

STANISLAUS REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Minutes of March 23, 2023
(Thursday) 1:00 p.m.

Important Notice Regarding COVID-19

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Terry Withrow (Stanislaus County); Steven Morrow (Citizen Members); George Carr (Hughson Mayor); Jerimiah Williams (Alternate for City of Modesto); Chris Ricci (City of Modesto)

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Vice Chair Condit (Stanislaus County); Director Carla Strong; Director Wright (City of Modesto)

STAFF PRESENT: Adam Barth (CEO), Angela Swanson, Valerie Fabela, Simon Herrera, Leticia Ortiz, Nicole Hensley, Dero In,

ALSO PRESENT: Monica Streeter (General Counsel) Paul, Christian, Andrea, Kevin, Tanner, Jean, Ron, Alex

1. CALL TO ORDER

Terry Withrow opened the meeting at 1:07 pm

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

A Quorum of the Directors was present. Director Ricci participated remotely from the location identified on the agenda.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public may address the Board on any item not on the agenda. Comments shall be limited to three minutes unless the Chair of the Board sets a different time limit. The Board cannot take action on matters not on the agenda, unless the action is authorized by Section 54954.2 of the Government Code.

5. PRESENTATION

- A. Recognition of Drivers – Newman Nursing Home Evacuation (San Luis Care Center)

Two Transdev employees (Andrea & Kevin) received employee recognition plaques for their help with the evacuation to Newman Nursing Home during a flood evacuation order for their residents.

6. CONSENT

- A. Motion to Approve the Stanislaus Regional Transit Authority Regular Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2023
- B. Motion to Reappoint Citizen Director Carla Strong for a Two-Year Term
- C. Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-088 Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Turlock for the Delivery of ADA Paratransit Service and Authorizing the CEO to Execute the Same
- D. Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-089 Approving the Formation of the Equity and Accessibility Committee and Authorizing the CEO to Take all Necessary Actions to Recruit and Implement the Committee
- E. Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-090 Adopting the Authority Amended Accounting Policies
- F. Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-091 Approving the Submission of a Grant Application for the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program for the Free Fares Project
- G. Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-092 Approving an Amendment to the Authority Office Lease and Authorizing the CEO to Execute the Same
- H. Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-093 Approving Amendment 1 to the Agreement with Ecolane USA, Inc. and Authorizing the CEO to Execute the Same

***By Motion, (Director Morrow, Director Carr), and a 5-0 vote, the Stanislaus Regional Transit Authority Board Approved Items 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 6E, 6F, 6G, and 6H of the Consent Calendar**

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. Update on Authority FY 22/23 Budget

Finance Director Leticia Ortiz gave a Fiscal Year (FY) 22/23 Budget presentation showing the Authority's actual revenues and expenditures as of

December 31, 2022 as well as the 2022-2023 FY Budget & the projections for how the Authority will end the year. The Authority is expected to spend 97% of its budget by the end of the year. The Authority anticipates receiving all local, state & federal funds that were budgeted and expects an increase in fare box revenue from \$1 million to \$1.3 million. The projected amount for the salary & wages includes vacation, sick, holiday and management leave pay. The Authority is projecting to exceed budgets in health insurance, disability & deferred comp but still expected to stay in the overall budget. The Transit Center budget was at 25.8% of its budget, Amtrak 3.7% of its budget and the Rideshare 50% of its budget.

B. Motion to Accept the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022 Audited Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report

Finance Director Leticia Ortiz gave a Fiscal Year End (FYE) presentation on Audited Financial Statements & Independent Auditor Report. Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation completed the Authority's annual audit for FYE 6/30/22. Brown Armstrong issued one finding in capital assets due to insufficient documentation for current and existing capital assets transferred to the Authority from the City of Modesto and the County of Stanislaus. Some of the documentation requested had surpassed the retention periods and were no longer available.

Chair Withrow briefly recapped to the board the findings of Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation and also asked that Brown Armstrong attend the next board meeting to go over their findings.

Director Ricci questions if this audit will affect our interest rate or credit score for the Authority. Leticia will follow up with Brown Armstrong to confirm that this finding does not affect either of those concerns.

By Motion, (Director Williams, Director Morrow), and a 5-0 vote, the Stanislaus Regional Transit Authority Board Approved Items 7B of the Discussion/Action item.

C. Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-094 Approving the Final Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024

Finance Director Leticia Ortiz gave a presentation on the Capital, Operating, Transit Center, Amtrak and Rideshare Budgets for FY 23/24. The recommended final budgets represent the Operational and Capital plan for the Authority. The recommended final budget totals \$41.2 million dollars and includes modes of fixed route, demand response, commuter bus, Transit Center, Amtrak and Rideshare budgets. The Operations final budget represents an increase of \$3.4 million, or 9.5% over the FY 22-23. The increase attributes to a \$2 million increase to the operating contract, an increase in fuel,

an increase to the City of Modesto maintenance contract and an increase in salaries/benefits and two new Authority positions.

The recommended final budget of \$37.2 million for Capital Projects presents an increase of \$10.1 million or 37% over the 2022-2023 budget of \$27.2 million. The budget does not encompass all capital projects currently underway, as funding for major capital projects is carried forward in the budget over multi-year delivery schedules. The Authority has added the following capital items to its existing list of projects:

- 3 hydrogen buses and infrastructure
- Land for new Operations, Maintenance and Administration facility
- Land and amenities for new transit hubs at the Vintage Faire mall and in Ceres
- Design of maintenance facility and transit hubs

Recommended appropriations for the Capital Projects will be funded by Local Transit Funds (LTF), carry over LTF funds, STA carryover funds, FTA funds, Measure L funds and State of Good Repair funds.

By Motion, (Director Williams, Director Morrow), and a 5-0 vote, the Stanislaus Regional Transit Authority Board Approved Items 7C of the Discussion/Action item.

D. Transdev Operations Performance Update

Christian Perreria with Transdev gave a presentation of their performance. Christian went over the challenges Transdev has encountered since the last board meeting which included: the move back into the Transit Center, departure of an Operations Manager, route service changes, availability of vehicles, driver schedules, customer service complaints and poor weather which caused road closures and delays.

The improvements made have included: Onboarding of new Operations Manager, adjusting services schedules, new service changes, adjusting staffing for rollouts and increasing drivers.

Director Williams suggested incentive programs for the Transdev staff, some in which Transdev already has in place and others that Transdev and the Authority can explore.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Report on RFP/RFB's, Grant Applications and Awards

B. Key Performance Indicators

9. CEO REPORT

CEO Adam Barth gave a presentation which included a video that went over the service changes and comments from the Stanislaus Cities.

10. DIRECTOR REPORTS

No Director reports.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:04 PM

**Next Regularly Scheduled Stanislaus Regional Transit Authority Meeting:
Thursday, April 27, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.**