

AGENDA ITEM III – A

**YUBA-SUTTER TRANSIT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 16, 2020**

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

Present: Cardoza, Fletcher (4:01pm), Hudson, Leahy (Chair), Samayoa, Shaw, Sullenger and Whiteaker

Absent: None

II. Board Business

A. Nomination and Election of Board Officers for 2020.

Director Whiteaker was nominated for Chairman by Director Cardoza. The nomination was seconded by Director Samayoa. Being no other nominations, it carried unanimously.

Director Fletcher was nominated for Vice Chair by Director Sullenger. The nomination was seconded by Director Cardoza. Being no other nominations, it carried unanimously.

B. Statement of Economic Interest for 2020.

Martin noted that this information item is to remind the Directors of the requirement to file yearly statements with the FPPC. He stated that Form 700 can be filed online by April 1st and that any questions should be directed to the office.

C. Annual Board Report.

Martin stated that the annual report is provided for information.

III. Public Business from the Floor

None.

IV. Consent Calendar

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

V. Reports

A. State Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) Concepts.

Martin explained the State Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) stating that the primary purpose of the program is to assist transit agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve mobility for state identified disadvantaged communities (DAC).

He noted that the amount of funding available has varied dramatically over the years, but this cycle of funding is expected to be about the same as for the previous cycle. In general, at least half of the available funding must be used to benefit State identified disadvantaged communities if any. All projects must be able to show a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Martin continued that last year the board established an ad hoc committee to review project concepts and make specific project recommendations for board consideration and staff is recommending that this same approach be used again for this cycle of funding. An ad hoc committee would need to meet during the first week of February 2020 to discuss projects for potential funding for board approval at the February 20th meeting as the applications will be due by the end of March.

Director Samayoa expressed interest in being a part of the ad hoc committee to help find a solution to some of Marysville's parking issues around the hospital. Director Cardoza also expressed interest in joining the committee. After some discussion, Director Leahy agreed to again participate, and the Chair appointed all three to the ad hoc committee.

B. Project & Program Updates

1. Contractor Transition (Introduction of Renick House, General Manager)

Martin introduced Mr. Renick House, General Manager for Storer Transit Systems. Mr. House briefly addressed the board stating that he hoped his background in maintenance and safety would be beneficial to our transit service.

2. Yuba College Sutter Center Student Shuttle (Started Monday, January 13th)

Martin discussed the Sutter Center Shuttle service that began on Monday, January 13, 2020. It has only been a few days and ridership has been light with an average of 13 passenger boards through the first three days of service. The shuttle is an express service that operates every 30 minutes in both directions between the Walton Terminal and the Sutter Campus.

3. Feather River Air Quality Management District Grant Awards

Martin noted that the Feather River Air Quality Management District in early December awarded two grants to Yuba-Sutter Transit. The grants were for \$142,000 to extend the discount monthly bus pass program for another year through March 2021 and for \$10,000 to continue the expanded Live Oak service for another years through December 2020.

Director Cardoza asked if state budget cuts would affect the amount of grant funding that would be available from the air district. Martin stated that the funding for these grants come from locally imposed vehicle registration fees and should not be affected by any state budget cuts.

4. Next Generation Transit Facility Plan

Martin stated that WSP is now under contract to conduct the Next Generation Transit Facility project and that kickoff meetings are scheduled for the last week of January. This project is to conduct a scoping and site selection process for a new transit facility.

5. Surplus Bus Sales

Martin stated that the bids on the eleven surplus buses will close on Friday, January 17th. Every bus already has a bid and will be sold by the end of the week through the online auction site.

6. Increased State Employee Transit Commute Subsidy

Martin discussed the increased state commute subsidy that went into effect in December 2019 for those state employees represented by SEIU Local 1000. The state subsidy is for 75 percent of the transit commute cost for up to a \$100 monthly value (up from the \$65 maximum for all other state employees. With a \$135 monthly Sacramento commuter pass, eligible Yuba-Sutter Transit passengers would receive the full \$100 subsidy. It is hoped that this increase (equal to another \$420 annually) will increase interest in our commuter services.

7. Expanded Transit connections to Sacramento International Airport (Effective January 5th)

Martin informed the board of the recently expanded service between downtown Sacramento and the Sacramento International Airport which combined with our Sacramento service to offer a reasonably convenient connection to the airport from the Yuba-Sutter area.

8. FY 2021 Budget Preview – February 20th Board Meeting

Martin reminded the board that the annual budget preview will be on the agenda next month and invited input on any items or issues that members would like to see covered in the next budget cycle. He noted that the FY 2019 fiscal audit report will also be presented at the February board meeting.

Director Shaw asked if expanding service to the airport should be considered now that the Super Shuttle services has been discontinued. Martin explained that with the North Valley Airport Shuttle from Chico along with Uber and Lyft, there is still not a consistent need for airport service that would justify a scheduled public transit service.

Director Fletcher asked if the information about the Chico shuttle could be referenced on the Yuba-Sutter Transit website for those looking for that type of transport. Martin stated that it is currently listed under “Other Transit Services” on the website, but we could make that link more easily accessed. [Update: Martin later learned that the referenced service from Chico to the airport had closed business in the first half of 2019.]

Director Samayoa stated that he was pleased to see the expanded services to the Sutter Campus and hoped that we would be able to promote it to help get the word out.

VI. Correspondence/Information

None

VII. Other Business

Director Whiteaker thanked Janet Frye for her assistance in helping create Discount Connect ID Cards for the students at T. E. Mathews.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 pm.

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020
AT 4:00PM IN THE WHEATLAND ROOM**