

AVTA

ANTELOPE VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Tuesday, April 23, 2013
10:00 a.m.

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

OFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hickling called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Lackey led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Hickling requested a moment of silence to honor the victims of the Boston Marathon bombings.

ROLL CALL:

Present

Chairman Norm Hickling
Vice Chairman Marvin Crist
Director Ken Mann
Director Tom Lackey
Director Steve Hofbauer
Director Dianne Knippel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Approve the agenda as comprised.

Moved by Vice Chairman Crist, seconded by Director Lackey

Vote: Motion carried (6-0-0-0)
Yeas: Chairman Hickling, Vice Chairman Crist, and Directors Mann,
Lackey, Hofbauer and Knippel
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

There was no public business presented.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Allison Graham, a citizen, requested an additional bus route that travels down 30th St. West between Rancho Vista Blvd. and Lancaster Blvd. Due to her vision impairment, she also expressed her concern regarding her safety while waiting for the bus.

Chairman Hickling stated that safety is the Board's top priority. The Sheriff's Department has increased their patrols and the Board Directors and staff members are riding the buses to monitor activity on the buses. He directed Senior Transit Analyst Dieter Aragon to meet with Ms. Graham to discuss her concerns.

SPECIAL REPORTS and PRESENTATIONS:

SRP 1 Presentation of Veolia Operator of the Month – Hector Fuentes, Veolia Transportation

Veolia General Manager Hector Fuentes and Executive Director Julie Austin presented a plaque to Coach Operator Danny Febela, Veolia Operator of the Month for March 2013.

SRP 2 Presentation of AVTA Employee of the Quarter (January 1 – March 31, 2013) – Julie Austin

Executive Director Julie Austin presented a plaque to Fleet and Facilities Manager Mark Perry, AVTA Employee of the Quarter.

SRP 3 FY14 Draft Business Plan – Operating Budget

Director of Finance Colby Konisek presented the proposed operating budget for FY14. The Board discussed implementation of the electric bus demonstration project. Ms. Austin stated that staff would present an item to the Board once funding sources and a route are identified.

SRP 4 April 2013 State and Federal Legislative Update

Grants Administrator Judy Vaccaro-Fry presented the federal legislative update. The Board discussed the effect that the sequestration and Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) will have on funding levels for transportation programs.

Marketing Manager Wendy Williams presented the state legislative update. She discussed Senate Bill (SB) 469, which would require a local authority awarding a bus procurement contract to give a ten percent evaluation preference to any bidder that manufactures within the State of California. Ms. Williams added that SB 469 is not in alignment with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) restrictions, which prohibits giving preference to local bidders. Preliminary analysis indicates an apparent contradiction between the FTA guidelines and SB 469, with the FTA guidelines taking precedence. The Board discussed SB 469 and directed staff to write a letter to Congressmen Buck McKeon and Kevin McCarthy regarding the conflict between this proposal and existing federal legislation prohibiting geographic preference.

Director Hofbauer stated he will be in Sacramento and offered to obtain legislative support on behalf of the AVTA.

Director Mann was absent from the April 17, 2013 Special Board meeting and will abstain from voting on CC 1.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

CC 1 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2013 and April 17, 2013 – Karen Darr

Motion: Approve the Minutes for March 26, 2013 and April 17, 2013
Moved by Vice Chairman Crist, seconded by Director Hofbauer

Vote: Motion carried (5-0-1-0)
Yeas: Chairman Hickling, Vice Chairman Crist, and Directors Lackey, Hofbauer, and Knippel
Nays: None
Abstain: Director Mann
Absent: None

CC 2 Financial Reports for April 2013 – Colby Konisek

CC 3 Federal Fiscal Year 2012/13 Second Quarter Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Small Business Enterprise Outreach Status Report (January 1 – March 31, 2013) – Lyle Block

CC 4 FY13 Key Performance Indicators Report for February 2013 – Dietter Aragon

CC 5 FY13 Third Quarter Los Angeles County Sheriff's Report (January 1 – March 31, 2013) – Candice Rudolph

Motion: Approve Consent Calendar items 2-5.

Moved by Hofbauer, seconded by Director Mann

Vote: Motion carried (6-0-0-0)
Yeas: Chairman Hickling, Vice Chairman Crist, and Directors Mann, Lackey, Hofbauer, and Knippel
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

NEW BUSINESS:

NB 1 Advertising Policy Discussion

Ms. Williams provided an update regarding the program and reported that it is progressing well with a tremendous response from local businesses. The AVTA and Around AV staff are working well together and issues that arise are immediately addressed.

The Board questioned how staff should handle actual or perceived negative advertising regarding another business. General Counsel D. Craig Fox responded that terms in the Authority's advertising policy conflict with the language contained in the procurement policy. He noted that the contractor must abide by both the advertising and procurement policies. He added that he sent a letter to the advertising contractor regarding failure to comply with the advertising approval process and a perceived violation of the content section of the advertising policy. He suggested that staff review the prohibited context section of the advertising and procurement policies and remove any subjective language.

The Board discussed the content restrictions listed in the policies and the letter that General Counsel sent to Around AV. Staff and General Counsel were directed to review the advertising policy and provide a recommendation at the May 28, 2013 Board meeting. General Counsel Fox was requested to write a follow-up letter to Around AV reminding them to abide by the approval review process but removing the reference to content. Based on discussion at the April 23, 2013 Board meeting, staff will review and possibly update the advertising to clarify content language.

Ely Sorkin, Around AV representative, admitted fault for not following the approval process and noted he remedied the situation immediately. He assured the Board that he will have Ms. Williams review and approve all future advertisements and Around AV will scrutinize any questionable content prior to submitting the ad for approval. Additionally, the AVTA logo, phone number,

and bus number would be included on all of the buses to identify the AVTA fleet clearly.

Director Lackey left the meeting at 11:12 a.m. due to a work commitment.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

RA 1 Executive Director's Report

The following information was provided:

- Ms. Austin will be out of the office beginning April 24 and returning on May 6. Colby Konisek will be in charge during her absence; however, she will be available via cell phone and email.
- Mark Perry and Len Engel will be attending APTA's annual Bus and Paratransit Conference in Indianapolis the week of May 5.
- At the beginning of May, Ms. Williams and Ms. Vacarro-Fry will be attending the California Transit Association's Spring Legislative Conference in Sacramento.
- Upcoming travel information is in the Board folders.
- AVTA was front and center at the Poppy Festival. There was tremendous amount of community interface and staff gave out 1,000 helium balloons, 5,000 AVTA fans, and played Plinko for prizes.
- Director of Operations and Maintenance Len Engel coordinated the AVTA's first annual Bus Roadeo on April 6; four Board members actively participated. A short video of the event was shared.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS – NON-AGENDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ITEMS:

Vice Chairman Crist invited Director Hofbauer to the BYD grand opening ceremony on May 1, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Hickling adjourned the meeting at 11:41 a.m. to the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors on May 28, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in the Antelope Valley Transit Authority Board Room, 42210 6th Street West, Lancaster, California.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 28th day of May, 2013.



Norman L. Hickling, Chairman



Julie M. Austin, Secretary

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