



**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
OF THE BUTTE COUNTY
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
MAY 23, 2019**

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Lambert	Supervisor	District 4
Tami Ritter	Supervisor	District 3
Nathan Wilkinson	Councilmember	City of Biggs
Debra Lucero	Supervisor	District 2
Doug Teeter	Supervisor	District 5
Randall Stone	Mayor	City of Chico
Ray Borges	Councilmember	City of Gridley
Bill Connelly	Supervisor	District 1
Jody Jones	Mayor	Town of Paradise

MEMBERS ABSENT

Chuck Reynolds	Mayor	City of Oroville
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STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

- Lance Atencio, Transdev
- Ron Bushman, Transdev
- Cristina Russell, Transdev
- Nima Kabirinassab, Caltrans
- Richard Harrimon, Northern California Environmental Defense Contractor

Linda Furr, League of Women Voters

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- 3. Approval of Minutes from the April 25, 2019 BCAG Board of Directors Meeting**
- 4. Approval of 2019/20 Final Transportation Development Act (TDA) Apportionments**
- 5. Approval of Resolution 2018/19-19 Authorizing BCAG's 2019/20 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5311 Intercity Bus Program Application**

On motion by Board Member Jones and seconded by Board Member Wilkinson the Consent Agenda was approved.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

6: Approval of BCAG's 2019/20 Overall Work Program & Budget

Staff presented to the Board the final 2019/20 Overall Work Program & Budget for review, comments, and approval. The 2019/20 OWP & Budget identifies twenty-six specific work elements that address State and Federal Planning requirements, regional transportation planning needs, capital projects and mitigation, and public transit administration, operations and planning.

Board Member Lucero had questions specific to grant funding and how the funding process currently works, and Staff was able to adequately answer her questions regarding funding sources. There was further general discussion about the contents of the OWP and funding process between Staff and the Board.

On motion by Board Member Wilkinson and seconded by Board Member Stone, the 2019/20 Overall Work Program & Budget was unanimously approved.

9: Approval of Butte Regional Transit (B-Line) Final 2019/20 Budget, Service Plan and Resolution 2018/19-17

Board Members Ritter and Connelly requested that the Board move the B-Line Final 2019/20 Budget and Service Plan to be approved before Item 7, the Contract with Transdev. Staff agreed and presented the Board with the proposed budget for the 2019/20 fiscal year.

There was general comment between Staff and the Board regarding the budget breakdown including the cost increases, cost decreases, and funding sources. There

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was also discussion about the decreasing ridership problem that is nationally known and alternative ideas about transit in Butte County.

There was a public comment by Richard Harrimon congratulating Board Member Jones on her handling of PG&E and Paradise since the Camp Fire in November. He had questions about B-Line's potential use of electric buses to help mitigate costs. Staff informed him that we are already underway to purchase electric buses and convert our fleet to electric.

There was an additional public comment from Linda Furr detailing a historical push from 2007/2008 to get people to use the bus by using historians and geologists to provide information about the area the buses travel through.

On motion by Board Member Ritter and seconded by Board Member Stone, the Butte Regional Transit (B-Line) Final 2019/20 Budget, Service Plan, and Resolution 2018/19-17 was unanimously approved.

7: Approval of Contract with Transdev to Provide Administration, Operations and Maintenance Services for Butte Regional Transit

Staff started to present the contract information before Item 7 was removed until after Item 9, then re-presented the contract with Transdev to provide administration, operations, and maintenance services for Butte Regional Transit. Staff detailed that this is the only proposal that was received by BCAG after the Request for Proposals in December 2018. There was general discussion between the Board and Staff regarding the specifics of the contract and why rates are fluctuating the way that they are.

On motion by Board Member Stone and seconded by Board Member Lucero, the Contract with Transdev was approved unanimously.

8: Approval of the 2019/20 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment & Findings

Staff informed the Board that each year BCAG must identify any public unmet transit needs that may exist in Butte County in order to receive state funding. This is done by holding public forums throughout the County and soliciting comments from riders via phone, letters, comment cards, and social media.

The assessment was reviewed by the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) which found that there are no unmet transit needs in Butte County that are reasonable to meet.

There was general conversation and discussion between the Board and Staff regarding how many riders participated in this assessment and fact gathering effort, and what this specifically means for funding in the area.

On motion by Board Member Jones and seconded by Board Member Stone, the 2019/20 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment & Findings was unanimously approved.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10: Butte Regional Conservation Plan (BRCP) Update

Staff provided a progress report for the Butte Regional Conservation Plan to the Board. There was general discussion about the BRCP between Staff and the Board. Staff detailed the current tentative schedule for the completion and implementation of the BRCP to meet with federal guidelines. Board Member Wilkinson requested that there be public access to the draft document, and Staff informed him that it is currently on the BRCP website.

There was general discussion regarding the BRCP between Staff and the Board.

11: Notice of Proposed Fare Increase for Butte Regional Transit Fixed Route and Paratransit Service

Staff informed the Board of the intent to raise fares for the B-Line fixed route and paratransit services. Farebox ratios are monitored on an ongoing basis and reviewed with each budget to ensure that ratios meet the required level of fare revenue to expense. As discussed in Item 9, the current ratios for most of the routes hover at the bottom of where they should. In order to combat the decreased ridership and low farebox recovery ratio, rates need to be increased.

Staff detailed the planned increase as compared to the current rates. There was a conversation as to why B-Line increases rates irregularly rather than small increases each year. Staff explained that generally annual increases are not needed, and rates have only been raised a few times since BCAG has been in operation.

There was general discussion about the proposed fare increase and public comment period between Staff and the Board.

12: Butte Regional Transit 2018/19 3rd Quarter Report

Staff presented the Board with the 2018/19 3rd Quarter Report with key financial and statistical results for Butte Regional Transit. There was general discussion about the numbers and ratios presented, particularly since the 3rd Quarter was post-Camp Fire and the numbers are still much lower than historically at this time of year.

There was general discussion between the Board and Staff regarding the data presented in the report.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

13: There were no items from the floor.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, the BCAG Board meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Attest:

Jon Clark, Executive Director
Victoria Proctor, Board Clerk
Butte County Association of Governments

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'V. Proctor', is located to the right of the attestation text.