

AGENDA ITEM IV – A

YUBA-SUTTER TRANSIT AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES JULY 21, 2016

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

Director Didbal called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Cleveland (4:05), Didbal (Vice-Chair), Fletcher, Sullenger, Whiteaker and Whitmore

Absent: Griego & Samayoa (Chair)

II. Public Hearings

A. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Sections 5307, 5311, and 5339 Grant Applications for FY 2017.

Martin stated that this is a routine annual public hearing to satisfy funding requirements for federal grant applications being submitted for FY 2017. Martin added that the details are outlined in the staff report. Director Didbal opened up public hearing at 4:04 pm. There were no comments from the public and the hearing was closed at 4:04 pm.

Director Whiteaker made a motion to authorize the federal funding applications as submitted. Director Sullenger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

III. Public Business from the Floor

None

IV. Consent Calendar

Director Whiteaker made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Director Sullenger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

V. Reports

A. Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD) Blue Sky Grant Projects for FY 2016/2017.

Martin stated that each year staff brings an item ahead of the grant application to get Board input and direction. Martin added that Yuba-Sutter Transit currently has two FRAQMD grants – one for the discount monthly pass program and the other for support of the expanded Live Oak Route. Martin noted that possible projects include a new and enhanced Yuba-Sutter Transit website which was developed by SACOG and deployed in 2002. A portion of this project could be funded through a FRAQMD grant. The Board might also consider another grant request to continue support of the Live Oak Route for 2017. Another concept is bus stop enhancements for items such as bus shelters, bus stop benches and bike lockers.

Director Sullenger inquired as to the possibility of adding Saturday service to the Live Oak Route. Martin noted that the surplus money that Live Oak has to support the existing expansion is being consumed faster than anticipated for a variety of reasons and that this issue would need to be addressed by the city.

Director Whiteaker stated that he would like to see more bus stop enhancements for the consumers so they would have adequate benches and covering from the weather. Director Didbal concurred noting that such enhancements could possibly increase ridership. The consensus of the Board was to request funds to extend the discount pass program as well.

B. Potential Initiative to Prohibit Smoking in Transit Facilities.

Martin stated that staff is in the process of updating and developing a new passenger code for presentation to the Board by the end of the year. One of the issues for which staff needs early feedback is related to smoking at bus stops which is a common complaint from passengers. In the past, staff has taken the approach that this behavior was a local jurisdiction issue, but further research that has been confirmed by our legal counsel found that California Penal Code Section 640.A.2 specifically prohibits “Smoking in or on a system facility or vehicle in areas where those activities are prohibited by that system” and those facilities could include bus stops, bus stop benches and bus stop shelters.

Staff is now seeking Board input on a proposed expansion of the current on-board smoking ban to include all transit facilities. Director Cleveland asked if bus stops and bus stop shelters are considered a public facility as Yuba City has an ordinance prohibiting smoking within a certain distance of any public facility within the City Limits. Mr. Brant Bordsen, Legal Counsel, responded that Yuba-Sutter Transit simply needs to adopt a resolution regarding those facilities that are primarily used for public transportation purposes and it would apply to all of the jurisdictions as a matter of State law.

Director Didbal added that she would be in favor of moving forward with such a prohibition. Director Whitmore stated that there needs to be some common sense built into it as he does not want to see some nuisance situation being created from people calling the police and wasting their time as well as court time. Martin noted that we don’t want this to be a nuisance as the purpose is to specifically define the prohibition for voluntary compliance. Director Whiteaker stated that most people are pretty good about obeying no smoking signs. Director Fletcher agreed with moving it forward. Based on a consensus of the Board, Martin stated that staff will bring this back for formal consideration as early as the next meeting.

C. November Board of Directors Meeting Schedule Changes.

Martin stated that staff is recommending the cancellation of the regular November meeting on the 17th and the setting of a special meeting on November 10, 2016 due to a schedule conflict.

Director Whiteaker made a motion to accept the schedule change as proposed. Director Fletcher seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

D. Live Oak Route Expansion Demonstration Project.

Martin noted that this is a report on the first year of operation for the expanded Live Oak Route which is partially funded through a grant from the Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD). He noted that ridership increased commensurate with the expansion in service hours which is impressive. Martin also noted that Live Oak’s balance of State Transit Assistance (STA) funds is being drained faster than was anticipated. Based on current cost and revenue projections, the balance will be fully expended by December 2018. Martin noted that this issue will be discussed with the City of Live Oak.

E. Project & Program Updates.

1. North Beale Transit Center Enhancement Project

Martin stated that all of the concrete work is complete and that the new, larger shelters have been ordered. They should be arriving in the next two months for immediate installation.

2. Connect Card Electronic Fare Card System

Martin stated that the system is approaching a soft launch in the next few months and we will soon begin recruiting volunteers to participate in the soft launch.

3. Bogue Park & Ride Video Surveillance Project

Martin noted that installation is scheduled for completion tomorrow morning.

4. State Bond Funded Safety & Security Projects

Martin stated that the retrofit and installation of video surveillance systems is scheduled to begin August 1st. Martin further noted that funding has been received for the site security and lighting project which includes enhanced lighting in the shared Allyn Scott Youth & Community Center (ASYCC) parking lot. Martin added that the reciprocal parking agreement has been signed by the ASYCC and is now awaiting recording.

5. Yuba College Summer Shuttle Service

Martin stated that the six week service ends today and it has had very modest ridership of around seven boardings a day.

V. Correspondence/Information

None

VI. Other Business

None

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

The next meeting of the Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 18, 2016 in the Yuba County Board of Supervisors Chambers