

**Consent Calendar – 4.a. Minutes**

**Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority (TVSJVRRRA)  
Minutes of June 9, 2021 meeting via Zoom Teleconference**

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**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Meeting was called to order by Board Chair Veronica Vargas at 2:00 p.m.  
Director Stepper lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call of Members*****Members Present***

Chair Veronica Vargas, City of Tracy  
Vice Chair Melissa Hernandez, City of Dublin  
Director Paul Akinjo, City of Lathrop  
Director Benjamin Cantu, City of Manteca  
Director David Haubert, Alameda County  
Director David Hudson, San Ramon  
Director Brittini Kiick (Livermore), LAVTA  
Director Bernice King Tingle, Mountain House  
Director John McPartland (District 5), BART (*\*arrived during Item 5*)  
Director Kathy Narum, City of Pleasanton  
Director Robert Rickman, San Joaquin County  
Director Karen Stepper, Town of Danville  
Director Bob Woerner, City of Livermore  
Director Dan Wright, City of Stockton  
Director Leo Zuber (Ripon), ACE

***Members Absent***

None

**3. Public Comments**

There was no public comment.

**4. Consent Calendar – ACTION**

Motion to approve all items on Consent Calendar as follows:

- a. Minutes of May 12, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. Treasurer's Reports for April 2021.

**Motion:** Hudson/Hernandez

**Aye:** Akinjo, Cantu, Haubert, Hernandez, Hudson, Kiick, Narum, Rickman, Stepper, Tingle, Vargas, Woerner, Wright, Zuber

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** McPartland

**Motion Passed**

**5. Executive Directors Report – INFORMATION**

Executive Director Michael Tree gave an oral report

- **Funding** – Congressman Swalwell was successful in his recommendation of allocation \$20 million to the Valley Link Project out of the reauthorization bill. Valley

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Link was one of five transit agencies in the nation to receive funding at this level from this allocation.

- **Upcoming Funding** – Application for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) is in the works. Several requests are moving forward in Sacramento for funds out of the State budget. Staff is working on a RAISE grant application for submittal in July.
- **Lobbying** – Two lobbyist are under contract on the Authority's behalf: Gus Kahori at the state level and Peter Peyser at the federal level. These are short- term engagements under the executive director's spending authority. An RFP will go out later in the year for long-term commitments that will require Board approval.
- **Environmental** – The final EIR and preferred project was adopted. Staff is working with Caltrans on the I-580 approval process and getting ready to start NEPA. More information will be presented in future Board meetings regarding the selection of technology that will be used on the Valley Link trains.
- **SB548** – The bill will be in front of the Assembly Transportation committee on June 21, 2021 and once approved it will move to the Assembly floor and then to the Governor's office for signature.
- **FTA** – Working to become a federal grantee and prepare the Authority for the Capital Investment Grant Program, where we can enter into the New Starts Program and become eligible to receive up to half of the cost of the project.
- **Employees** – Approval of the hiring of the Authority's first employee, Kevin Sheridan as the Deputy Executive Director/Program Manager is on today's agenda and additional employment agreements are set to be before the board at the next meeting.

There was no public comment on this item. Chair Vargas thanked Congressman Swalwell and Congressman Harder for their support of the Valley Link project. Vargas requested Item 8 on the agenda be presented next. There was no objection.

**6. Resolution R10-2021 Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute an Employment Agreement with Kevin Sheridan as the Authority's Deputy Executive Director/Program Manager – ACTION**

Tree introduced this item stating the importance of the item, both as a project milestone, and also in keeping with FTA guidelines for having the top executives and management be in-house, minimizing the circumstances of consultants managing consultants. Tree outlined the hiring process: the hiring of a recruitment company K&A; advertising; candidate response; and finally, the interview process and candidate selection.

Tree noted that the selection of Kevin Sheridan was unanimous amongst the interview panel. He summarized Sheridan's experience managing \$1.5 billion rail construction projects for the San Joaquin Regional Rail Authority (SJRRRA) and working with the Union Pacific Railroad. His starting salary will be \$240,000 per year plus benefits as outlined in the staff report.

Directors discussed this item. Public comment was heard from Ester Ann Waltz. Sheridan was invited to address the board and this was followed by brief Q&A with board members.

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**Motion:** Hernandez/Hudson

**Aye:** Akinjo, Cantu, Haubert, Hernandez, Hudson, Kiick, McPartland, Narum, Rickman, Stepper, Tingle, Vargas, Woerner, Wright, Zuber

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Passed**

**7. Fiscal Year 2022 Budget – ACTION**

Tree gave a brief outline of the proposed budget and descriptions of each line item. There was no board discussion and no public comment.

**Motion:** Cantu/King-Tingle

**Aye:** Akinjo, Cantu, Haubert, Hernandez, Hudson, Kiick, Narum, Rickman, Stepper, Tingle, Vargas, Woerner, Wright, Zuber

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** McPartland (*due to technical difficulties*)

**Motion Passed**

**8. Resolution R09-2021 Adoption of Human Resources Policy– ACTION**

Attorney Michael Conneran gave a brief overview of this item. Directors discussed this item. There was no public comment.

**Motion:** Stepper/Akinjo

**Aye:** Akinjo, Cantu, Haubert, Hernandez, Hudson, Kiick, McPartland, Narum, Rickman, Stepper, Tingle, Vargas, Woerner, Wright, Zuber

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Passed**

**9. Resolution R11-2021 Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a two-year lease agreement for office space located at 2600 Kitty Hawk Road, Livermore CA 94551 – ACTION**

Directors discussed this item. There was no public comment.

**Motion:** Hudson/Cantu

**Aye:** Akinjo, Cantu, Haubert, Hernandez, Hudson, Kiick, McPartland, Narum, Rickman, Stepper, Tingle, Vargas, Woerner, Wright, Zuber

**Nay:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Passed**

**10. Directors' Discussion**

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Director Hudson welcomed Sheridan on board and stressed the need for everyone to continue to lobby and build relationships.

- 11. Next Meeting**  
July 14, 2021 at 2 p.m.
- 12. Adjourn (King-Tingle/Wright – without objection)**  
Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.