

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES  
OF THE BUTTE COUNTY  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
February 23, 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 9:00 a.m. at the BCAG Board Room, 326 Huss Drive, Suite 100, Chico, CA.

**MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON**

Kasey Reynolds	Vice Mayor	City of Chico
Tami Ritter	Supervisor	District 3
Bill Connelly	Supervisor	District 1
Tod Kimmelshue (Left 9:28 am)	Supervisor	District 4
Chuck Nuchols	Councilmember	City of Biggs
J Angel Calderon	Councilmember	City of Gridley
David Pittman	Supervisor	City of Oroville
Rose Tryon	Vice Mayor	Town of Paradise

**MEMBERS PRESENT REMOTELY**

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Doug Teeter	Supervisor	District 5
Peter Durfee	Supervisor	District 2

**STAFF PRESENT**

Jon Clark	Executive Director
Andy Newsum	Deputy Director
Cheryl Massae	Human Resources Director
Ivan Garcia	Programming Director
Amy White	Assistant Planner
Chris Devine	Planning Director
Brian Lasagna	Regional Analyst
Ashley Carriere	Administrative Assistant
Sara Cain	Senior Planner

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Adekemi Ademyeno  
 Andrea Howard- Place Works  
 Addison Winslow- Chico Alternate  
 Ron Lassonde- Paradise Alternate  
 Dawn Nevers-City of Oroville

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Lance Atencio- Transdev

Erin Smith- City of Oroville

Ingrid Sheipline- Richardson & Company

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2023 Calendar Year**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

4. Approval of Minutes from the December 8, 2022 BCAG Board of Directors Meeting
5. Approval of Resolution 2022/23-07 Authorizing the Federal Funding under FTA Section 5311 (49 U.S.C. Section 5311) with the California Department of Transportation for the FY 2023/24 5311 (f) Program

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

### **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

#### **6: Acceptance of BCAG Fiscal Audit and Transportation Development Act (TDA) Audits for the Cities, Town & County for the Year Ending June 20, 2022**

BCAG staff is required to prepare a fiscal audit annually. In addition, BCAG prepares the fiscal and compliance audits for the Transportation Development Act (TDA) claimants for both Local Transportation Funds (LFT) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funds.

Staff informed the Board that BCAG's financial statements and supplemental information have been audited by independent auditors, Richardson & Company, in accordance with State and Federal regulations.

BCAG budgets annually for the preparation of the required TDA audits. These audits cover receipt and use of the TDA funds used for streets and roads projects for each of the cities, town and county, and the Gridley Senior Taxi Fund.

Staff presented each Board member with a PDF copy of their jurisdictions TDA Audit included with the digital copy of the agenda. BCAG's CFO went through some of the highlights of the financials and gave an explanation on how some items were determined and why. Ingrid Sheipline of Richardson & Company reviewed the audit with the Board and was available for any questions.

Staff requested the Board accept the BCAG fiscal audit and the TDA audits prepared for the claimants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

### **7: Approval of the 2023/24 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment & Findings**

Staff informed the Board that an annual Unmet Transit Needs Assessment is required as the administrator of Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds for Butte County.

BCAG must identify any public unmet transit needs that may exist in Butte County in order to receive state funding. In the event of an unmet transit need, a further determination must be made as to whether those needs are reasonable to meet. All unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet must be satisfied before TDA funds are expended for non-transit uses.

Staff informed the Board that testimony was collected during a 30-day outreach period that began October 27, 2022. The public was invited to provide input in person and via mail, email, phone, social media, or an online comment form. This outreach period culminated with a public hearing, before the BCAG Board of Directors, at the December 2022 Board meeting. This 30-day period and the final public hearing was promoted in local newspapers, on all transit buses and on the internet at both BCAG and B-Line websites.

All comments were compiled into an analysis report. Based on the testimony and analysis by staff, the BCAG Board of Directors determined that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet.

Staff further recommended that the Board adopt the Unmet Transit needs Assessment and Findings for the 2023/2024 fiscal year by Resolution 2022/23-08.

### **8: Approval of MAP-21 Performance Measures-Safety (PM1) 2023**

Staff requested approval of Map-21 Performance Measures-Safety.

BCAG is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the butte County region. BCAG is required to establish targets, track, and report the areas performance measures mandated under the federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21) in coordination with Caltrans and local jurisdictions.

There was discussion regarding the federal transportation legislation placing new and stronger emphasis on measuring and monitoring the performance of the transportation system. This requires states and MPOs to implement a performance-based approach to planning and programming.

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Caltrans and the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) established statewide safety performance targets for calendar year 2023. MPOs have six months following the states target setting date to either establish their own targets or agree to plan and program projects so that they contribute toward the accomplishment of the state target. Performance and targets are reported and revised annually.

Staff presented a compilation of the Butte County datasets provided for each safety measure. Trends have been presented based on the rolling 5-year average for all years included in the dataset.

In addition to the datasets presented, BCAG prepared a map of fatalities for the Butte County region accompanied by relevant statistics.

Staff recommended that BCAG agree to plan and program projects so that they contribute toward the accomplishment of the state target for the 2023 performance year. Staff will incorporate the new measures and targets into the BCAG System Performance Report and notify Caltrans prior to February 28, 2023.

BCAG will continue to coordinate with Caltrans, TAC, and BCAG Board regarding federal performance measures.

### **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

#### **9: North Valley Passenger Rail Strategic Plan Update**

Staff informed the Board that BCAG received \$500,000 in grant funding from Caltrans to study expanding passenger rail service northward from the Sacramento area to Butte County and the study is continuing to move forward.

BCAG staff is working with its project partners and consultant team at AECOM to continue moving the North Valley Passenger Rail Strategic Plan (NVPRSP) forward.

Staff informed the Board that a virtual public workshop was held Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. In addition, BCAG is working with The Ferguson Group to develop a grant application.

There have been several articles and stories on the North Valley Passenger Rail ran recently through news outlets including KCRA in Sacramento and Action News in Chico.

Staff will continue to keep the Board informed as this study moves forward.

This item was presented for information purposes.

### **10: Update on Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Grant Program**

BCAG has been allocated \$2,944,762 in 2021 Regional Early Action Planning grant funds and has coordinated with BCAG member jurisdiction staff, key stakeholders, and members of the community to identify projects for funding.

An application was submitted in late December that included five suballocation projects, one for each of the five BCAG member jurisdictions.

There was discussion regarding the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) in partnership with the Office of Planning and Research (OPR), Strategic Growth Council (SGC), and California Air Resources Board (CARB) released the application for REAP 2.0 funding for Metropolitan Planning Organizations in July 2022.

Under REAP 2.0, an additional \$2,944,762 in funding will be allocated to BCAG, with applications due to HCD in December 2022, and a deadline of June 2026 for funds to be fully expended. Of these available funds, \$2,650,285 will be available for BCAG to suballocate to member jurisdictions or tribal governments to fund implementation of eligible projects that meet the grant program criteria.

Staff informed the Board that BCAG worked with its consultant team at PlaceWorks to conduct a 3-phase process to arrive at a final list of projects to include in the final application. This was implemented to ensure compliance with grant program guidelines that require specific outreach to low-income and disadvantaged communities.

BCAG staff and PlaceWorks presented the Board with a PowerPoint presentation providing additional information.

This item was presented for information purposes.

### **11: BCAG Regional Travel Survey Update**

BCAG is working with the consultant team at PlaceWorks to develop a Regional Travel Survey report that identifies current travel trends in Butte County.

There was discussion regarding the shift in travel characteristics of the Butte County Residents as a result of the 2018 Camp Fire, 2020 North Complex Fire, and Covid-19 Pandemic. A regional survey is being developed to establish a better baseline data set, which will be a comprehensive survey of the travel behavior trends and characteristics of residents within the six-jurisdiction region.

BCAG staff and PlaceWorks are working with the data vendor, StreetLight, to produce regional travel pattern data.

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Staff informed the Board that a variety of promotional materials have been deployed including an employer survey targeting large employers, and a community survey targeting the general public. Together these will provide supplemental information to StreetLight data.

PlaceWorks will analyze the travel pattern data collected from StreetLight, as well as the employer and community survey results, and prepare a report on the findings.

Staff will share the final Regional Travel Survey report with the Board when it is completed this spring.

This item was presented for information purposes.

### **12: Butte Regional Transit (B-Line) 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2022/23 Report**

Staff presented the Board with key financial and operating data for Butte Regional Transit (B-Line) for the second quarter of fiscal year 2022/23.

The financial data presentation compared second quarter results to the annual budget and to the prior year. The operations tables represent a performance-based assessment in comparison to the same quarter of the prior fiscal year.

Lack of ridership continues to be an issue in meeting the annual farebox ratios previously mandated by the TDA. In July 2021, California AB 149 was passed that extended the previous TDA exemption from the farebox requirement through the current fiscal year 2022/23. A change in the definition of “local funds” allows any nonstate funding as a part of the “farebox” ratio. This change allows our federal support to be included as farebox, which is historically at least 35% of our total funding, and pandemic relief funding continues to help cover lost fare revenues.

Rural fixed route fares are covering 10.8% of operating costs, urban fixed route fares are covering 10.9%, rural paratransit fares are covering 7.0%, and urban paratransit fares are covering 8.1% of operating costs.

For the quarter there were 3 preventable accidents with 357,433 miles driven and 6 valid complaints with 152,685 passengers served.

This item was presented for information purposes.

**ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

**8: 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 10:11 AM.

**Attest:**

*Jon Clark, Executive Director*

*Ashley Carriere, Board Clerk*

*Butte County Association of Governments*