

County Connection

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Agenda Item No. 4.a.

CCCTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

August 15, 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 Anderson, Dessayer, Hoffmeister, Hudson, Manning, Simmons, Storer, and Weir. Director Schroder arrived after the meeting convened. Director Worth was absent.

Staff: Ramacier, Chun, Barnes, Barrientos, Bowron, Casenave, Chatmon-Logan, Churchill, Hill, Jefferson, Mitchell, Moran, Muzzini, Robinson, and Rossini.

Guests: David Allman (First Transit Driver) Mark Fisher (NFA), Ron Leone (City of Concord), Norm Reynolds (Gillig), and Jomo Simms (First Transit Driver)

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

(Director Schroder arrived.)

Jomo Simms, a driver and shop steward, with First Transit (County Connection Paratransit Contractor), notified the Board of his displeasure with First Transit's dispatchers scheduling drivers with less and less hours on a weekly basis. He believes that it is done to certain drivers on a personal vindictive manner.

David Allman, a driver with First Transit (County Connection Paratransit Contractor), discussed how the clients that First Transit serves are very grateful for the service. But recently there have been a lot of complaints from clients regarding missed appointments, lack of availability of appointments and poor customer service. As a result, drivers are losing hours, losing clients, and losing their overall high morale for their jobs.

Judy Barrientos, ATU President and an operator with County Connection, she wanted to come and speak to the Board on behalf of the First Transit drivers. Hours were extensive a year ago and now drivers aren't getting eight hours a day, yet First Transit are hiring new drivers instead of giving full time hours to the current drivers.

Ossie Robinson, an operator with County Connection, also wanted to speak on behalf of the First Transit drivers. He wanted to express that although the First Transit drivers are dedicated workers they feel that they are not respected or cared for by management.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: Director Hoffmeister moved approval of the Consent Calendar, consisting of the following items: (a) Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 18, 2013. Director Hudson seconded the motion and it received the following vote of approval.

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

REPORT OF CHAIR

Chair Horn asked the Board if anyone is planning on going to the APTA Conference in October. General Manager Rick Ramacier stated that no Board Members will be attending but some staff members will be. Kristina Vassallo, DBE Administrator with County Connection will be presenting at the conference.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

In light of the public comment today, Rick Ramacier, General Manager will have his staff do an investigation and send their findings to the Operations & Scheduling Committee, who oversees First Transit.

Rick Ramacier also reminded the Board that a presentation will be given at the September 6, 2013 meeting of the Operations & Scheduling Committee, regarding Paratransit. All members are encouraged to attend. If for any reason that they cannot attend but would like to receive the presentation as a handout or would like any further clarification, he will be available to answer all questions.

Recognition of Employees of the 2nd Quarter, 2013

The following employees were recognized:

Martha Lee-Payroll Supervisor
Ron Salero-Service Worker
Fawah Malekzadeh-Bus Operator
Gary Chatmon-Logan-Bus Operator

Recognition of Departing Employees

Oscar Palicte was a service worker for the maintenance department for 22 years. He was a valued employee who took pride in his job and will be missed.

Carol Muegge was one of the original employees with County Connection. She started off as a bus operator for the City of Walnut Creek in the 1970's, until County Connection took over the service in 1980. From there she went from supervisor to Manager of Transportation. She leaves County Connection in order to spend more time with her lovely grandchildren. With her departure, we definitely lose a great source of knowledge and experience.

Report on BART Strike

General Manager Rick Ramacier informed the Board that BART did not have a second strike as planned, due to the Governor stepped in and gave both parties a 60-day cooling off period. County Connection will remain in frequent conversations with BART in the event another strike occurs.

Update on AB160 and the Status of Federal Transit Grants in California

General Manager Rick Ramacier provided an update that this Bill is being held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. There are no updates on the discussions between the United States Department of Labor and the Governor's office regarding the California Pension Reform Act of 2013 and the federal labor protection statute known as Section 13(c).

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Administration & Finance Committee:

Midday Free Fares for Seniors and Disabled

The A & F Committee looked at the financial aspects of providing the Midday Free Fares for Seniors and Disabled and found that County Connection can support the \$70,000 that it would cost to sustain the program. The Committee recommends that we do a six-month trial period and see how the program preforms. This will allow staff to conduct a Title VI analysis to make sure that those people who are protected by Title VI will not be negatively affected by the program. After the six-month trial County Connection will evaluate the program to determine if it should be continued.

Stacy Rossini, an operator with County Connection stated that the she believes that the public would like service expansion over free senior fares and that this should be a higher priority.

Director Simmons appreciates all the work that the MP&L and the A & F Committees have done on this project but believes that we should conduct a Title VI analysis first and look at all groups that the Title VI affects, especially since seniors are already getting discounted rates.

MOTION: Director Dessayer moved approval of Free Midday Fares for Seniors and Disabled for a six-month promotional period. Director Schroder seconded the motion and it received the following vote of approval.

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

Operations & Scheduling Committee:

Award Bus Procurement Contract

The O & S Committee recommended that the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Gillig to purchase a minimum of seven and maximum of seventy-one buses over a period not to exceed five years.

MOTION: Director Manning moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-003, Adoption of the Award Bus Procurement Contract with Gillig. The motion was seconded by Director Weir and it received the following vote of acceptance.

Aye: Directors Andersen, Desssayer, Hoffmeister, Horn, Hudson, Schroder, Simmons and Storer
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Directors Worth

Authorization to Purchase Seven 29 foot Low Floor Buses from Gillig

The O & S Committee recommended that the Board authorize the General Manager to issue a purchase order and notice to proceed to Gillig to build seven 29 foot low floor buses, at a cost not to exceed \$3,377,969. Staff reminded the Board that the funds came from Federal Grants and Local Matching Bridge Toll Funds.

MOTION: Director Hudson moved to adopt Resolution No. 2014-004, Adoption of the Authorization to the General Manager to purchase seven 29 foot low floor buses, at a cost not to exceed \$3,377,969. The motion was seconded by Director Andersen and it received the following vote of acceptance.

Aye: Directors Desssayer, Hoffmeister, Horn, Manning, Schroder, Simmons, Storer and Weir
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Directors Worth

BOARD COMMUNICATION:

Director Andersen stated that the County will implement a pilot program that has a shuttle service from the BART station to Bishop Ranch and to the Alamo Creek areas. Director Desssayer says that he tried the San Francisco Muni app this past weekend and was very impressed with its accuracy and speed. Director Schroder wanted to remind the Board that the Pacheco Transit Hub ground breaking ceremony will be coming up so please keep your eyes open for your invites to the event.

CLOSED SESSION

Public Employee Performance Evaluation; Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
Position: General Manager

At 10:12 a.m. Chair Horn announced the Board would take a two minute break and reconvene for a closed session to consult with its Labor Negotiator, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, regarding Public Employee Performance Evaluation; Position: General Manager

OPEN SESSION

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

Consideration of Adjustment to the General Manager's Compensation Resolution No. 2014-005

The Board reconvened in open session at 10:40 a.m. Chair Horn announced the Board met in closed session with its Labor Negotiator, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, regarding Public Employee Performance Evaluation; Position: General Manager

MOTION: Director Dessayer moved approval of Resolution No. 2014-005, approving the fourth amendment to the Employment Agreement between CCCTA and Rick Ramacier, with the statement that his compensation will be increased by \$4,500 for an annual gross salary of \$167,700, which represents a 2.75% increase and an increase of \$7,000 a year for a total of \$14,500 in contributions into ICMA Retirement Fund. The motion was seconded by Director Weir and it received a vote of approval.

Aye: Directors Andersen, Hoffmeister, Horn, Hudson, Manning, Schroder, Simmons and Storer

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Director Worth

Director Hoffmeister expressed that General Manager Ramacier has had some challenges this past year and has handled them in grand fashion. He continues to have a great relationship with the Board, employees, and the public.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Horn adjourned the regular Board meeting at 10:44a.m.

Minutes prepared by

Lathina Hill
Assistant to the General Manager

Date