

*Tuolumne County Transit Agency
Technical/Citizen's Advisory Committee*

April 1, 2020 Meeting Minutes

The April 1, 2020 meeting of the Tuolumne County Transit Agency (TCTA) Technical/Citizen's Advisory Committee(s) (TAC/CAC) was called to order at 3:06 p.m. by Executive Director, Darin Grossi. Also, in attendance were: Mary Rose Rutikanga, City of Sonora Administrator; Rachelle Kellogg, City of Sonora; Kim McFarlane, Director of Public Works; Tanya Sanguinetti, Engineering Manager; Paul Slemmons representing District 2; Dick Southern representing District 3; Bob Asquith representing District 4; Carl Baker representing District 5; Laura Shinn, Senior Administrative Analyst; and Assistant to the Executive Director, Denise Bergamaschi.

Michael Casas was present at today's meeting representing Caltrans District 10.

1. Oral communication (15 minutes) to allow the public to speak on any item not on the printed agenda.

There was no Oral Communication at today's meeting.

Consent Calendar:

2. Approval of the March 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

TAC:

Michael Casas moved to approve the March 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented.

Mary Rose Rutikanga seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 5-0 vote.

CAC:

Dick Southern moved to approve the March 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented.

Paul Slemmons seconded the motion,

Motion approved with a 4-0 vote.

Motion approved unanimously.

Regular Agenda:

3. Recommend approval of purchasing one new bus, a Type C Glaval 16 + 2, in the amount of \$106,100.17, from the California Association of Coordinated Transit (CalACT) piggy-back contract available e to all CalACT members.

Executive Director Grossi informed Committee Members that several the transit buses are nearing their "useful" life expectancies. He added that every year funds are set aside for this reason. He stated that initially staff was anticipating purchasing two but given the financial impacts of COVID 19, only one will be purchased to maintain a higher fund balance at this time

should other emergencies arise. He stated that staff is looking for approval to purchase just one bus for now.

Sr. Transportation Planner, Tyler Summersett, informed Committee Members that this is a chance to purchase a 2019 model on the State Contract at a lower cost, also adding the in the 2020 models, the motors change. He stated that we are trying to grab one of the final 2019 models available.

TAC:

Kim McFarlane moved to approve purchasing one new bus, a Type C Glaval 16 + 2, in the amount of \$106,100.17, from the California Association of Coordinated Transit (CalACT) piggy-back contract available e to all CalACT members.

Michael Casas seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 5-0 vote.

CAC:

Bob Asquith moved to approve approve purchasing one new bus, a Type C Glaval 16 + 2, in the amount of \$106,100.17, from the California Association of Coordinated Transit (CalACT) piggy-back contract available e to all CalACT members.

Dick Southern seconded the vote.

Motion approved with a 4-0 vote.

4. Reports

Executive Director Grossi informed Committee Members that COVID19 has wreaked havoc on ridership. He stated that currently, Dial a Ride is running 8 buses per day with less than 100 riders adding that only essential transportation is being honored at this time and that all rides are free of charge until further notice. He added that normally, there are over 300 Route riders and over 100 Dial a Ride and that during the first week of March the ridership began to decline, which was the beginning of the outbreak. Mr. Grossi stated that during the second week, not only did ridership decline, but that WATCH closed its services. During the 3rd week ridership was way down – only 100 riders, including 15 Dial a Ride on Friday, March 27th. Executive Director Grossi stated that this is when staff and Transit Management began looking at making changes. Unfortunately, with these changes came laying off 10 of the drivers. These were all voluntary lay-offs as these drivers were older and concerned about their health and others wanted to stay home to take care of family members. He reminded Committee Members that a Stay at Home Order was issued on March 19 and took effect March 20. He stated that the drivers are only allowing 1-2 riders per trip to maintain adequate social distancing. The buses are also sanitized after every trip and washed thoroughly twice per day.

Executive Director Grossi also informed Committee Members that the Meals on Wheels service has closed and that Sr. Transportation Planner, Tyler Summersett reached out to them. He found out that the demand for meal delivery has increased due to the stay at home order. Executive Director Grossi stated that this is will be presented to Council for authorizing to use the transit buses as backup for delivery.

Kim McFarlane mentioned that the Father's Day Fly-in has been cancelled – she was just informed today.

Also, an inquiry arose with concern about the Crapper Derby and if that is being cancelled as we. Tyler Summersett responded that he had not heard anything as of today.

Bob Asquith reported that he hiked the route of the proposed site of the new trail in Hetch Hetchy and that it looks amazing – very clean. He added that if anyone is interested, he has photos and maps that he can e-mail.

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Denise A. Bergamaschi
Assistant to the Executive Director*