



**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
OF THE BUTTE COUNTY
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
October 26, 2023**

The following minutes are a summary of actions taken by the Board of Directors. A digital recording of the actual meeting is available at BCAG’s office located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico, CA.

Board Member Reynolds called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. at the BCAG Board Room, 326 Huss Drive, Suite 100, Chico, CA.

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON

Tami Ritter	Supervisor	District 3
Tod Kimmelshue	Supervisor	District 4
Doug Teeter	Supervisor	District 5
David Pittman	Mayor	City of Oroville
Rose Tryon	Vice Mayor	Town of Paradise
Kasey Reynolds	Vice Mayor	City of Chico

MEMBERS ABSENT

Chuck Nuchols	Councilmember	City of Biggs
Peter Durfee	Supervisor	District 2
Bill Connelly	Supervisor	District 1
J Angel Calderon	Councilmember	City of Gridley

STAFF PRESENT

Jon Clark	Executive Director
Cheryl Massae	Human Resources Director
Amy White	Assistant Planner
Ashley Carriere	Administrative Assistant
Sara Cain	Transit Manager
Ivan Garcia	Programming Director
Chris Devine	Planning Director
Victoria Proctor	Associate Planner

OTHERS PRESENT

Micheal Hanebutt	SJRRRC/SJJPA
Daniel Krause	AECOM
Daniel Evans	AECOM

BCAG Board of Directors Meeting – Item #3

December 7, 2023

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- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Roll Call**

CONSENT AGENDA

- 3. Approval of Minutes from the September 28, 2023 BCAG Board of Directors Meeting**
- 4. Approval of Amendment #1 to the 2023/24 Overall Work Program & Budget and Overall Work Program Agreement**

On motion by Board Member Ritter and seconded by Board Member Teeter, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION-

5: North Valley Passenger Rail Strategic Plan Update

A draft strategic plan is on track to be released in December 2023. In addition, a virtual public workshop will be held in December to review key components of the draft document with interested community members. After completion of a public review period lasting through January 2024, a final plan will be completed in late February.

BCAG staff informed the Board that \$500,000 in grant funding was received from Caltrans in 2021 to study expanding passenger rail service northward from the Sacramento area to Butte County and the study is nearing completion.

BCAG staff is working toward the next phase of the project, which includes development of the environmental document and preliminary engineering work with estimated cost of \$5 Million. If approved by the Board in December 2023, and the California Transportation Commission (CTC) in March 2024, funds would be available to begin work on the phase in July 2024.

A recommendation that a portion of BCAG's recently approved Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) formula funds be programmed to advance a portion of the preliminary, was suggested.

Going forward, additional BCAG TIRCP formula funds in combination with a possible contribution from the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) TIRCO formula funds, could allow for the project to be funded through the entire engineering phase.

Ridership and revenue data for the proposed North Valley Rail service has been developed by the consultant team at AECOM and was presented to the Board. BCAG staff will continue to keep the Board informed as this study moves forward.

This item was presented for information purposes.

6: Draft 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) Recommendations

BCAG requested project nominations from member jurisdictions for consideration of programming in the 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). Staff received eight project submittals totaling over \$20 million and have reviewed each project.

Staff has developed a draft recommendation list for the Boards consideration prior to developing a final 2024 RTIP. While staff's 2024 RTIP recommendations are above the 2024 Fund Estimate provided to Butte County, STIP guidelines allow regions like BCAG to make a programming recommendation up to 200% of its target.

For those projects submitted and not recommended for the 2024 RTIP, staff will prepare a future Board agenda item outlining other funding for those projects.

BCAG is required to prepare and adopt a Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) by December 15, 2023, for the 2024 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

This item was presented for information purposes.

7: 2024 Unmet Transit Needs Process

BCAG is responsible for performing the annual Unmet transit Needs (UTN) process as the administrator of Transportation Development Act (TDA).

The Unmet Transit Needs process in Butte County consists of a public outreach program and public hearing before the BCAG Board of Directors.

Thirty days before the public hearing, testimony is received regarding perceived Unmet Transit Needs that may be reasonable to meet. Unmet Transit Needs that are reasonable to meet, are met before funds are expended for non-transit needs.

Gathered testimony is analyzed to determine if there are any transit needs that meet the adopted definitions of "Unmet Transit Needs" and "Reasonable to Meet". This report is reviewed by the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC), which will provide a recommendation on the findings to the BCAG Board of Directors.

The public hearing is set for December 7, 2023, before the BCAG Board of Directors meeting.

This item was presented for information purposes.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

8: Approval of Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program and Zero Emission Transit Capital Program Allocation Plan

BCAG staff submitted an allocation request to the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) for \$23.9 million to partially fund the development of preliminary engineering for the North Valley Rail Project and the zero-emission deployment project.

BCAG is one of the 49 Regional Transportation Planning Agencies in California identified to receive allocation through the existing mechanism of the Transit Development Act (TDA) over the next two fiscal years. The North Valley Rail Project and Butte Regional Transit Zero-Emissions Deployment are the two types of projects that fit the intent of the TIRCP and ZETCP.

The total requests for the North Valley Rail Project is \$15,000,000 in FY 23/24 and 24/25 TIRCP funds.

The total request for the Zero-Emissions Deployment project is \$8,989,332 in FY 24/25 TIRCP and ZETCP funds.

When funds are approved for allocation, they will be deposited with BCAG in a specific fund for the purpose intended and will require a reporting requirement as is the existing practice with funds deposited through the TDA.

On motion by Board Member Kimmelshue and seconded by Board Member Ritter, approval of Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program and Zero Emission Transit Capital Program Allocation Plan was unanimously approved.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

13: Members of the public may present items to the BCAG Board of Directors, but no action will be taken other than placement on a future agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, the BCAG Board meeting adjourned at 9:52 AM.

Attest:

Jon Clark, Executive Director

Ashley Carriere, Board Clerk

Butte County Association of Governments