

County Connection

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Agenda Item No. 4.a.

CCCTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

April 17, 2014

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/CONFIRM QUORUM

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

Staff: Ramacier, Chun, Barnes, Barrientos, Barrientos, Bowron, Casenave, Churchill, Dean, Finn, Herrera, Hill, Mitchell, Mixon, Moran, Muzzini, Polee, Robinson, Robinson, Romero, Thompson and Vassallo

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: Director Hudson moved approval of the Consent Calendar, consisting of the following items: (a) Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 20, 2014; Director Manning seconded the motion and it received the following vote of approval.

Aye: Directors Andersen, Dessayer, Hudson, Manning, Schroder, Simmons and Weir
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Directors Hoffmeister, Storer, Tatzin and Worth

REPORT OF CHAIR

(Director Tatzin arrived.)

Chair Simmons stated that he just received a thank you card from Congressman John Garamendi regarding the Regional Transportation meeting. He also stated that it has been a year since County Connection has merged the Advisory and the Citizens Committees, and he would like an update on how that is going.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER:

General Manager Rick Ramacier updated the Board that Senator Steinberg has released his funding plan for the Cap and Trade Program. As he finds out more information on the impact for County Connection, he will report back to the appropriate committees.

General Manager Rick Ramacier also wanted to notify the Board that the General Manager of LAVTA has resigned.

Recognition of Employees of the 3rd & 4th Quarters, 2013

The following employees were recognized:

Chan Saechao-Help Desk Support
Roberto Santos-Service Worker
Lynn Koldewey-Bus Operator
Manolo Andrada-Bus Operator
Roberto Quezon-Custodian
Abel Herrera-Mechanic
Jose Pio-Bus Operator
Ossie Robinson-Bus Operator

Chair Bob Simmons thanked those employees of the quarters for their great service, dedication, and quality of service.

Recognition of Employee with 30 Years of Service

Mark Romero has been a great asset to County Connection for the past 30 years. He is always willing to come in on his off days to work extra shifts just to make sure that service is not interrupted.

APTA Annual Meeting & Expo, Houston, TX-October 12-15, 2014

Rick Ramacier notified the Board of the upcoming APTA Annual Meeting in Houston, TX. He invited those that want to attend to notify staff as soon as possible so we can start the planning process.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Administration & Finance Committee

Creation of an Eco Pass Demonstration Program

Director Dessayer stated that the A & F Committee has looked at the Eco Pass and one suggestion is to change the name to COCO Pass, for the County Connection Pass. Financially speaking, the marginal expense would be minimal but the loss of fare revenue could be high. The program will be conducted on a trial basis by marketing the program and selecting up to three organizations with at least 50 participants each. We would review the total usage on an annual basis. The annual price per pass is recommended at \$140.

MOTION: Director Dessayer moved approval of offering the COCO Pass program on a trial basis with no more than three contracts, at a proposed price of \$140 and a minimum of 50 participants each. Director Hudson seconded the motion and it received the following vote of approval.

Aye: Directors Andersen, Dessayer, Hudson, Manning, Schroder, Simmons, Tatzin and Weir
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Directors Hoffmeister, Storer and Worth

FY2015 Draft Budget, FY2014 Estimated Actual and Ten Year Forecast; Resolution No. 2014-016

Director Dessayer explained that the draft Budget is presented in order to allow County Connection to file its TDA claim in a timely manner. The final budget will be acted upon in June. The draft budget reflects changes for the new Paratransit contract, an update on the annual contribution for the health liability, a reduction in the legal budget, and a 10% increase in the marketing budget. Another update will be presented to the Board in May.

MOTION: Director Dessayer moved approval of Resolution No. 2014-16, Authorizing Filing Applications and Supporting Documents with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for Allocation of Transportation Development Act, State Transit Assistance, and RM-2 Funds for FY 2015. Director Hudson seconded the motion and it received the following vote of approval.

Aye: Directors Andersen, Dessayer, Hudson, Manning, Schroder, Simmons, Tatzin and Weir
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Directors Hoffmeister, Storer and Worth

Operations & Scheduling Committee

Service Changes to Routes #2, 5 & 7 and Resolution No. 2014-017

Director Weir stated that staff has done a great job with getting ridership information and feedback from the community regarding these route changes. Anne Muzzini stated that she conducted on-board face to face interviews with passengers as well as public meetings within the cities that would be affected. The City of Walnut Creek was very supportive although some riders will lose service during the mid-day hours. The City of Martinez was not as supportive with a new shopper shuttle so we will hold off on that project until a later time. Chair Simmons opened up the meeting for public comment.

Public Comment:

Jeremy Weinstein a citizen of Walnut Creek, stated that he lives and works in the city of Walnut Creek, and the proposed cuts will affect him directly. He is an attorney who works from 7am-7pm, County Connection has already cut service to where now he has to take a cab home at night. If County Connection continues to cut service it would not be useful to him at all. He would like the Board to reconsider the route changes in Walnut Creek.

Ralph Hoffman, a citizen of Walnut Creek, stated that he is in favor of the route changes in Walnut Creek, and believes it will be a great change for those that go to the library, stores, hospital and the high school.

Judy Barrientos, ATU President, Local 1605, stated that her concern about what the route changes would be if they cut hours for the bus operators. Anne Muzzini stated that the route changes would cause five hours a day lost which is very low, but bus operator's hours would be rerouted.

MOTION: Director Weir moved approval of Resolution No. 2014-017, Authorizing Service Changes to Routes #2, #5 and #7. Director Hudson seconded the motion and it received the following vote of approval.

Aye: Directors Weir, Andersen, Dessayer, Hudson, Manning, Schroder, Simmons, Tatzin
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Directors Hoffmeister, Storer, and Worth

Recommendation to Award Contract for Provision of Paratransit Operations & Maintenance Services; and Resolution No. 2014-015
(Director Andersen leaves.)

Director Weir stated that County Connection's Paratransit contract is expiring June 30, 2014, and the Board authorized issuing a Request for Proposals for Paratransit Services. Four proposals were received. County Connection conducted interviews with First Transit, Keolis, MVT, and Veolia, with the help of General Managers from LAVTA and Westcat. The evaluation committee found that the lowest cost proposal actually did not have the most reasonable prices considering their staffing plan, maintenance and operations program. After a methodical evaluation, the evaluation committee has recommended award of the contract to First Transit. Chair Simmons opened up for public comment.

Public Comment

Don Swain, Regional Vice President with First Transit, thanked the O & S Committee for recommending First Transit. He said that although we have had a few bumps in road, we have great history together and an excellent partnership, when it comes to the quality of service. First Transit looks forward to a lasting relationship with County Connection.

MOTION: Director Weir moved approval of Resolution No. 2014-015, Authorizing Award of a Contract to First Transit, Inc. to Provide Paratransit and Associated Services, for three years with two one year options, at an estimated cost of \$16,401,051. Director Hudson seconded the motion and it received the following vote of approval.

Aye: Directors Weir, Dessayer, Hudson, Manning, Schroder, Simmons, Tatzin and
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Directors Andersen, Hoffmeister, Storer, and Worth

BOARD COMMUNICATION: None

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Simmons adjourned the regular Board meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Minutes prepared by

Lathina Hill
Assistant to the General Manager

Date