

EASTERN SIERRA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Minutes of Friday, October 16, 2009

The Board of Directors of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority, State of California, met at 10:00 a.m. on Friday October 16, 2009, at the City of Bishop Council Chambers, Bishop, California. The following members were present: Jeff Griffiths, Skip Harvey, John Eastman, Vikki Bauer and Byng Hunt. Directors Linda Arcularius, Susan Cash and David Stottlemire were absent. Director Hunt led the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment The Chairperson opened the public comment period at 10:00 a.m. There was no one from the public wishing to address the Board. Public Comment was closed.

Consent Agenda Moved by Director Eastman and seconded by Director Bauer to approve the minutes of the ESTA Board of Directors meeting of June 19, 2009. Motion carried 4-0, with Director Hunt abstaining and with Directors Arcularius, Cash and Stottlemire absent.

Moved by Director Griffiths and seconded by Director Hunt to approve the minutes of the ESTA Board of Directors meeting of August 21, 2009. Motion carried 3-0 with Directors Bauer and Eastman abstaining and with Directors Arcularius, Cash and Stottlemire absent.

Moved by Director Hunt and seconded by Director Eastman to approve the minutes of the ESTA Board of Directors meeting of September 18, 2009. Motion carried 3-0 with Directors Griffiths and Bauer abstaining and with Directors Arcularius, Cash and Stottlemire absent.

Treasurer's Report Executive Director, John Helm gave the fiscal year 2008/09 unaudited final report. Mr. Helm reported that the year ended with a positive fund balance. Fare revenues exceeded projections, mainly due to the large ridership of the Reds Meadow service. The Inyo County Financial Advisory Committee did approve the request for a line of credit. It is expected to go to the full Board of Supervisors within the next couple weeks.

Mr. Helm reported that as of September 30, 2009 there are sufficient funds to meet the next 30 days of obligations. The Board requested a report on the Red's Meadow Service at the November meeting.

Revenue and Expense
Update Fiscal Year
2009/10

Mr. Helm reported that he has received from Caltrans in Sacramento, faxed copies of the fully signed contracts for the ARRA grant funding. Hopes to receive other funding have not materialized at this time. Reductions in budgeted grant revenue may result in expenses exceeding revenues. The Board directed staff to continue to update the Board monthly regarding the budget and to explore further belt-tightening measures.

Operations Report

Transit Director, Monicka Watterson gave the Operations Report for the month of September. Ms. Watterson reported that there was an increase in overall ridership for September 2009 compared to September 2008. The increase in ridership continues to be on the Mammoth fixed routes, Bishop fixed routes, Lone Pine to Bishop, Bishop Night Rider and the CREST South. All other services have experienced a decrease in ridership.

Amendment of
CalPERS Contract

Moved by Director Eastman and seconded by Director Harvey to approve the Amendment to the contract between ESTA and CalPERS in order to provide two years additional service credit and to authorize the Chair to sign the Amendment on behalf of the Board. Motion carried 5-0 with Directors Arcularius, Cash and Stottlemyre absent.

ADA Paratransit
Eligibility Policy

Mr. Helm explained to the Board the proposed ESTA ADA Paratransit Eligibility Policy and planned changes in the service in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. It is planned that during the evening hours paratransit service will be limited to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) eligible individuals in the Mammoth Lakes area. This change transfers service hours from the nighttime dial-a-ride to the daytime Old Mammoth Lift. Mr. Helm explained that these changes have been approved by the Mammoth Lakes Town Council. The Board engaged in a dialogue with the audience regarding the proposed policy.

Recess/Reconvene

The Chairperson recessed the meeting at 11:30 a.m. for a five-minute break. The Board reconvened at 11:35 a.m. with all Board Members present except Directors Arcularius, Cash and Stottlemyre.

Moved by Director Eastman and seconded by Director Bauer to approve implementation of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority ADA Paratransit Eligibility Policy and the Paratransit Eligibility Application. This policy will be applicable only in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. If it is to be expanded beyond the Town of Mammoth Lakes the decision needs to be brought back to the

public for review and the full Board for approval. Motion carried 5-0, with Directors Arcularius, Cash and Stottlemyre absent.

ESTA Mission
Clarification

The Board continued the discussion on the ESTA mission clarification. The Board directed staff to use the Directors notes and Short Range Transit Plan notes in order to craft an outline for a mission clarification goals document.

Reports

Chairperson Griffiths stated that he rode the CREST bus to Reno and had a nice, enjoyable ride.

Director Bauer gave an update on the possibility of ATPPL grants including operational funds.

Mr. Helm reported to the Board that he has been contacted by the Director of YARTS, regarding thoughts and ideas on the white paper being written for the ATPPL grants. Mr. Helm reported that there was an employee appreciation field trip and picnic in Red's Meadow for the Bishop area employees. Mr. Helm gave an update on technology possibilities for ESTA. The Board requested an agenda item be placed on the January or later agenda for the requirements and possibility of a two location Board meeting.

Adjournment

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12:13 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority Board of Directors is to be held on Friday November 13, 2009 in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Recorded & Prepared by:



Susan Rottner
Board Clerk
Eastern Sierra Transit Authority

Minutes approved: **November 13, 2009**