

Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority
Minutes of Board meeting on June 14, 2023
7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin

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

The meeting of the board of directors was called to order by Chair Melissa Hernandez at 2:04 p.m., Director John Marchand led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- a. Oath of Office - Director Haubert, Supervisor for Alameda County, swore in new member of the board: Julie Testa, LAVTA

2. **Roll Call of Members**

Members Present - In-Person

Director Bernice King Tingle, Mountain House (*joined during item #5*)

Director John Marchand, City of Livermore

Director Karen Stepper, Town of Danville

Director Julie Testa, LAVTA

Director Leo Zuber (Ripon), ACE

Members Present - Remote

Chair Melissa Hernandez, City of Dublin (*left after item #8*)

Vice Chair Dan Wright, City of Stockton

Director Paul Akinjo, City of Lathrop

Director Valerie Arkin, City of Pleasanton

Director Mateo Bedolla, City of Tracy

Director David Haubert, Alameda County (*left after item #8*)

Director Jose Nuño, City of Manteca

Director Robert Rickman, San Joaquin County

Members Absent

Director David Hudson, San Ramon

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 April 12, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting
- b. Fiscal Year 2024 Budget
- c. Authorize signature endorsement on behalf of the agency with Bank of the West

Motion: Marchand/Zuber

Aye: Akinjo, Arkin, Bedolla, Haubert, Hernandez, Marchand, Nuño, Rickman, Stepper, Testa, Wright, Zuber

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: King-Tingle, Hudson

Motion Passed

5. **Approve Resolution R09-2023 To authorize the Executive Director/CEO to negotiate and enter into a contract with Gray-Bowen-Scott for Program Management Support Services – ACTION**

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Executive Director/CEO Kevin Sheridan introduced this item. Sheridan reviewed the procurement procedure that was followed up to this point and shared details about the winning proposal and the firm that was selected.

Motion: Stepper/Marchand

Aye: Akinjo, Arkin, Bedolla, Haubert, Hernandez, King-Tingle, Marchand, Nuño, Rickman, Stepper, Testa, Wright, Zuber

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Hudson

Motion Passed

6. Approve Amendment to Bylaws re Accountability Procedures – ACTION

Executive Director/CEO Kevin Sheridan gave the floor to Attorney Michael Conneran. Conneran summarized the provided staff report regarding the adoption of a code of conduct for the agency and a change to the bylaws about same. He advised that the motion would require a majority vote. Directors discussed this item. There was no public comment.

Motion: Haubert/Wright

Aye: Arkin, Haubert, Hernandez, King-Tingle, Marchand, Stepper, Testa, Wright, Zuber

Nay: Akinjo, Bedolla, Nuño, Rickman

Abstain: None

Absent: Hudson

Motion Failed

7. Approve Resolution R10-2023 Adopting a Code of Conduct – ACTION

A motion was made to table this item by Director Bedolla and seconded by Director Haubert. Item tabled without objection.

8. State Legislative Update – Information

State Legislative Consultant Gus Khouri reported that Governor Newsom released revisions to the proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget. Khouri advised that there is additional funding for transit projects in the revised budget and he noted some legislature to keep an eye on that would be of interest to the Valley Link project.

Chair Hernandez and Director Haubert left the meeting at the end of this item. Vice Chair Wright chaired the meeting from this point.

9. State Funding Update – Information

Deputy Director Wil Ridder reported that the Authority was awarded \$25 million, from a \$690 million statewide investment to expand transit and passenger rail service across California. Valley Link also received \$5 million from California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in State budget funds approved by the legislature in [AB 179](#). These will allow the project to further design work. Ridder thanked the Governor and other involved parties for their support in us getting these funds.

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10. Federal Transit Administration Update – Information

Ridder outlined the staff report and announced that the Authority was approved as a direct recipient grantee by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). This has been an ongoing effort for the last two years and it will allow the agency to be identified as the sponsor of this project.

11. Executive Director's Report - INFORMATION

Sheridan echoed his appreciation of the funding awards and FTA grantee approval. He thanked the cities and agencies that have shown their support for the Valley Link project. He advised the board on the ongoing outreach staff has undertaken in keeping interested parties informed on the project's progress.

12. Directors' Discussion

Director Rickman reported that he and Director Zuber had met with Mega Regional Working Group, and they were very interested in the possibility of the hydrogen plant in Tracy. Rickman thanked Assemblymember Villapudua, who was integral in securing the \$25 million award of Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) funds. Directors discussed revisiting agenda items 6 and 7. Sheridan and Conneran advised that director concerns will be taken into consideration before presenting to the board at a future meeting.

13. Upcoming Meeting Details

The next regular meeting of the board will be held on August 9, 2023.

14. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned without objection at 3:16 p.m.