



**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES  
OF THE BUTTE COUNTY  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
SEPTEMBER 26, 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 Connelly called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. at the BCAG Board Room, 326 Huss Drive, Suite 100, Chico CA.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tami Ritter	Supervisor	District 3
Jody Jones	Mayor	Town of Paradise
Steve Lambert	Supervisor	District 4
Randall Stone	Mayor	City of Chico
Bill Connelly	Supervisor	District 1
Chuck Reynolds	Mayor	City of Oroville
Debra Lucero	Supervisor	District 2
Angela Thompson	Board Alternate	City of Biggs

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Doug Teeter	Supervisor	District 5
Quintin Crye	Councilmember	City of Gridley
Nathan Wilkinson	Councilmember	City of Biggs

**STAFF PRESENT**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Nima Kabirinassab, Caltrans  
Linda Furr, League of Women Voters  
Lance Atencio, Transdev

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

3. Approval of Minutes from the August 22, 2019 BCAG Board of Directors Meeting
4. Approval of Resolution 2019/20-06 For Endorsing Help Central Inc's FTA Section 5310 (49U.S.C. Section 5310) Project Submitted in the Butte County Region
5. Approval of Amendment #1 for the 2019/20 Overall Work Program (OWP) & Budget and Overall Work Program Agreement (OWPA)

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

Board Member Lambert arrived after the Consent Agenda was approved.

## **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

### **6: Approval of Letter to US Fish & Wildlife Service Concerning the Status of the Butte Regional Conservation Plan (BRCP)**

As a follow-up to the August Board Meeting, Staff presented the Board with a letter prepared by Staff and reviewed by legal counsel regarding the current status of the Butte Regional Conservation Plan (BRCP).

Staff, by advice from environmental counsel Alicia Guerra, drafted a letter addressed to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Regional Office director Paul Souza rather than Congressman LaMalfa. It was counsel's advise that since the hold-up with the BRCP is currently with the regional office for USFWS, addressing the letter to the director is the appropriate course of action. Staff and the Board had a general discussion about the letter's content and the likelihood of getting a response in the timeframe given within the letter. Staff remains optimistic about moving the plan through the necessary process.

On motion by Board Member Ritter and seconded by Board Member Stone, the letter to USFWS concerning the status of the BRCP was unanimously approved.

## **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

### **7: Sustainable Communities Strategy Progress Report**

Staff informed the Board that, as the state designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Staff is updating the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) for 2020.

Staff laid out the progress report on the SCS with focus on the ratio of housing to jobs in the Butte County region. The Board asked for clarification on when this data was taken and how the Camp Fire will affect those numbers. Since this progress report uses data from 2018 before the fire, Staff explained that the numbers might look a bit misleading since we now have less houses rather than more jobs in the area.

There was general discussion between the Board and Staff regarding the SCS and how it will factor into future funding and legislative opportunities. This item was presented for information purposes only.

### **8: Butte Regional Transit Fourth Quarter Progress Report**

Staff presented the Board with the Fourth Quarter Transit Report for the 2018/19 Fiscal Year for Butte Regional Transit (B-Line). The quarter's numbers were as expected with accidents and complaints in line with what was projected, and ridership down following the nation-wide trend.

There was general discussion between Staff and the Board regarding the farebox recovery, ridership, and the rest of the data in the fourth quarter report. This item was presented for information purposes only.

### **9: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration / U.S. EPA Proposed Rule**

Staff informed the Board that President Trump announced in September the revocation of the California Clean Air Act Waiver that has been in effect, in one form or another, since the 1970s. This is in response to the National Highway Traffic Safety Agency (NHTSA) and US Environmental Protection Agency's (US EPA) proposed Safer Affordable Fuel Efficient (SAFE) Vehicle Rule that was proposed in August 2018. Since California has higher fuel efficiency standards than the rest of the country, this would revoke California's authority to implement those standards in favor of a nationwide set of regulations.

There was discussion regarding how this would impact California in general, and specifically Butte County. As the area's MPO, we would be unable to make new transportation conformity determinations for the RTP/SCS, FTIP or make amendments for projects that are not exempt from the Clean Air Act requirements. This will not hinder any projects that are already programmed and fully funded in the region.

The Board asked how long it would take to get into compliance with the new rules and what response Staff has planned to send to the EPA. There was general discussion regarding the impact if this revocation goes through. This item was presented for information purposes only.

**ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

**10: There were no items from the floor.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items to discuss, the BCAG Board meeting adjourned at 9:31 AM.

**Attest:**

*Jon Clark, Executive Director*

*Victoria Proctor, Board Clerk*

*Butte County Association of Governments*

10/24/19

