

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES  
OF THE BUTTE COUNTY  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
DECEMBER 9, 2021**

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 Connelly called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the BCAG Board Room, 326 Huss Drive, Suite 100, Chico, CA.

**MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON**

Bill Connelly	Supervisor	District 1
Jody Jones	Councilmember	Town of Paradise
Tod Kimmelshue	Supervisor	District 4
J Angel Calderon	Councilmember	City of Gridley

**MEMBERS PRESENT REMOTELY**

Debra Lucero	Supervisor	District 2
John Busch	Councilmember	City of Bigg
Tami Ritter	Supervisor	District 3

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Chuck Reynolds	Mayor	City of Oroville
Doug Teeter	Supervisor	District 5
Kasey Reynolds	Vice Mayor	City of Chico

**STAFF PRESENT**

Jon Clark	Executive Director
Andy Newsum	Deputy Director
Sara Cain	Associate Senior Planner
Cheryl Massae	Human Resources Manager
Jim Peplow	Senior Transit Planner
Julie Quinn	Chief Fiscal Officer
Ivan Garcia	Programming Specialist
Chris Devine	Planning Manager
Brian Lasagna	Regional Analyst
Victoria Proctor	Administrative Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT REMOTELY**

Lance Atencio, Transdev  
 Carlos Diaz, DFA LLC  
 Tyson Pardee  
 Bill LaGrone, City of Oroville

**BCAG Board of Directors Meeting – Item #4**

**January 27, 2022**

**Page 2**

T Campos, citizen

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 3. Approval of Minutes from September 23, 2021 BCAG Board of Directors Meeting**
- 4. Approval of Amendment #3 to the 2021/22 Overall Work Program (OWP) & Budget**
- 5. Approval of Transportation Development Act (TDA) Blended Farebox Ratio for Transit Operator**

On motion by Board Member Kimmelshue and seconded by Board Member Jones, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

**ITEMS FOR ACTION**

**6: Approval of BCAG Post-Retirement Health Benefits Plan**

Staff presented the Board with a proposed amendment to the Staff policies and retirement health benefits plan. The original plan that was created in 2006 and adopted by the Board with Resolution #2006/07-01. This plan was created when there were no retirees on the horizon for Staff. That situation has now changed, and Staff re-evaluated the retirement health benefit plan with that in mind.

The actuary who helped Staff come up with alternative options for this health benefit, Mr. Carlos Diaz of DFA, LLC, was on hand to answer specific questions about the design study and the options that were reviewed with management. There was general conversation between Staff and the Board about the changes to the plan, and eligibility requirements for Staff. Specifically, the Board wanted to confirm that all Staff are eligible for this benefit, not just certain classifications of employee. The Board also wanted to clarify how this plan would interact with Medi-Care once the retiree reaches age 65. This is considered supplemental insurance to Medi-Care and the retiree would still need to apply to Medi-Care at the appropriate time.

On motion by Board Member Kimmelshue and seconded by Board Member Calderon, the BCAG Post-Retirement Health Benefits Plan and Resolution # 2021/22-06 was unanimously approved.

**7: Adoption of 2022 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)**

Staff is required to prepare, and the Board is required to adopt, a Regional Transportation Improvement Program by December 15, 2021 for the 2022 State

**BCAG Board of Directors Meeting – Item #4**

**January 27, 2022**

**Page 3**

Transportation Improvement Program. Staff presented the Board with the 2022 RTIP for review and adoption.

There was general discussion about the contents of the RTIP, with special note being taken that this is the first one that is being presented for adoption without programming for Highway 70, as that project has been fully programmed for the widening between Oroville and Marysville. This RTIP focuses heavily on bicycle and pedestrian safety, which keeps it in line with what the State is focusing on at this time.

On motion by Board Member Jones and seconded by Board Member Kimmelshue, the Board unanimously adopted the 2022 Regional Transportation Improvement Program.

**8: Approval of Authorization for Executive Director to Sign Consultant Agreement with AECOM for Preparation of the North Valley Passenger Rail Strategic Plan**

Staff asked the Board to authorize the Executive Director to sign a consultant agreement with AECOM in order to complete the North Valley Passenger Rail Strategic Plan. Several consultants were interviewed for this plan, and AECOM was chosen due to their experience in the area and with similar projects. This study will identify costs for operation, maintenance, track improvements on the existing Union Pacific rail lines, as well as passenger rail stations, parking lots, and other needed improvements for passenger rail to be extended back again into Butte County.

There was general conversation between Staff and the Board regarding the project and projected timeline. Staff assured the Board that regular updates will be given so that the Board can be involved every step of the way. The Board expressed excitement at the prospect of connecting our region to other areas using public transit.

On motion by Board Member Kimmelshue and seconded by Board Member Lucero, approval was unanimously granted for the Executive Director to sign the consultant agreement with AECOM for preparation of the North Valley Passenger Rail Strategic Plan.

**9: Approval of MAP-21 Performance Measures- Safety (PM-1) 2022**

Staff presented the safety measures established by Caltrans and the State for Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21) for review and consideration. Staff reviewed the State performance measures, which place a new and stronger emphasis on measuring and monitoring the performance of the transportation system. Caltrans established these performance targets for calendar year 2022 on August 31, 2021 and gave MPOs six months to either agree and plan and program projects to help meet the statewide target, or to create their own targets.

There was general conversation between Staff and the Board regarding the targets and historical safety data shown. Staff recommended that the Board adopt the statewide targets as set by Caltrans.

**BCAG Board of Directors Meeting – Item #4**

**January 27, 2022**

**Page 4**

On motion by Board Member Calderon and seconded by Board Member Kimmelshue, the MAP-21 Performance measures -Safety (PM-1) 2022 was unanimously approved.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**10: 2020 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) & Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Update**

Staff updated the Board on the progress of the 2020 RTP/SCS. The current iteration was adopted by the Board in December of 2020. Since adoption, Staff has been coordinating with CARB staff in completing the review of the RTP/SCS. CARB has let Staff know that they cannot recommend acceptance based on certain issues identified within the document.

There was general discussion with the Board and Staff regarding what the holdup is on acceptance by CARB, as well as how those issues can be addressed. It was asked what consequences there will be if CARB doesn't accept the RTP/SCS. Staff clarified that we are working actively to correct the issues they found, and consequences will only arise if they take action to reject the document rather than just fail to approve it.

This item was presented for information purposes only.

**11: Butte Regional Transit (B-Line) 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021/22 Report**

Staff provides regular updates on the operation of Butte Regional Transit (the B-Line) for the Board. Staff presented the quarterly report for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2021/22, which covers July-September 2021.

There was general discussion between Staff and the Board regarding the current state of the B-Line and farebox recovery. Several bills were passed by the California State Assembly to waive the current farebox recovery requirements by the TDA until the end of FY 2022/23. Due to the on-going nature of the pandemic, we are now showing ridership increases across the board from last year at this time, however we're still far below where ridership was historically.

This item was presented for information purposes only.

**ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

The Executive Director recognized employee Jim Peplow, Senior Transit Planner, for nearly 27 years of service. Mr. Peplow's retire date is December 30, 2021.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items to discuss, the BCAG Board meeting adjourned at 9:54 AM.

**BCAG Board of Directors Meeting – Item #4**

**January 27, 2022**

**Page 5**

**Attest:**

*Jon Clark, Executive Director*

*Victoria Proctor, Board Clerk*

*Butte County Association of Governments*

*ac 1/27/2022*