

Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority (TVSJVRRRA)
Minutes of Board meeting on February 8, 2023 via Zoom Teleconference

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting of the board of directors was called to order by Chair Melissa Hernandez at 2:01 p.m.

- a. Oath of Office - Director Haubert, Supervisor for Alameda County, swore in new member of the board; Valerie Arkin, City of Pleasanton.

2. **Roll Call of Members**

Members Present

Chair Melissa Hernandez, City of Dublin
Vice Chair Dan Wright, City of Stockton
Director Paul Akinjo, City of Lathrop
Director Mateo Bedolla, City of Tracy (*joined during item #5*)
Director David Haubert, Alameda County
Director Brittini Kiick (Livermore), LAVTA
Director Bernice King Tingle, Mountain House
Director John Marchand, City of Livermore
Director Jose Nuño, City of Manteca
Director Robert Rickman, San Joaquin County
Director Karen Stepper, Town of Danville
Director Leo Zuber (Ripon), ACE

Members Absent

Director John McPartland (District 5), BART
Director David Hudson, San Ramon

3. **Public Comments**

Public comment was heard from: Kelly A., Karen Moore and Mark Armstrong.

4. **Consent Calendar – ACTION**

Motion to approve all items on Consent Calendar as follows:

- a. Minutes of January 11, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. Treasurer's Report for December 2022.

Motion: Haubert/Marchand

Aye: Akinjo, Arkin, Bedolla, Haubert, Hernandez, Kiick, King-Tingle, Marchand, Nuño, Rickman, Stepper, Wright, Zuber

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Hudson, McPartland

Motion Passed

5. **Administrative Support Services Agreement with the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA) – ACTION**

Deputy Director, Wil Ridder, introduced this item and summed up the details of the staff report and requested the board authorize the Executive Director/CEO to prepare, negotiate the terms and conditions, and execute an administrative support services agreement with LAVTA, with the condition that the Executive Director/CEO not authorize task orders in any one year that exceed \$180,000. Directors discussed this item. Public comment was heard from Kelly A.

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Motion: Zuber/Wright

Aye: Akinjo, Arkin, Bedolla, Haubert, Hernandez, Kiick, King-Tingle, Marchand, Nuño, Rickman, Stepper, Wright, Zuber

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Hudson, McPartland

Motion Passed

6. Authorize Executive Director/CEO to exercise Option 1 with Red Oak Engineering & Consulting for Regional Advocacy Services – ACTION

Executive Director/CEO Kevin Sheridan summarized the staff report and requested that the board authorize him to exercise Option 1 of the contract for Regional Advocacy Services with Red Oak Engineering and Consulting to extend the contract term one year, for an amount not to exceed \$100,800. Directors discussed this item. Public comment was heard from Kelly A.

Motion: Arkin/Wright

Aye: Akinjo, Arkin, Bedolla, Haubert, Hernandez, Kiick, King-Tingle, Marchand, Nuño, Rickman, Stepper, Wright, Zuber

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed

7. Meetings of the Board of Directors – ACTION

Sheridan introduced this item and gave the floor to Legal Council Michael Conneran. Conneran discussed the remote meeting exceptions to the Brown Act as they relate to Assembly Bill 2449 and the anticipated withdrawal of the COVID-19 State of Emergency protocols. He outlined options for future in-person meetings and possible remote meeting sites. Staff requested that the board cancel the March Board of Directors meeting and reconvene in April to approve a revised 2023 Board of Directors meeting calendar. Directors discussed this item. There was no public comment.

Motion: Stepper/Marchand

Aye: Akinjo, Arkin, Bedolla, Haubert, Hernandez, Kiick, King-Tingle, Marchand, Nuño, Rickman, Stepper, Wright, Zuber

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed

8. State Funding and Legislative Update – INFORMATION

Chair Hernandez gave the floor to the Authority's legislative advocate, Gus Khouri, who presented this item. Khouri gave a brief update on actions taking place in Sacramento that affect the Valley Link project and course of action for the next legislative session. He discussed the current re-districting and the changes taking place after the last election and the proposed state budget for FY 2024.

Khouri stated that the Authority's recent Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) Cycle 6 application received about 30 letters of support. From various cities, counties, and legislative representatives. He thanked everyone involved in the process and highlighted Vice Chair Wright's

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involvement in attaining a letter of support from the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council (SJVRPC). Finally, Khouri addressed the subject of the Brown Act requirements and expectations of updates and changes that he expects would allow for greater flexibility for meeting remotely. He agreed to forward updated information as relevant.

Wright reiterated the strong partnership between the Authority and the SJVRPC and how vital Valley Link is making strides toward the vision of connecting Northern and Southern California. Director Haubert suggested compiling a list, as well as tracking, of possible grant opportunities and applications. There was no public comment.

9. Executive Director’s Report - INFORMATION

Continuing the topic of funding and grant applications, Executive Director/CEO, Kevin Sheridan advised the board on current staff activity related to funding. He outlined the details of the current Pre-Award audit being conducted by the state, and how this would position the Authority to apply for and receive additional funds. Sheridan shared a photo taken last month on his commute to the office heading west bound over the Altamont. He stressed just how important Valley Link is and why the state is investing heavily in rail. Directors discussed this item. There was no public comment.

10. Directors’ Discussion

Chair Hernandez shared that she, along with other Tri-Valley Mayors, Directors Hudson and Marchand went to Washington D.C. to advocate for the Valley Link project. Director Marchand noted that there was much discussion at the conference about increasing the capacity to move freight by removing cars from the freeway versus widening.

11. Upcoming Meeting Details

The next regular meeting of the board will be held on April 12, 2023.

12. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned without objection at 3:15 p.m.