



Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Antelope Valley Transit Authority Community Room
42210 6th Street West, Lancaster, California
www.avta.com

OFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Crist called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Ohlsen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Councilmember Eric Ohlsen, District 4, representative for the City of Palmdale, was administered the Oath of Office before the meeting.

ROLL CALL:

Present

Chairman Marvin Crist, Vice Chair Dianne Knippel, Director Richard Loa, Director Eric Ohlsen, Director Raj Malhi, Director Michelle Flanagan

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Director Malhi and seconded by Vice Chair Knippel, the Board of Directors:

1. Approved the agenda as comprised.

Vote: Motion carried (6-0-0-0)

Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice Chair Knippel, Directors Loa, Ohlsen, Malhi, Flanagan

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC BUSINESS – AGENDIZED AND NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS:

Thomas Aguinaga – Expressed concerns regarding Routes 2 and 3.

Charlotte Baxter – Spoke about the Dial-A-Ride (DAR) service and stopping at every bus stop. She welcomed Councilmember Eric Ohlsen to the Board of Directors.

Fran Sereseres – Complimented the DAR staff and service and announced that she turns 80 on Friday, January 27, 2023.

SPECIAL REPORTS, PRESENTATIONS, AND REQUESTS FOR DIRECTION (SRP):

SRP 1 LEGISLATIVE REPORT FROM CONGRESSMAN MIKE GARCIA'S OFFICE

Jacqueline Owens, Field Representative for Congressman Mike Garcia CA-27, stated that their office relocated from Avenue M-14 to Avenue M-4. She listed the committees upon which Congressman Garcia will serve and provided updates regarding the Military Spouse Licensing Relief Act, Inflation Prevention Act, State and Local Tax (SALT) Fairness Act, and Prioritizing Troops Over Tax Collectors Act, which are all supported by the Congressman.

SRP 2 LEGISLATIVE REPORT FROM SENATOR SCOTT WILK'S OFFICE

Shawn Cannon, Field Representative for Senator Scott Wilk, stated that the legislature reconvened on January 3, 2023, and named the committees upon which Senator Wilk will serve. He reiterated the Senator's opposition to Assembly Bill (AB) 2147, a Bill that prohibits police officers from citing pedestrians for jaywalking, unless there is an immediate danger of collision with a moving vehicle. The Bill would make it legal to cross a street when not at a crosswalk or against the crosswalk light when it is not an immediate hazard to do so.

The Board discussed the impact the state's budget deficit could have on local government, particularly transit.

SRP 3 LEGISLATIVE REPORT FROM ASSEMBLYMAN TOM LACKEY'S OFFICE

Pam Balch, District Director for Assemblyman Tom Lackey, named the committees upon which Assemblyman Lackey will serve and stated the Assemblyman will provide a support letter for the "TRANSPORTER" type service between the Antelope Valley and Victor Valley.

SRP 4 LEGISLATIVE REPORT FROM ASSEMBLYMAN JUAN CARRILLO'S OFFICE

Rese Barillas, Senior Field Representative for Assemblyman Juan Carrillo, stated that Juan Blanco will represent the Assemblyman. She provided information regarding AB 31, introduced by Assemblyman Juan Carrillo, which will develop a transit corridor connecting the Victor Valley and the Antelope Valley. She listed the committees upon which Assemblyman Juan Carrillo will serve.

SRP 5 PRESENTATION TO DEEANNA CASON, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT, FOR 15 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING AND DEDICATED SERVICE

Executive Director Martin Tompkins presented the award to Executive Assistant DeeAnna Cason for 15 years of outstanding and dedicated service to the Authority.

SRP 6 PRESENTATION TO VIANNEY MCLAUGHLIN, SENIOR FINANCE MANAGER, FOR 10 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING AND DEDICATED SERVICE

Chief Financial Officer Judy Vaccaro-Fry presented the award to Senior Finance Manager Vianney Mclaughlin for ten years of outstanding and dedicated service to the Authority.

SRP 7 PRESENTATION TO AVTA EMPLOYEES OF THE SECOND QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023

Executive Director Martin Tompkins presented Employee of the Quarter awards to Executive Assistant DeeAnna Cason and Director of Marketing James Royal.

SRP 8 PRESENTATION TO MV TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEE AND OPERATOR OF THE MONTH

MV General Manager Michael Sherrill presented awards to Larry Olive, Operator of the Month for November; Jennifer Barr, Employee of the Month for November; Edgar Arrendondo, Operator of the Month for December; and Hugo Argueta, Employee of the Month for December.

SRP 9 PRESENTATION TO AV TRANSPORTATION SERVICES EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

AV Transportation Services President Art Minasyan presented awards to the Employee of the Month for November Florence Brewton, and the Employee of the Month for December Vanessa Soltero.

SRP 10 MICROTRANSIT AND DIAL-A-RIDE KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI) REPORT

Mr. Minasyan presented the report.

SRP 11 LEGISLATIVE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2023

Ms. Vaccaro-Fry presented information regarding federal appropriations, the House of Representative's new chamber rules package, federal and state assembly committee appointments, the United States Department of Transportation Research and Development and Technology's Strategic Plan, US Census information, Governor Newsom's proposed budget for FFY 2023/2024, the Public Employee's Pension Reform Act, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (LACMTA) Fare Capping, the Free Fare Initiative, Access Services' agreement with the City of Lancaster, and LACMTA Annual consolidated audit results. The Board discussed possible budget reductions.

SRP 12 MAINTENANCE KPI REPORT

Operations Analyst Joseph Sanchez presented the report. Mr. Tompkins provided an update regarding the solar project.

SRP 13 OPERATIONS KPI REPORT

Mr. Sherrill presented the report. The Board discussed the average miles between service interruptions.

CONSENT CALENDAR (CC):

CC 1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 22, 2022

Approve the Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes of November 22, 2022 and find that this item is not a Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

CC 2 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2022

Receive and file the Financial Report for November and December 2022 and find that this item is not a Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

CC 3 PROPOSED AVTA LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES FOR 2023

Approve the Proposed AVTA Legislative Principles for 2023 and find that this item is not a Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

CC 4 FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023 (FY 2023) SECOND QUARTER LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT (LASD) REPORT (OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2022)

Receive and file the FY 2023 Second Quarter LASD report for the period October 1 through December 31, 2022, and find that this item is not a Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

CC 5 ANNUAL REVIEW OF AVTA EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO) POLICY STATEMENT, MV TRANSPORTATION EEO PLAN AND AV TRANSIT MANAGEMENT (AVTM) POLICY STATEMENT

Review, update, and reaffirm the AVTA EEO Policy Statement, MV Transportation EEO Plan, and AVTM EEO Policy Statement and find that this item is not a Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

CC 6 RESOLUTION NO. 2023-001, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO AND/OR THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO EXECUTE ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS OF THE LOS ANGELES METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LACMTA) AS REQUIRED FOR ALL GRANT FUNDING PROGRAMS

Adopt Resolution No. 2023-001, a Resolution authorizing the Executive Director/CEO, and/or the Chief Financial Officer to execute all required documents of the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) as required for all grant funding programs and find that this item is not a Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

On a motion by Vice Chair Knippel and seconded by Director Flanagan, the Board of Directors:

1. Approved the Consent Calendar.
2. Found these items are not Projects pursuant to the California Quality Act.

Vote: Motion carried (6-0-0-0)

Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice Chair Knippel, Directors Loa, Ohlsen, Malhi, Flanagan

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

NEW BUSINESS (NB):

NB 1 AWARD SOLE RESPONDENT CONTRACT #2023-14 TO UNIVERSAL ELECTRONIC ALARMS, INC. FOR FIRE ALARM SYSTEM UPGRADE PROJECT

Procurement and Contracts Officer Lyle Block presented the staff report.

On a motion by Vice Chair Knippel and seconded by Director Flanagan, the Board of Directors:

1. Authorized the Executive Director/CEO to execute Sole Respondent Contract #2023-14 with Universal Electronic Alarms, Inc., Lancaster, CA, for an alarm system upgrade project for \$212,632, plus applicable permit fees and sales tax.
2. Found that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to this item.

Vote: Motion carried (6-0-0-0)

Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice Chair Knippel, Directors Loa, Ohlsen, Malhi, Flanagan

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

NB 2 AWARD CONTRACT #2023-24 TO SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP. FOR NETWORK SWITCH AND WI-FI REFRESH

Maintenance Compliance Officer Cecil Foust presented the staff report.

On a motion by Vice Chair Knippel and seconded by Director Flanagan, the Board of Directors:

1. Authorized the Executive Director/CEO to award Contract #2023-24 with SHI International Corp., Somerset, NJ, to purchase network switch and Wi-Fi refresh components for an amount not to exceed \$194,698.52, including applicable sales tax.
2. Found that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to this item.

Vote: Motion carried (6-0-0-0)

Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice Chair Knippel, Directors Loa, Ohlsen, Malhi, Flanagan

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

NB 3 FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023 (FY 2023) MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW AND PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS

Ms. Vaccaro-Fry presented the staff report.

On a motion by Vice Chair Knippel and seconded by Director Malhi, the Board of Directors:

1. Approved the proposed FY 2023 Mid-Year Budget adjustments.
2. Found that the California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to this item.

Vote: Motion carried (6-0-0-0)
Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice Chair Knippel, Directors Loa, Ohlsen, Malhi, Flanagan
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

CLOSED SESSION (CS):

PRESENTATION BY LEGAL COUNSEL OF ITEM(S) TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION:

- CS 1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)
Significant exposure to litigation (two potential cases)
- CS 2 Conference with Legal Counsel – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)
Consideration of whether to initiate litigation (one potential case)
- CS 3 Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Pursuant to Government Code Sections 54954.5 (e) and 54957(b))
Title: Executive Director/CEO

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board recessed to Closed Session at 11:23 a.m.

RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened to Public Session at 11:35 a.m.

REPORT BY LEGAL COUNSEL OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Legal Counsel Allison Burns stated that the Board discussed CS 3 and gave direction to legal counsel. There was no reportable action.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (RA):

RA 1 REPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO MARTIN TOMPKINS

- Confirmed the operators can use electric buses instead of diesel buses for their DMV driving test.

2022 Significant Accomplishments:

Mr. Tompkins stated that the accomplishments listed below could only have been accomplished with the full support of the Board and staff.

- Finalized the Board's vision to become the first zero-emission, fully electric transit agency in North America.
- Successfully transitioned to a new service contractor, MV Transportation, Inc.
- Retired all the Authority's diesel buses.
- Transferred 17 MCI diesel buses to Santa Barbara.
- Decommissioned the diesel parts inventory.
- Retired seven gasoline support vehicles and added eight new electric support vehicles for the contractor.
- Awarded a contract for 19 fully electric vans to support the DAR and Microtransit services.
- Celebrated AVTA's 30-year anniversary.
- Authority was awarded \$5 million through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) Cycle 5. Staff is in the process of applying for TIRCP Cycle 6 grant funds.
- Installed an inductive WAVE pad at the AVTA facility.
- Completed Phase 3 of the maintenance bays.
- Completed the Lake LA Transit Facility.
- Remodeled the contractor's dispatch office.
- Executed an agreement with BYD to purchase 26 additional buses.
- Revised and rightsized the solar project that will yield savings in the next 25 years.
- Had a perfect A133 Annual Audit, MTA Triennial Audit, and MTA Consolidated Audit.
- Traveled more than 3,000,000 electric miles reaching 10,000,000 miles at the end of 2022, which will be celebrated after the Board meeting.
- Organized a successful Stuff-A-Bus event, with record-breaking donations.
- Responded to the many transit agencies asking how AVTA accomplished the electric bus conversion 18 years ahead of everyone else.

- Over the past 18 months, provided tours to agencies in the United States and other countries including Brazil, Columbia, Chile, Mexico, South Africa, Canada, and Germany. The most recent tour was provided to Simi Valley.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS – NON-AGENDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ITEMS:

There were no non-agenda Board of Directors items presented.

ADJOURNMENT:


Chairman Crist adjourned the meeting at 11:43 a.m. to the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors on February 28, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in the Antelope Valley Transit Authority Community Room, 42210 6th Street West, Lancaster, CA.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 28th day of FEBRUARY 2023.



Marvin Crist, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:



Karen S. Darr, Clerk of the Board

Audio recordings of the Board of Directors Meetings are maintained in accordance with state law and AVTA's Records Retention Policy. Please contact Ms. Karen Darr, Clerk of the Board at (661) 729-2206 to arrange to review a recording.