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**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**Tuesday, May 26, 2026**

**10:00 a.m.**

Antelope Valley Transit Authority Community Room

42210 6<sup>th</sup> Street West, Lancaster, California

[www.avta.com](http://www.avta.com)

**OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice-Chair Knippel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present

Chairman Marvin Crist, Vice-Chair Dianne Knippel, Director Michelle Royal, Alternate-Director Kathryn Mac Laren

Absent

Director Eric Ohlsen, Director Raj Malhi

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On a motion by Vice-Chair Knippel and seconded by Alternate-Director Mac Laren, the Board of Directors approved the agenda as presented.

Vote: Motion carried (4-0-0-2)

Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice-Chair Knippel, Director Royal, Alternate-Director Mac Laren

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Directors Ohlsen, Malhi

**PUBLIC BUSINESS – AGENDIZED AND NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS:**

Dwight Schneider has reported ongoing Dial-A-Ride (DAR) and Microtransit app issues for two years, noting worsening problems. The app recently showed a driver arriving in two minutes, but the wait was 45 minutes. Double billing of users has remained unresolved since January. Mr. Schneider appreciates the service's value but urges major improvements to the app.

Charlotte Baxter asked about AVTA's vehicle procurement—covering quantity, fuel types, infrastructure, operations, and warranties. She mentioned risks with the Garden Grove tank, though no explosion occurred, and thanked DAR staff for prompt communication.

Timothy McLaughlin pointed out that the DAR service's late arrivals to medical appointments, caused by unreliable operations and poor dispatch management, are unacceptable.

Fran Sereseres asked about transportation plans for Antelope Valley residents attending Olympic events. The Board responded that AVTA is waiting for Los Angeles County to finalize plans before creating its own Olympic transportation strategy, and they will update Ms. Sereseres about any related meetings or decisions. She also thanked the Board for the DAR service, which seniors greatly appreciate.

**SPECIAL REPORTS, PRESENTATIONS, AND REQUESTS FOR DIRECTION (SRP):** During this portion of the meeting, staff will present information not generally covered under regular meeting items. This information may include, but is not limited to, budget presentations, staff conference presentations, or information from outside sources related to the transit industry. **Staff will seek directions as is necessary from the Board with regard to (< regarding?) the following item(s).**

**SRP 1 LEGISLATIVE REPORT FROM SENATOR SUZETTE VALLADARES' OFFICE**

Thomas Moreno, District Representative for Senator Suzette Valladares, provided a legislative update: the CARB transparency bill did not advance past the appropriations committee; however, five other bills sponsored by the Senator successfully passed through the committee. The approved bills include SB 1230 (Illegal Dumping), SB 1395 (Kaylee's Law), and SB 1022 (MAST Alliance).

**SRP 2 LEGISLATIVE REPORT FROM ASSEMBLYMEMBER TOM LACKEY'S OFFICE**

The representative was unable to attend.

**SRP 3 PRESENTATION TO KARIM ILLESCAS, ACCOUNTANT II, FOR 10 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING AND DEDICATED SERVICE**

Senior Finance Manager Vianney McLaughlin presented the award to Accountant II Karim Illescas for 10 years of outstanding and dedicated service to the Authority.

**SRP 4 PRESENTATION TO MV TRANSPORTATION OPERATOR OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL 2026**

MV Transportation General Manager Joseph Moriarty presented the award to Silvia Salas.

**SRP 5 PRESENTATION TO AV TRANSPORTATION SERVICES (AVTS) OPERATOR OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL 2026**

Quality Assurance Manager Amalia Rodriguez presented the award to James Leonard.

**SRP 6 AVTS DIAL-A-RIDE AND MICROTRANSIT KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI) REPORT FOR APRIL 2026**

Mr. Minasyan presented the report and will investigate the app issues raised by Mr. Schneider and Mr. McLaughlin.

**SRP 7 LEGISLATIVE REPORT UPDATE FOR MAY 2026**

Chief Financial Officer Judy Vaccaro-Fry delivered a comprehensive overview of key state and federal legislation. She covered AB 1608 (Office of the Inspector General, High-Speed Rail), AB 2552 (Transit-Oriented Development Implementation Fund: contributions), and SB 1350 (Energy: renewable electrical generation facilities: definition). The summary also included updates on gas tax allocations, the Governor's May revision, proposed changes to Cap-and-Invest investment structures, the Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization, and information about the forthcoming Disaster Ready Infrastructure Act of 2026.

**SRP 8 MAINTENANCE KPI REPORT FOR APRIL 2026**

Operations and Contracts Compliance Manager Joseph Sanchez presented the report, addressing a question raised by the Board regarding higher energy costs at the Dianne Knippel Transit Center. Mr. Sanchez responded that AVTA is exploring ways to dispense and use more energy at this location and is discussing with Edison how to lower the rate.

**SRP 9 OPERATIONS KPI REPORT FOR APRIL 2026**

MV Transportation General Manager Joseph Moriarty presented the report with no further inquiries.

**CONSENT CALENDAR (CC):** Consent items may be received and filed and/or approved by the Board in a single motion. If any member of the Executive Board wishes to discuss a consent item, please request that the item be pulled for further discussion and potential action.

**CC 1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 28, 2026**  
Approve the Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2026.

**CC 2 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR APRIL 2026 AND FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2025/2026 THIRD QUARTER TREASURER'S REPORT**  
Receive and file the Financial Report for April 2026 and the Fiscal Year 2025 2026 Third-Quarter Treasurer's Report, including Capital Reserve and Farebox Recovery information.

**CC 3 FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026 (FY 2026) LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT FOR APRIL 2026**  
Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 (FY 2026) Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Monthly Report for April 2026.

**CC 4 MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS LOG**  
Receive and file the Marketing and Communications Log for (April 9 through May 12, 2026).

**CC 5 RESOLUTION NO. 2026-001, LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND (LAIF) INVESTMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 (FY 2027)**  
Adopt Resolution 2026-001, a Resolution appointing the Executive Director/CEO as Treasurer and the Chief Financial Officer as Controller; authorizing investment of monies in the LAIF for FY 2027 (July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027) to the Treasurer; adopting a policy for the investment of surplus transit funds for FY 2027; and rescinding Resolution No. 2025-001.

On a motion by Vice-Chair Knippel and seconded by Alternate-Director Mac Laren, the Board of Directors approved the Consent Calendar as presented.

Vote: Motion carried (4-0-0-2)

Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice-Chair Knippel, Director Royal, Alternate-Director Mac Laren

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Directors Ohlsen, Malhi

**NEW BUSINESS (NB):**

**NB 1 FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 (FY 2027) PROPOSED BUDGET – JUDY VACCARO-FRY**

Chief Financial Officer Judy Vaccaro-Fry introduced the draft operating and capital budget for Fiscal Year 2027. The proposed FY 2027 budget features an operating allocation of \$ 50,062,519 and a capital budget of \$7,764,531, bringing the total to \$57,827,050. Adjustments to the capital budget include reducing fleet vehicle purchases from 18 to 15 using grant funds and adding \$200,000 for a security fence on new land.

On a motion by Vice-Chair Knippel and seconded by Director Royal, the Board of Directors Approve the Fiscal Year 2027 DRAFT Operating & Capital Budget.

Vote: Motion carried (4-0-0-2)

Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice-Chair Knippel, Director Royal, Alternate-Director Mac Laren

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Directors Ohlsen, Malhi

**NB 2 Capital Jurisdictional Shares – JUDY VACCARO-FRY**

Chief Financial Officer Judy Vaccaro-Fry outlined a four-year capital reserve contribution plan for all service modes—Dial-a-Ride, Commuter, and Local Transit—for fiscal years 2027 through 2030. By spreading payments across four years, the approach aims to make budgeting easier for all jurisdictions and AVTA. The Board asked how we monitor vehicle degradation, whether it is possible to extend vehicle lifespans beyond the Federal Transit Administration's 12-year benchmark, and whether inflation estimates have been factored into cost projections.

On a motion by Vice-Chair Knippel, seconded by Director Royal, the Board of Directors approves updating the fleet replacement plan recommendations in accordance with the direction stated on the agenda.

Vote: Motion carried (4-0-0-2)

Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice-Chair Knippel, Director Royal, Alternate-Director Mac Laren

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Directors Ohlsen, Malhi

**NB 3 CONTRACT #2026-11 TO MODEL 1 COMMERCIAL VEHICLES, INC. FOR THREE (3) ADA VAN REPLACEMENTS**

Director of Contracts and Procurement Cecil Foust presented the report.

On a motion by Vice-Chair Knippel and seconded by Alternate-Director Mac Laren, the Board of Directors Authorize the Executive Director/CEO to execute Contract #2026-11 with Model 1 Commercial Vehicles, Inc., Chino, CA, through the CalACT/MBTA RFP #20-01 cooperative purchasing program for the purchase of three ADA van replacements for an amount not to exceed \$364,592.03, including applicable sales tax.

Vote: Motion carried (4-0-0-2)  
Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice-Chair Knippel, Director Royal, Alternate-Director Mac Laren  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Directors Ohlsen, Malhi

**RA 1 REPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO MARTIN TOMPKINS**

Mr. Tompkins provided the Board with an update regarding facility improvements and ongoing project developments. He reported that local transit ridership has increased by 12.1% compared to the previous year. Following the implementation of the fare evasion campaign in October 2025, average fare evasion rates decreased from 32.6% in FY2025 to 17.7% in FY2026. Farebox revenue increased by 55.83% to \$141K, driven by reduced fare evasion and higher ridership. Mr. Tompkins expressed his appreciation for the operations, marketing, bus operators, the MV Transportation team, finance, and Deputy Maselli for their contributions. Additionally, he noted the upcoming Employee Appreciation Day on June 3 and invited the Board to attend.

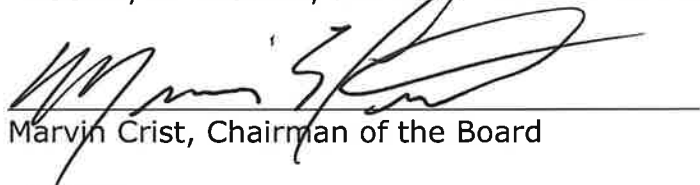
**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS – NON-AGENDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ITEMS:**

There were no reports or announcements.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Crist adjourned the meeting at 11:14 a.m. to the regular meeting of the Board of Directors on June 23, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in the Antelope Valley Transit Authority Community Room, 42210 6<sup>th</sup> Street West, Lancaster, CA.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of JUNE 2026.



Marvin Crist, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:



DeeAnna Cason, Clerk of the Board/Executive Assistant

Audio recordings of the Board of Directors Meetings are maintained in accordance with state law and AVTA's Records Retention Policy. Please contact DeeAnna Cason, Clerk of the Board/Executive Assistant, at (661) 729-2232 to arrange a review of the recording.