

AGENDA ITEM IV – B

**YUBA-SUTTER TRANSIT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 19, 2023**

I. Call to Order & Roll Call (4:00 P.M.)

Present: Bains, Blaser, Buttacavoli, Fuhrer, Hudson (Chair), Kirchner (Vice-Chair), and Shaw
Absent: Micheli

II. Board Business

A. Nomination and Election of Board Officers 2023.

Director Hudson made a motion to nominate Director Karm Bains as Chairman. Director Fuhrer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Director Hudson made a motion to nominate Director Seth Fuhrer as Vice-Chair. Director Kirchner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

B. Statement of Economic Interest for 2023.

Martin noted that this is a reminder of the requirement to file yearly statements with the FPPC. Form 700 is due to the FPPC by April 1st for ongoing members or alternates and within 30 days from appointment for new members or alternates. A copy of the form should be provided to Lisa O'Leary, Board Clerk, for public record requests and any related questions should be directed to her.

C. Annual Board Report

Martin stated that the annual report is provided only for information and that all members and alternates are invited to contact him at any time if they have any questions regarding the agency.

III. Public Business from the Floor

None.

IV. Closed Session

A. Public Employee Appointment (Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957)

The Board adjourned to closed session at 4:05 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 4:23 p.m. stating that there was no reportable action from the closed session.

V. Consent Calendar

Director Kirchner made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Director Hudson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

VI. Reports

A. State Transit & Intercity Rail Capital program (TIRCP) Grant Application.

Martin stated that Yuba-Sutter Transit applied for the last round of TIRCP funding asking for a total of \$14.5 million with \$12.3 million for the construction of the new transit facility and \$2.2 million to replace three commuter buses with battery-electric powered commuter buses. Though the application scored highly, it was unsuccessful as grants were awarded to just 23 of 50 applicants. With a lot more money allocated for the next cycle of TIRCP grants, staff is recommending the submission of another application though we are still working to determine the optimal mix of facility and zero-emission vehicle funding that should be included for the best chance of success. These figures will range from \$8 to 12 million for the facility and the purchase of between 8 and 16 smaller battery-electric smaller buses for a new on-demand service.

Director Blazer made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 1-23 authorizing the Executive Director to submit a TIRCP grant application as proposed. Director Kirchner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

B. Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) Regional Funding Round Grant Application.

Martin discussed that this funding is available every two years under several different funding categories. After discussing the options with SACOG, it was determined that the Maintenance & Modernization category would best fit the recommended request for \$3.5 million towards the environmental, design and engineering phases of the project. This funding, when combined with the \$1.5 million that has already been reserved for this work, would complete the environmental clearance and design work including an updated engineer's cost estimate to make the project more competitive for future grant applications. The SACOG grant application is due January 25, 2023.

Director Blazer asked if we know of any environmental issues with which we will have to deal. Martin stated that the only known issue is some Elderberry bushes that are on the property as a past groundwater contamination issue was previously cleared.

Director Shaw made a motion to authorize the submission of a SACOG Regional funding Grant Application as proposed. Director Fuhrer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

C. Regional Waste Management Authority (RWMA) Consulting Agreement.

Noting that the agenda packet included a copy of the current consulting agreement between Yuba-Sutter Transit and the Regional Waste Management Authority, Martin noted that we had previously agreed to continue that relationship during the RWMA's transition to direct staffing. Now that the new RWMA staff are in place, staff is now recommending that the agreement be terminated on or before June 30, 2023. Yuba-Sutter Transit staff will remain available beyond June 30th on a time and materials basis at their then hourly rate at least through December 2023 to help with the close-out of FY 2023.

Director Fuhrer inquired as to the impact of this action on the RWMA in terms of staff levels. Martin responded that Scott Scholz, the new RWMA Executive Director, is still working on this calculation, but the two member RWMA staff will probably need to increase by one position to provide the necessary office coverage and administrative support.

Director Shaw made a motion to terminate the consultant agreement as proposed. Director Kirchner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

D. Executive Director Recruitment Authorization.

Martin stated that, pursuant to the Yuba-Sutter Transit Personnel Manual, the Board is now being asked to authorize the filling of the Executive Director position which will be vacant on or before June 30, 2023. For this purpose, the board must adopt a revised Executive Director Job description, authorize the filling of the pending vacancy, and set the salary range for the recruitment. It is being recommended that the annual salary range be set at \$140,000 - \$170,000 annually. Martin noted that Yuba County Human Resources staff will be assisting with the recruitment process.

Director Blazer made a motion to approve the fill the pending vacancy of the Executive Director position as proposed. Director Hudson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

E. Project & Program Updates.

1. NextGen Transit Plan- Community Open Houses & Board Workshop on Thursday, February 16th

Martin stated that the next transit plan open house will be in this room on February 16, 2023, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. and from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. on each side of the regular 4:00 p.m. monthly Board meeting. The project consultant will also be making a presentation during the board meeting.

Director Blaser inquired as to how the open house will be publicized. Martin stated that it will be advertised on our website, in buses, in social media, and in a newsletter article. Notice will also be sent directly via our email lists.

VII. Correspondence / Information

None.

VIII. Other Business

Director Fuhrer ask how much the smaller buses are that we just purchased. Martin responded that the new buses were around \$230,000 - \$240,000 each.

Director Fuhrer asked if the preliminary on-demand service model, which involves having less than 12 passengers on a bus, would make it possible to use even smaller vans than these small buses and, if so, would the current facility still need replacement.

Martin responded that we will continue to have large buses that are subject to the zero emission mandate and to modify the current facility for their use would not be cost effective. He also stated that small vans typically do not adhere to ADA regulations like the smaller buses that have wheelchair access and are in compliance with ADA regulations.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 pm.

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023 AT 4:00 PM IN THE YUBA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTICED.