

**Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority
Minutes of Board Meeting on May 14, 2025
Mountain House Chambers
251 East Main Street, Mountain House, CA 95391**

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

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by Chair Robert Rickman at 2:00 p.m. Chair Robert Rickman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Members Present - In-Person

Director Paul Akinjo, City of Lathrop (*joined during item #4*)

Director Bernice King-Tingle, City of Mountain House

Director Regina Lackey, City of Manteca

Director Michael McCorriston, City of Dublin

Director Jeff Nibert, City of Pleasanton

Director Leo Zuber, ACE/SJRRC

Vice Chair, John Marchand, City of Livermore

Chair Robert Rickman, San Joaquin County

Members Present – Remote

Director David Haubert, Alameda County

Director Melissa Hernandez, BART

~~Director Jeff Nibert, City of Pleasanton~~

Director Dotty Nygard, City of Tracy

Director Karen Stepper, City of Danville

Director Julie Testa, LAVTA

Members Absent

Director Mark Armstrong, City of San Ramon

Director Christina Fugazi, City of Stockton

3. **Public Comments**

Public comment was heard from Dale Brandes.

4. **Consent Agenda – ACTION**

Motion to approve all items on Consent as follows:

- a. Minutes of February 12, 2025, Board of Directors Meeting
- b. Treasurer's Reports for January, February, and March 2025
- c. Draft FY2026 Budget
- d. Human Resources Policy Update

Item 4.b was pulled for discussion. Directors discussed all items. There was no public comment. A motion was made to approve all items as presented.

Motion: McCorriston/Zuber

Aye: Akinjo, Haubert, Hernandez, King-Tingle, Marchand, McCorriston, Nibert, Nygard, Rickman, Stepper, Testa, Zuber

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Armstrong, Fugazi

Motion Passed

**Tri-Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority
Minutes of Board Meeting on May 14, 2025
Mountain House Chambers
251 East Main Street, Mountain House, CA 95391**

5. Project Status Update – INFORMATION

A presentation was made by Deputy Director, Wil Ridder, updating the board on Valley Link's project delivery progress and status. Ridder recognized that the Phase 1 project, spanning from Dublin/Pleasanton to Mountain House with four stations and 22 miles of track, has completed key environmental and design milestones, although rising construction costs and funding gaps remain challenges. Potential value engineering measures could reduce costs by up to \$500 million, but limitations to secure additional regional and state funding due to competing needs of other major transit projects with cost increases as well as operating shortfalls on existing transit services are requiring staff to consider project optimization, including additional construction phasing. Ridder noted that staff would be bringing back an action to the Board on a revised delivery strategy in June 2025. Directors discussed this item. There was no public comment

6. Executive Director's Report – INFORMATION

Executive Director/CEO Kevin Sheridan gave an oral report on some challenges regarding Valley Link as of May 2025. Sheridan noted the increase in the cost of hydrogen within the last two years and mentioned other agencies that were opting out of hydrogen-run models to consider alternative clean energy methods for Zero Emissions Vehicle technology, and the Authority still can pursue efforts to study and build a hydrogen facility. The main goal of Valley Link is to create connectivity between ACE and BART. The current project environmental document from Dublin/Pleasanton to Mountain House is an initial phase of the project and will help relieve congestion in the Altamont Corridor. Directors discussed this item. There was no public comment.

7. Directors' Discussion – Comments, Questions and Agenda Requests

Chair Rickman congratulated Director Haubert for the Alameda County Transportation Commission's (ACTC) appointment of their new Executive Director, Tony Tavares. Director Haubert thanked Chair Rickman for his service in running the board meetings.

8. Upcoming Meeting Details

The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2025 at 2 p.m. at Dublin City Council Chambers, 100 Civic Plaza Dublin, CA 94568.

9. Adjourn to CLOSED SESSION

The meeting adjourned to closed session at 3:20 p.m.

10. Reconvene to OPEN SESSION

The meeting reconvened to open session at 3:38 p.m. There were no reportable actions.

11. Meeting Adjourn

The meeting adjourned without any objections at 3:38 p.m.