

County Connection

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Agenda Item No. 6.b.

COUNTY CONNECTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

May 16, 2013

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/CONFIRM QUORUM

Chair Horn called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9 a.m. Board Members present were Directors Andersen, Dessayer, Hudson, Leone, Manning, Schroder, Simmons, and Worth. Director Hoffmeister and Weir arrived after the meeting convened. Director Storer was absent.

Staff: Ramacier, Chun, Glenn, Aragon, Allison, Barnes, Barrientos, Beaulieu, Brown, Burdick, Casenave, Churchill, Domogma, Enis, Fajardo, Greenwood, Hill, Howard, Jefferson, G. Jimenez, J. Jimenez, Marshall, Mitchell, Moran, Owens, Perry, Powell, Rettig, Robinson, Rossini, Vassallo

Guest: None.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

COUNTY CONNECTION Transit Operator Charles Marshall discussed his concern with personal vehicles being broken into on County Connection premises, and also the rise in medical costs that affect the bus drivers.

COUNTY CONNECTION Transit Operator Stacy Rossini discussed her feelings of not having a raise in pay since 2009 although the cost of living has increased every year. She would like to see a real offer during the ATU negotiations, regarding pay increases.
(Director Weir and Hoffmeister arrived.)

COUNTY CONNECTION Transit Operator Stacy Howard discussed her experiences as being an injured bus driver who loses vacation and owes medical expenses that she cannot afford, due to no pay increases.

COUNTY CONNECTION Transit Operator June Owens discussed her concerns for other operators that cannot go without medical benefits but they also cannot afford to pay the medical expenses. The operators have not received any pay raises although medical expenses have continuously increased every year.

COUNTY CONNECTION Transit Operator Judy Barrientos discussed her feelings that County Connection has saved so much money from previous layoffs and from no pay increases since 2009, that it is time to show the drivers that they are respected and valued by the company, with an [acceptable?] offer.

COUNTY CONNECTION Transit Operator Ron Allison discussed his feelings on the ATU negotiations, and how with the medical cost constantly increasing every year a 3 percent raise would counter the added expenses for the employees. The operators have to deal with a lot of stress on a daily basis from the passengers as well as financially. He asks that the Board consider the 3 percent as soon as possible.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: Director Simmons moved that the approval of the Consent Calendar, consisting of the following items: (a) Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 18, 2013, be deferred until the next meeting. Director Worth seconded the motion and it received the following vote of approval.

Aye: Directors Andersen, Dessayer, Hoffmeister, Horn, Hudson, Manning, Schroder, and Weir.
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Director Storer

REPORT OF CHAIR

Chair Horn discussed inviting Don Tatzin of Contra Costa County, a member of the newly formed San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority, to a future Board meeting to discuss different topics regarding upcoming opportunities between rail services and transit services.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

Annual APTA Bus Conference

General Manager Rick Ramacier discussed his attendance at the annual APTA Bus Conference. He attended various meetings in regards to Reauthorization of MAP 21 and route deviation for ADA Paratransit services.

Update on State Legislation AB160

General Manager Rick Ramacier discussed the status of the State Legislation AB160. The Bill is essentially on hold pending the outcome of the review of the Federal Section (13C) objections before the Department of Labor.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Administration and Finance Committee:

FY2014 Draft Budget and Ten-Year Forecast

Director Dessayer discussed that there were minor changes made to update the last version of the FY2014 Draft Budget and Ten-Year Forecast. The Board was given the opportunity to ask any questions or make any comments regarding the changes. Directors Weir and Worth commended the A&F Committee and staff for an excellent budget document.

Marketing, Planning, & Legislative Committee:

FY2014 Marketing and Communications Plan

Director Schroder discussed how the Committee meets annually to review the Marketing and Communications Plan for the year. This year they are focusing on strengthening the County Connection

Brand, expanding ridership, preparing for the use of the Clipper Card, the Bus Tracker, and the idea of having a County Connection App to help the passengers with bus information.

MOTION: Director Schroder moved approval of the Draft FY2014 Marketing and Communications Plan. The motion was seconded by Director Manning and it received the following vote of acceptance.

Aye: Directors Andersen, Dessayer, Horn, Hoffmeister, Hudson, Simmons, Weir, and Worth
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Director Storer

BOARD COMMUNICATION:

Director Simmons stated that he will not be attendance for the June Board Meeting. Director Dessayer mentioned that the evaluation of the General Manager will begin. Director Weir stated that the Board members listen respectfully to all public speakers and they are taking note of the issues that the bus drivers raise.

CLOSED SESSION

Consultation with Labor Negotiator Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6
Employee Organizations: Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 1605, AFL-CIO, Bus Operators, and Teamsters Union, Local 856, AFL-CIO, Transit Supervisors

At 9:52 a.m. Chair Horn announced the Board would take a five minute break and reconvene for a closed session to consult with its Labor Negotiator, Pat Glenn, Esq., pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6, regarding negotiations with the Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 1605, AFL-CIO, Bus Operators, and Teamsters Union, Local 856, AFL-CIO, Transit Supervisors.

OPEN SESSION

A. REPORT OF ACTION(S) TAKEN DURING THE CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in open session at 10:18 a.m. Chair Horn announced the Board met in closed session with its Labor Negotiator, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6, regarding negotiations with the two employee organizations.. Direction was given to the labor negotiating team. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Horn adjourned the regular Board meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Minutes prepared by

Lathina Hill
Assistant to the General Manager

Date