

Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority
Minutes of Board meeting on December 13, 2023
200 Civic Plaza, Dublin, CA

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

The meeting of the board of directors was called to order by Chair Melissa Hernandez at 2:03 p.m. Hernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Roll Call of Members and Confirmation of Quorum**

Members Present - In-Person

Chair Melissa Hernandez, City of Dublin
Vice Chair Dan Wright, City of Stockton
Director David Hudson, San Ramon
Director John Marchand, City of Livermore
Director Karen Stepper, Town of Danville
Director Julie Testa, LAVTA
Director Leo Zuber (Ripon), ACE

Members Present - Remote

Director Paul Akinjo, City of Lathrop
Director Valerie Arkin, City of Pleasanton (*left after item #7*)
Director Mateo Bedolla, City of Tracy
Director Bernice King-Tingle, Mountain House
Director Robert Rickman, San Joaquin County

Members Absent

Director David Haubert, Alameda County
Director Jose Nuño, City of Manteca

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 October 11, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting
- b. Treasurer's Reports for Q3 – July to September 2023
- c. 2024 Board Meeting Dates
- d. FY2024 Budget Amendment

There was no public comment.

Motion: Wright/Hudson

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Haubert, Nuño

Motion Passed

5. **Approve Audited Financials for Fiscal Year 2023 – ACTION**

Agency CFO, Tamara Edwards requested that the board accept the Authority's Basic Financial Statements then gave the floor to Vikki Rodriguez, Audit Partner and CEO of Maze & Associates. Rodriguez summarized the audit findings for Fiscal Year 2023. She noted that the Authority

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received an unmodified opinion on the financials. This is the cleanest opinion the Authority can receive and the highest level of assurance they can provide. There was no discussion by directors and no public comment.

Motion: Marchand/Wright

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Haubert, Nuño

Motion Passed

6. Remove from the Table, and Approve Resolution R11-2023 Adopting Director Code of Conduct – ACTION

Executive Director/CEO Kevin Sheridan gave floor to Attorney Michael Conneran, who presented the revised resolution and recapped previous discussions with board members on said revisions. Conneran requested Resolution R11-2023 be removed from the table and be adopted as outlined in the staff report. Directors discussed all motions related to the item. There was no public comment

a. Motion to remove from the Table Resolution R11-2023 – ACTION

Motion: Wright/Stepper

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

Nay: Akinjo, Bedolla

Abstain: None

Absent: Haubert, Nuño

Motion Passed

b. Motion to Table Resolution R11-2023 to the next meeting. – ACTION

Motion: Bedolla/King-Tingle

Aye: Akinjo, Bedolla, King-Tingle, Rickman, Testa,

Nay: Arkin, Hernandez, Hudson, Marchand, Stepper, Wright, Zuber

Abstain: None

Absent: Haubert, Nuño

Motion Failed

c. Adopt Resolution R11-2023 as proposed. – ACTION

Motion: Zuber/Hudson

Aye: Arkin, Hernandez, Hudson, Marchand, Stepper, Testa, Wright, Zuber

Nay: Akinjo, King-Tingle

Abstain: Bedolla, Rickman

Absent: Haubert, Nuño

Motion Passed

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7. Approve Resolution R12-2023 Authorizing the Executive Director/CEO to negotiate a contract for RFP 2023-02 Equity Community Engagement Services – ACTION

Director of Policy, Planning and Environmental Marianne Payne made a presentation on the RFP process and details of the work to be provided by the selected firm. Payne requested that the board approve negotiation of a contract with Equity First Consulting and if negotiations are not successful then allow negotiations with Convey Inc. Director Akinjo ask for additional information on the funding of the contract, which was provided by Deputy Director Wil Ridder. Directors discussed this item. There was no public comment.

Motion: Bedolla/Zuber

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Haubert, Nuño

Motion Passed

8. Executive Director's Report - INFORMATION

Sheridan noted that it was a great year for the Valley Link project, as tremendous strides forward had been made. He thanked San Joaquin County Council of Governments (SJCOG) and Authority board members who also sit on the SJCOG board for their support with getting the Authority included in the group of organizations eligible to compete for funding from SB-125. He also, on behalf of staff, thanked all members of the Valley Link board for their continued support. Sheridan concluded his presentation with a new virtual simulation video tour of the alignment and briefly discussed the project schedule, noting the project is still on schedule. Directors discussed this item. There was no public comment.

9. Directors' Discussion

Chair Hernandez wished everyone a happy holiday. She acknowledged the presence of Director Hudson and thanked him for the support he continues to show for the project and community at large. Vice Chair Wright also shared holiday greetings and voiced his appreciation for working with the Valley Link board in 2023 and looks forward to continuing his appointment in 2024.

10. Upcoming Meeting Details

The next regular meeting of the board will be held on February 14, 2024.

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned without objection at 3:02 p.m.