

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 4, 2022 ZOOM TELECONFERENCE**  
**LAVTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**1. Call to Order**

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

Board Chair Karla Brown informed the public that LAVTA's meeting is being conducted according to the COVID-19 rules that are detailed at the beginning of the agenda explaining why this is a Zoom teleconference.

**2. Roll Call of Members**

**Members Present**

David Haubert – County of Alameda  
Jean Josey – City of Dublin  
Melissa Hernandez – City of Dublin  
Karla Brown – City of Pleasanton  
Kathy Narum – City of Pleasanton  
Gina Bonanno – City of Livermore  
Brittini Kiick – City of Livermore

**3. Meeting Open to Public**

No comments.

**4. March Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee Minutes**

Chair Herb Hastings of the Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee (TAAC) reported on the minutes of the March 2, 2022 TAAC Zoom teleconference meeting. Discussed at the TAAC meeting were the Annual Program Submittal for ACTC Measure BB Funding, TAAC recruitment, Shared Autonomous Vehicle (SAV) update on Phase 2, PAPCO report, and service updates and concerns. Chair Herb Hastings noted that Carmen Rivera-Hendrickson had concerns about the distance and spacing in the 1600 & 1700 buses.

**5. Consent Agenda**

**Recommend approval of all items on Consent Agenda as follows:**

**A. Minutes of the March 7, 2022 Board of Directors meeting.**

**B. Treasurer's Report for February 2022**

The Board of Directors approved the February 2022 Treasurer's Report.

**C. Adoption of a Resolution Declaring that Agency Meetings Will Continue to Be Held Via Teleconference**

The Board of Directors adopted Resolution 14-2022 declaring that LAVTA meetings will continue to be held via teleconference.

**D. Bus Exterior Advertising Contract**

The LAVTA Board of Directors authorized the Executive Director to award a contract to Lamar Transit Advertising for the sale and installation of exterior bus advertising for an initial contract period of three years beginning July 1, 2022 with two option years exercisable by LAVTA at the discretion of the Executive Director.

**E. 2022 Title VI Program**

The Board of Directors approved the 2022 LAVTA Title VI Program for submittal to the Federal Transit Administration. Resolution 13-2022

**F. Las Positas College Memorandum of Understanding**

The Board of Directors authorized the Executive Director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District for the continuation of the Las Positas College Student Transit Pass Program.

**G. Zero-Emission Bus Rollout Plan**

The Board of Directors adopted Resolution 12-2022, approving LAVTA's ZEB Rollout Plan for submission to CARB.

**H. LAVTA Rutan Landscaping Construction Project**

The Board of Directors approved Resolution 09-2022, authorizing the Executive Director to execute an agreement with Westside Landscape and Concrete, Inc. for the removal of the existing landscape, soil preparation, irrigation system installation, and planting at the Rutan Facility.

Approved: Bonanno/Josey

Aye: Bonanno, Brown, Josey, Haubert, Narum, Kiick

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Hernandez

After the Consent Agenda, Agenda Item 7 was moved up on the agenda for the convenience of the group in managing the balance of the meeting.

**7. Authorization of Executive Director to Execute Modification No. 2 to Agreement with MV Transportation, Inc. Regarding Employee Wage Adjustments and Bonuses**

Executive Director Michael Tree reported that obtaining new employees and retaining them in public transportation agencies is becoming difficult across America. LAVTA is requesting a fixed-route operations wage increase to become more competitive. Staff informed that through a comparative wage analysis LAVTA found that pay for drivers is not competitive enough. Staff noted that both MV Transportation and LAVTA will contribute to fund this proposal. Staff acknowledged that frontline staff at MV Transportation and LAVTA have been an integral

part in keeping essential services in place for the public and for morale would like to recognize hard work, dedication, and commitment to work excellence with a one-time appreciation bonus of up to \$1,500 per employee. LAVTA reviewed the financial impact in the near term and over the next five years and the proposed amount of \$351,000 can be accommodated within the FY22 budget. Staff will bring the FY23 budget to the Finance and Administration Committee meeting later this month for a more in-depth discussion.

[David Haubert, from County of Alameda, departed during Agenda Item 7.]

The Board of Directors discussed this agenda item with staff. Director Melissa Hernandez requested LAVTA to look at a second year of appreciation bonus, if funding is available. Director Kathy Narum inquired about a plan for distribution, since the wording says “up-to” \$1,500 bonus. Staff informed the bonus will be prorated based on tenure here.

Legal Counsel Michael Conneran stated that LAVTA has a contract with MV Transportation and these are Union employees who have a collective Bargaining Agreement with MV Transportation. LAVTA is helping to sweeten the pot for the reasons explained and have three more option years with MV Transportation. The \$351,000 is for the remainder of this fiscal year and the Board will have the option to exercise this option with them next year.

Chair Karla Brown asked for public comment on this agenda item. Public comment was received from the following attendees:

Rich Fierro from Teamsters Local 70. Rich Fierro thanked Executive Director Michael Tree, Toan Tran, and Tamara Edwards. Rich Fierro hopes to get MV Transportation fully staffed to start running all routes again. Rich Fierro provided his insight on how the wage increase will assist in retaining MV Transportation staff.

Jeff Bane, Senior Vice President of Operations from MV Transportation. Jeff Bane echoed the sentiments provided by Rich Fierro and informed that he is very excited about this package, since it was a team effort. Jeff Bane noted that this wage increase may not solve all of the problems, but is confident that service can be expanded back to pre-COVID levels of operation.

Herb Hastings, a Tri-Valley resident inquired if the wage and bonus will cause a fare increase to recover the difference. Executive Director Michael Tree informed that LAVTA has not anticipated raising fares, certainly not because of this issue.

Public comment was closed.

Director Melissa Hernandez informed that she also feels that overall benefits are important for operators. All Board Members were very supportive of the wage increase and bonus.

The Board of Directors approved Resolution 15-2022, authorizing the Executive Director to execute Modification No. 2 to the Agreement between LAVTA and MV to provide for wage scale increases for fixed-route operations staff, and a one-time appreciation bonus of up to \$1,500 per employee that serves LAVTA, for their dedication and commitment to work excellence throughout the COVID pandemic.

Approved: Josey/Hernandez

Aye: Bonanno, Brown, Josey, Narum, Kiick, Hernandez

No: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Haubert

## **6. Atlantis Transit Facility Bridging and Design Services Update**

Staff provided a brief background on the Atlantis project and introduced Anthony Hoac of Kimley-Horn who presented an update of the Atlantis Transit Facility Project Status. The presentation provided the site development plan, advancements in the project, and information on the City of Livermore Planning Application. Anthony Hoac informed that the planning documents were submitted to the City of Livermore on March 25, 2022 and discussed the application process.

The Board of Directors discussed this agenda item with staff. Director Bonanno requested information at a future meeting on solar at Atlantis and would like the outdoor employee areas positioned for adequate shade in the afternoons.

Executive Director Michael Tree provided the funding opportunities for this project.

Chair Karla Brown asked for public comment on this agenda item. Public comment was received from the following attendee:

Herb Hastings, a Tri-Valley resident, requested to view the interior design, prior to construction, to assist with ADA accessibility.

Public comment was closed.

This was informational only.

## **8. FTA Section 5311 Funding Authorizing Resolution**

Staff reported that this federal funding is available to public transit operators to provide service to non-urbanized areas and parts of Route 14 still qualifies as non-urbanized, so LAVTA will apply for funding to support a portion of route for FY23 operations.

The Board of Directors approved Resolution 10-2022, authorizing LAVTA to receive federal funding under FTA Section 5311.

Approved: Kiick/Josey  
Aye: Bonanno, Brown, Josey, Narum, Kiick, Hernandez  
No: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Haubert

## **9. Resolution in Support of Allocation Request for FY 21-22 Funding through the State Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP)**

Staff reported that LCTOP is a state program that can support either capital or operating needs that lower greenhouse gas emissions and LAVTA has been opting to use this fund source to support operating needs since COVID-19 began. This request is proposed to support the

restoration of Rapid service back to 15-minutes in the AM and PM peak hours.

The Board of Directors approved Resolution 11-2022 in support of an allocation request for the FY 21-22 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) to restore peak-hour Rapid service frequencies in FY 22-23.

Approved: Kiick/Narum

Aye: Bonanno, Brown, Josey, Narum, Kiick, Hernandez

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Haubert

## **10. Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Michael Tree reported that LAVTA has about 80-90 Rapid stops throughout the system and about half of the shelters and medallion signs were deteriorating. LAVTA received independent cost estimates to prepare and paint the Rapid stops and the expenditure would have been between \$400,000-\$500,000. For several months in 2020 during COVID-19 four members of the maintenance crew renovated bus stops and saved our agency about \$266,000 in labor costs. Executive Director Michael Tree expressed that this is just an example of why he thinks we have the best employees working here.

Executive Director Michael Tree informed that ridership is slowly increasing, but not with a lot of momentum. LAVTA is awaiting the right conditions for commuters to come back and enjoy our transit system.

Executive Director also reminded the Board of Directors that the Paratransit proposals are due on April 6, 2022 and that will provide insight on the impact it might have on LAVTAs budget. Executive Director Michael Tree also highlighted the Zero-Emission Bus Rollout Plan and Dublin Parking Garage that was in the report.

Executive Director Michael Tree thanked Board Members Jean Josey and Brittini Kiick for assisting in having the Tri-Valley Transportation Council Subcommittee incorporate LAVTA into the expenditure plan for funding.

Chair Karla Brown asked for public comment on this agenda item. Public comment was received from the following attendee:

Herb Hastings, a Tri-Valley resident, thanked Executive Director Michael Tree for doing an excellent job, for his support and assistance.

## **11. Adjourn to CLOSED SESSION**

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 5:11pm

## **12. CLOSED SESSION – PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (Gov't Code 54957(b): Title of Position: Executive Director**

## **13. Reconvene to OPEN SESSION**

Meeting reconvened at 5:34pm.

Legal Counsel Michael Conneran informed there were no reportable actions taken.

**14. Matters Initiated by the Board of Directors**

None.

**15. Next Meeting Date is Scheduled for: May 2, 2022**

**16. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 5:34pm.