as a result of a federally declared disaster (COVID 19).

Director Hoffmeister seconded the motion, and it received the following vote of approval:

Aye: Directors Andersen, Haydon, Hoffmeister, Hudson, McCluer, Noack, Schroder, Storer, Tatzin, Wilk and Worth

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION: Director Noack moved of the following:

Teamsters: 5% wage increase, effective for the pay period that includes July 1, 2023
3 month early adoption for the 1st year wage increase
4% wage increase, effective for the pay period that includes October 1, 2024
3% wage increase, effective for the pay period that includes October 1, 2025

\$2500 Tax Free Payment Reimbursement for expenses that occurred as a result of a federally declared disaster (COVID 19).

Aye: Directors Andersen, Haydon, Hoffmeister, Hudson, Noack, Schroder, Storer, Tatzin and Worth

No: Directors McCluer and Wilk

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Due to time constraints, the Board decided to postpone the following closed session until next month.

Public Employee Performance Evaluation; Conference with Labor Negotiator

(pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957, 54957.6)

Agency Designated Representative: Board Chair

Position: General Manager

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Worth adjourned the regular Board meeting at 11:29 am.

Minutes prepared by:

Lathina Hill

Assistant to the General Manager

Date: December 6, 2022