

SIERRA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
P. O. Box 98 – DOWNIEVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95936

COMMISSIONERS

PETER W. HUEBNER –CHAIRMAN
PAUL ROEN
SHARON DRYDEN
JOY MARKUM

DARLENE RIEDE -VICE CHAIR
NANCY ROGERS
VACANCY – TRANSIT MEMBER
JAMES BEARD, ALTERNATE

WEDNESDAY
MAY 20, 2020
10:00 A.M.

TELECONFERENCE MEETING
DOWNIEVILLE, CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Chairman Peter Huebner.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Huebner; Dryden; Roen; Riede, Rogers

Commissioners Absent: Markum

A Quorum was established.

Staff Present: Miriam Dines, Executive Secretary; Bryan Davey, Transportation Planner; Tim Beals, Executive Director

Also Present: Gloria Shelton, Transit Coordinator and Carolyn Widman, Incorporated Senior Citizens; Nima Kabirinassab, Caltrans District 3

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Rogers

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commission Action: Commissioner Dryden moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Riede. Motion was carried unanimously by acclamation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commission Action: Commissioner Roen moved to approve the minutes of February 19, 2020; seconded by Commissioner Huebner. Motion was carried unanimously by acclamation.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS: No Announcements were given

6. PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment was given.

7. TRANSIT ISSUES

Mr. Davey discussed the spreadsheet on transit funds that was distributed with the meeting packet. He reported that since the February meeting several more months of allocations from Local Transportation Funds have arrived. Current receipts to date are \$71,584.11 which is up 124% from last year at this time. It is expected, however, with Covid 19 restrictions in place that the sales tax will drop significantly. These payments are usually 2 month behind, so more will be known at a later date.

A report was given on the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council meeting which was a telephonic meeting through the WEBex Format and was conducted on May 12, 2020. There were no new transit issues raised and no change to the recommendations with regard to Unmet Transit Needs.

Chair Huebner opened the Unmet Transit Needs hearing at 10:10 a.m. With no public testimony, the hearing was closed at 10:10 a.m.

Mr. Davey presented the definition of “unmet needs” and those needs that are “reasonable to meet” were presented.

Commission Action: Commissioner Roen moved to adopt resolution establishing the definition of those transit needs that are reasonable to meet during fiscal year 2020/2021; seconded by Commissioner Rogers. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.

The Transit Operations Budget for 20-21 was presented and Mr. Davey explained that no real changes were proposed and that it was very similar to the previous budget. After a brief review the following action was taken:

Commission Action: Commissioner Roen moved to adopt a resolution approving the transit operation budget for FY 21 as presented; seconded by Commissioner Rogers. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.

Mr. Davey explained the Federal Transit Administration 5311 application process and authorizing documents as presented in the meeting packet. The FTA 5311 program provides \$48,000 annually toward the transit program. After brief review the following action was taken:

Commissioner Roen moved to adopt a resolution approving the Section 5311 Transit Grant application and authorizing Executive Director to execute application and related documentation and authorizing County Counsel to execute Certifications and Assurances for Fiscal Year 20 Transit Funding; seconded by Commissioner Rogers. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.

Mr. Davey provided a status report on the two new transit vehicles, that they are both in service, one each at both agencies. The old vehicles are stored at Goodyears bar, open for disposition in accordance with direction of the Commission.

Commissioner Roen stressed that if there is no need within the county that the Commission look once again to the school district, as previous transfers that direction have served the community and students very well. Commissioner Dryden inquired if the vans might be kept for meal delivery. Mr. Davey explained that the funding program for the vans provide for “replacement” which means older vans must be taken out of service, and that if the fleet of vehicles was increased it would change the program, including environmental review. After further discussion on the ability to continue use through the senior citizen programs Mr. Beals suggested that perhaps a discussion should happen between the schools and the Senior Citizen organizations to see if it possible to

develop a collaboration for certain efforts such as meal delivery, but the SCTC would not be connected.

Commission Action: Commissioner Roen moved to declare the out of service vehicles as surplus with no value and to transfer to the Sierra Plumas Joint Unified School District at no cost; seconded by Commissioner Riede. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.

A resolution was presented with regard to authorizing a FTA Section 5311 Transit Grant applications for the \$54,000 for Corona Virus Relief Economic Security Act. This grant will be administered through Caltrans and it has to do with loss of revenue specific to the Covid 19 Virus. Eligible activities include operating costs to maintain service, lost revenue, purchase of PPE associated with the pandemic, administrative salaries for operations personnel. If it unknown at this time how much can be utilized and more needs to be known, but it is anticipated that some of the funding would be used.

Commissioner Dryden moved to adopt a resolution authorize the Section 5311 Transit Grant application for the \$54,000 allocation of funds from the Corona Virus Relief Economic Security Act (CARES ACT) FTA 5311 Disbursement; seconded by Commissioner Roen. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.

8. OVERALL WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Davey reports that work under the OWP is proceeding as usual and that the current invoicing to Caltrans needs to be done. Due to the absence of an employee we are struggling with the accounting side, otherwise work has progressed as expected. Mr. Davey explained the proposed resolution for budget amendment 1 which will make corrections to the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget.

Commissioner Roen moved to adopt a resolution approving budget amendment number 1 in order to make corrections to the 2019-2020 SCTC Budget; seconded by Commissioner Rogers. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.

Mr. Davey reported on next year's Overall Work Program which is normally presented at the May meeting for approval. Due to comments received from Caltrans that need to be incorporated into the OWP, it will be necessary to conduct a meeting in June for consideration of the 2021 Overall Work Program.

9. PLANNING, PROGRAMMING AND MONITORING

Mr. Davey explained the purpose of the PPM Agreement with MGE Engineering and the following motion was presented:

Commission Action: Commissioner Roen moved to approve a professional services agreement with MGE Engineering for transportation planning, programming and monitoring services for fiscal year 2021; seconded by Commissioner Rogers. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.

11. REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Mr. Davey reported on the funds that come through that are known as Exchange Funds. SCTC began receiving this revenue stream about 5 years ago. The funding is not enough to do a full

transportation project, and thus far all of these funds have been expended on speed feedback signs. This current allocation is in the amount of \$16,139.

Commission Action: Commissioner Roen moved to approve the agreement for Federal Apportionment Exchange Program Funding; seconded by Commissioner Rogers. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.

12. **CALTRANS REPORTS:** more information on the Scenic Byway process and letters of support. Discussion ensued about the need for letters of support from the Board of Supervisors, SCTC, and Caltrans District 3 Director in support of the nomination. By consensus direction was given to Executive Director to prepare and submit letters on behalf of the SCTC/

Commissioner Roen stated that Granite Construction is sourcing for the project on the dead man's curves and wonders if Mr. Kabirinassab has any information. Mr. Kabirinassab indicated he would get back to Bryan Davey later in the day on those projects.

Mr. Beals requested information on what grants are currently available and current submittal deadlines at this time.

The deferred coordination meeting with Caltrans was briefly discussed, an

13. TRANSPORTATION ISSUES AND PROJECT STATUS REPORTS

Bridge Projects Update: Mr. Davey the Salmon Lake Road bridge project finally did receive right of way clearance which is a huge step forward. Everything is in place for the Packer Lake Road Bridge except for one letter from a utility. It is too late to get the construction funds allocated for this construction season. There is hope that these projects can go to bid later this year for the next construction season. The Plumbago Bridge just received its environmental clearance. It was delayed due to the mining in the area and the need for historical preservation clearance. There is a possibility of getting it to construction next season as well.

Speed Feedback Signs Update: Mr. Davey reported that all speed feedback signs are installed and functioning. The school signs in Loyalton have been updated. There is a new sign installed on A-23 southbound at Sattley. Commissioner Roen thanked the SCTC for that sign installation.

Pedestrian Concerns: No update.

Update on County Projects: Bryan Davey reported that the Emergency Relief FHWA projects from the 2017 storm damage are awarded and under construction, although the weather this week messed up the start. There are 12 large FEMA projects, and 4 are being ready to go out to bid. The rest are in the environmental review phase.

Mr. Beals stated that we continue to need the Project Study Reports for the Sierra City Main Street Project and Lemmon Canyon. Those projects have been on the back burner because of other pressing items.

Mr. Davey stated that he believes that there may be some infrastructure funding that comes available due to economic stimulus from the Federal Government. Mr. Beals stated that he participated in a conference call with State Public Works Directs to discuss part of a stimulus package that was a funding opportunity for small airports, but hasn't received any actual confirmation of such a program.

Commissioner Dryden asked if there are any plans underway to pave Smithneck Road, and want to keep that need fresh. Bryan Davey stated that the PSR is completed on that project, everything is in place, but the bike path must be addressed. He stated that the three priorities of the Commission remain the Lemmon Canyon/Campbell Hot Springs Road; Sierra City Main Street; and Smithneck Road/Bike Path.

Mr. Beals requested that at a future meeting we refresh the factual background on the STIP, RTIP, and current priorities. Commissioner Roen stated the hope that there would be alternative funding sources to leverage for some of these projects.

Update on City Projects: Commissioner Rogers reports no update on City project. Mr. Beals asked about the school zone and speed feedback signs and Commissioner Rogers reported that all the signs are working. Bryan Davey reported that Caltrans says to that the signs on Main Street need to be raised.

14 SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 24, 2020 10:00 a.m. Downieville (Telephonic).

15. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Huebner adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m.



Peter W. Huebner, Chairman
Sierra County Transportation Commission

ATTEST:



Miriam B. Dines, Executive Secretary