MINUTES OF THE MAY 7, 2018 LAVTA BOARD MEETING

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was called to order by Board Chair Karla Brown at 4:00pm

2. Roll Call of Members

Members Present
David Haubert – Mayor, City of Dublin
Janine Thalblum – Councilmember, City of Dublin
Jerry Pentin – Councilmember, City of Pleasanton
Karla Brown – Councilmember, City of Pleasanton
Steven Spedowfski – Councilmember, City of Livermore
Bob Coomber – Councilmember, City of Livermore
Scott Haggerty – Supervisor, County of Alameda

3. Meeting Open to Public

Carmen Rivera-Hendrickson
Ms. Rivera-Hendrickson is a Pleasanton representative for the Wheels Accessible Advisory Committee (WAAC). Ms. Rivera-Hendrickson is concerned that the new Fixed Route Q’Pod restraint system does not have a manual quick release button for when the restraint is stuck. Ms. Rivera-Hendrickson encountered the restraint system not releasing twice when the wheel chair was hooked in the wrong place; which, required LAVTA to cut the belt and this caused the bus to be down for an hour. When the strap is cut the bus goes out of service, since they are unable to have another wheel chair parked on the bus until the Q-Pod strap is repaired. Ms. Rivera-Hendrickson is requesting that all Q-Pod restraints have a manual button release, since currently they are computerized and do not always work properly. Ms. Rivera-Hendrickson observed that the Q-Pod restraint system takes longer to hook her wheel chair up and stated that she has seen it work better with the four point hook up. Ms. Rivera-Hendrickson mentioned that twice a driver did not place hooks on the front of her wheel chair and it should have been a four point hook up. Ms. Rivera-Hendrickson believes the drivers are scared to put restraints on the front of her chair.

Vice Chair Scott Haggerty asked if this issue was brought to staffs attention. Executive Director Michael Tree responded that nine months ago there was a restraint issue and it happened again three weeks ago. Executive Director Michael Tree stated that it appears the driver did everything correct and there was a problem with the computerized program locking up the restraint. Executive Director Michael Tree informed that there is a glitch in the Q’Pod restraint system and he spoke to GILLIG regarding this issue. LAVTA had the Q’Pod manufacture come out nine months ago and made adjustments and accommodations that were reasonable to have the restraint system work better. In the next week or so, LAVTA will find out why the restraint system locked up. In the meantime, all buses have been supplied with belt cutters. Executive Director Michael Tree informed that when a strap is cut the bus is taken out of service and another bus is then placed in service.

Robert S. Allen
Mr. Allen requested LAVTA to please arrange for southbound Wheels buses at BART’s Dublin/Pleasanton station to pick up passengers at the stop sign by the fare gates. This would make a lot of difference in making the bus or not making it.
Board Chair Karla Brown informed Mr. Allen that there have been discussion with staff regarding his request and it is being worked on.

4. Consent Agenda

Recommend approval of all items on Consent Agenda as follows:

A. Minutes of the April 2, 2018 Board of Directors meeting.

B. Treasurer’s Report for the month of March 2018

The Board of Directors approved the March 2018 Treasurer’s Report.

C. Approval of Resolutions Authorizing Staff to Apply for TDA, STA, and RM2 funds for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

The Board of Directors approved the attached resolutions authorizing the filing of a claim with MTC for Allocation of TDA Article 4.0, 4.5, STA, and RM2 Funds for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. Resolutions 12-2018 and 13-2018.

D. 2018 Legislative Update

The Board of Directors accepted this report and approved two legislative positions:

- AB 3201 (Daly) – California Clean Truck, Bus, and Off-Road Vehicle and Equipment Technology Program – SUPPORT
- SB 1434 (Leyva) Transportation Electrification: Electricity Rate Design – SUPPORT

E. Las Positas College Memorandum of Understanding

The Board of Directors approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between LAVTA and Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, Las Positas College, for the Las Positas College Student Mobility Initiative.

Approved: Haubert/Pentin
Aye: Haubert, Pentin, Brown, Coomber, Haggerty, Spedowfski
No: None
Abstain: Thalblum
Absent: None

5. Appoint of a New Board Member and Adoption of Revised Committee Assignments

The Board of Directors adopted Resolution 14-2018 appointing Janine Thalblum, Dublin City Council Member to Finance and Administration Committee.

Approved: Haubert/Pentin
Aye: Haubert, Pentin, Brown, Coomber, Haggerty, Spedowfski, Thalblum
No: None
Abstain: None
6. Dublin Student Transit Service Study

Staff provided the Board of Directors the Dublin Student Transit Service Study. Staff informed that LAVTA provided school-focused supplemental routes for middle and high schools in Dublin and Pleasanton. Given the substantial growth that LAVTA has seen in Eastern Dublin we have also seen demand for the supplemental routes increase rapidly. LAVTA has continued to supply overflow capacity to meet this demand. LAVTA asked Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates to assist with data gathering and to contact the City and school district to get development plans and enrollment projections. An online survey was also conducted with students and parents. Nelson\Nygaard has helped LAVTA with a fiscally constrained near term service plan that address capacity and coverage needs. Staff introduced Project Manager Samantha Erickson of Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates and she provided the Board of Directors a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Dublin Transit Service Plan. The presentation provided information on how LAVTA can meet the changing transit needs of the Dublin student population. Community outreach was conducted for feedback and six hundred responses were received from an online survey, one stakeholder meeting, and one community meeting. LAVTA has operational challenges regarding driver and vehicle availability during peak hours, vehicle capacity constraints, and interlining school trippers with mainline routes, due to Wednesday bell scheduled. Board Member David Haubert proposed that LAVTA ask students on the bus if keeping the same schedule every day versus having a different Wednesday schedule would work for them. The proposed changes for Fall 2018 include: 1) no changes to the mainline routes 1 and 2; 2) new service for Routes serving Dublin High from Jordan Ranch/Cottonwood Creek areas (pilot express service); 3) eliminate second afternoon trip for routes serving Wells Middle School; and 4) no changes to routes serving Fallon Middle School. The proposed changes for Fall 2019 include: 1) Consider realignment and possible interlining on Routes 1 and 2; 2) Expand routes as needed serving Dublin High School; 3) Expand vehicle capacity as needed for routes serving Wells Middle School; and 4) New route to serve Fallon Middle School to accompany Route 2 realignment. Samantha Erickson informed that the neighborhood near Palisades will need an area for a bus turnaround, if they require school tripper service and that LAVTA can work with the city. Samantha Erickson also noted that articulating buses have a better turning radius than standard buses. LAVTA’s peak vehicles will increase from 47 to 49 and the revenue hours are neutral in the morning, but will increase 0.25 hours in the afternoon. Board Member Steven Spedowsfski mentioned that the distribution of transit service through the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) was tight and wanted to know if the increased revenue hours will effect this. Samantha Erickson responded that this fall LAVTA is okay, but moving forward LAVTA will most likely require adding resources. This is why LAVTA may want to cost out if it makes sense to go to articulating buses.

This was informational only.

7. Review of Go Dublin Program

Executive Director Michael Tree provided the Board of Directors a review of Go Dublin. Executive Director Michael Tree noted that the budget will be brought to the Board and would like to know how to move forward with Go Dublin in the next fiscal year. There is a Geofence around the city limits of Dublin that allows patrons to utilize the promo code GODUBLIN with either a phone application for Uber and Lyft or phone call to DeSoto Cab. When the discount code is used, Wheels will pay half the customer fare, up to five dollars, for ridesharing trips that
start and end in Dublin. LAVTA’s goal with Go Dublin was to induce ridesharing, reduce parking demand at BART stations and measure the impact on the Rapid. A PowerPoint presentation gave an initial preview of the results thus far on the Go Dublin pilot discount program. Executive Director Michael Tree pointed out that while this program has been in place LAVTA ridership in Dublin increased by about 14,800 rides and he believes this excludes the school tripper routes. Executive Director Michael Tree highlighted the budget expenditures to date a total of $60,117.00. Fehrs and Peers will provide a more comprehensive review at the June Board meeting.

The Board approved an extension of the Go Dublin demonstration project to provide the agency an opportunity to review the Fehr & Peers study and to compare the Go Dublin pilot program with other transportation options, including micro transit and fixed route service.

Approved: Pentin/Spedowsfki  
Aye: Haubert, Pentin, Brown, Coomber, Haggerty, Spedowfksi, Thalblum  
No: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

8. Executive Director’s Report

Executive Director Michael Tree provided the Board of Directors the Executive Director’s Report. Executive Director Michael Tree noted that interviews for the Director of Planning and Operations will be conducted the week of May 14th.

LAVTA is hopeful to take delivery of the SAV vehicle soon, since it has arrived in US customs. LAVTA has 10-15 vehicle designs for the SAV project. The SAV media kick-off is scheduled for June 22nd at 10am.

LAVTA is working with Pleasanton city staff regarding the Paratransit Study and hopeful to bring something to the Board in the near future.

Executive Director Michael Tree gave a brief overview of Individualized Marketing that is starting in May and will focus on Dublin Boulevard and Las Positas College neighborhood. There will be travel ambassadors going door to door meeting with residents to talk about transportation options.

Executive Director Michael Tree highlighted that Las Positas College approved the Memorandum of Understanding on April 17th and that LAVTA received $435,000 grant to improve Livermore Transit Center. Board Member Steven Spedowsfksi would like the transit center design to be integrated with the Historic Train Depot. Board Chair Karla Brown requested better signage at the Transit Center, since it is difficult to find the location and some plants have overgrown the signage. Board Member Steven Spedowsfksi responded that eventually first street will be reconfigured, so that the Transit Center is more present. Board Member Steven Spedowsfksi also stated that the city can look into the right of way to place better Transit Center and Historic Train Depot signage.

9. Matters Initiated by the Board of Directors

None.
10. Next Meeting Date is Scheduled for: June 4, 2018

11. Adjournment

   Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm