



**MCAG Governing Board  
Transit Joint Powers Authority Board  
Regional Waste Management Authority Board  
MINUTES**

DATE

**Thursday, April 19, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Merced County Association of Governments Governing Board held on Thursday, April 19, 2018, at the County of Merced, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 2222 M Street, Merced, CA was called to order by Vice Chair McCabe at 3:00 p.m.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Director Rodrigo Espinoza, Chair (arrived at 3:06)  
Director April Hogue  
Director Lee Lor  
Director Alex McCabe, Vice Chair  
Director Daron McDaniel  
Director Mike Murphy  
Director Joe Oliveira  
Director Lloyd Pareira  
Director Jim Price

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Director Jerry O'Banion  
Director Mike Villalta

**GUESTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Alan Arnold, Citizens Advisory Committee Representative  
Patti Dossetti, League of Women Voters  
Lynn Downum-Hanzal, Resources for Independent Living  
Darrell Fonseca, City Manager of Dos Palos  
Jack Jackson, Citizens Advisory Committee Representative  
Steven Martinez, Transportation Planner, Caltrans, Dist. 10

**MCAG STAFF PRESENT**

Natalia Austin, GIS Analyst  
Nav Bagri, Finance Director  
Stacie Dabbs, Deputy Executive Director  
Matt Fell, Senior Planner  
Nadia Gonzalez, Financial Services Manager  
Emily Haden, Legal Counsel  
Jennifer Halpin, Diversion Programs Manager  
Dariana Lua, Assistant Transit Manager  
Kristina Meraz, H.R. and Risk Manager  
Patrick Pittenger, Executive Director  
Artis Smith, Transit Director  
Brooks Stayer, Regional Waste Authority Director  
Marty Yerrick, Landfill Operations Manager  
Malee Unruh, Grant Analyst I  
Joy Young, Administrative Assistant

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Invocation**

Director Pareira led the invocation.

**3. Roll Call**

**4. Approval of Agenda**

Director Pareira moved to approve the April 19, 2018, MCAG Governing Board agenda.  
Seconded by Director McDaniel.

**Ayes – Directors Hogue, Lor, McCabe, McDaniel, Murphy, Oliveira, Pareira, Price**

**Noes - None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**5. Public Comment**

No public comments were received.

**6. Minutes**

- a. Merced County Association of Governments Governing Board meeting for March 22, 2018
- b. Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County Board meeting for March 22, 2018
- c. Regional Waste Management Authority Board meeting for March 22, 2018

Director Price moved to approve the minutes of the Merced County Association of Governments Governing Board, the Transit Joint Powers Authority and the Regional Waste Management Authority meeting.

Seconded by Director Oliveira.

**Ayes – Directors Hogue, Lor, McCabe, McDaniel, Murphy, Oliveira, Pareira, Price**

**Noes - None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**7. Recognition of Alan Arnold, Citizens Advisory Committee Representative**

Vice Chair McCabe presented Alan Arnold with a certificate of appreciation for his service on the Citizens Advisory Committee.

**8. Citizens Advisory Committee Report**

Jack Jackson gave the Citizens Advisory Committee report.

## 9. Caltrans Report

Steven Martinez gave the Caltrans report and distributed the CTP 2050 Fact Sheet. Mr. Martinez reported on:

- Motorist Awareness – Move Over Law
- 2018 SHOPP – has been submitted
- SR59/Oakdale Road – repairs have been made
- 11<sup>th</sup> Street/Los Banos – temporary fix has been made
- Caltrans is currently working on reimbursement of funds to MCAG

Executive Director, Patrick Pittenger thanked Caltrans and his staff on the hard work that went into reviewing and approving the 15/16 MCAG ICAP. Mr. Pittenger stated that the 15/16 MCAG ICAP was approved today after approximately 9 months of hard work.

## 10. Information/Discussion Only

- a. MCAG Newsletter - April 2018
- b. Calendar of Meetings, Conferences and Events
- c. Bike to Work Month - Dibs
- d. Technical Review Board meeting minutes from March 21, 2018

So noted.

## 11. Transportation Planning Update

Senior Planner, Matt Fell gave the Transportation Planning update discussing:

- Approval of Sustainable Community Strategies (SCS)
- Funding sources that are available now that the SCS has been approved
- Draft 2018 Regional Transportation Plan - Open House Schedule
- ATP Cycle 4 – if any jurisdiction needs assistance with the application, contact Matt Fell or Natalia Austin
- Multiuse Path Study – meeting will be held on May 3, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at MCAG

## 12. Measure V Implementation Update

Deputy Executive Director, Stacie Dabbs gave the Measure V Implementation update stating that payments received have been above projections and that the next Measure V Regional Committee meetings will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in Livingston and 2:00 p.m. in Los Banos. Ms. Dabbs stated that the Citizens Oversight Committee is working on developing an implementation plan.

## 13. Measure V Master Recipient Funding Agreement

Deputy Executive Director, Stacie Dabbs reported on the changes in the Measure V Master Recipient Funding Agreement and is seeking approval to distribute to the jurisdictions for individual action.

Director Murphy moved to direct staff to distribute the Measure V Recipient Funding Agreement to the jurisdictions for individual action.

Seconded by Director McDaniel.

**Ayes – Directors Espinoza, Hogue, Lor, McCabe, McDaniel, Murphy, Oliveira, Pareira, Price**

**Noes - None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**14. Measure V Citizens Oversight Committee Reappointments**

Director Murphy moved to reappoint the following Measure V Citizens Oversight Committee members for an additional two year term with an amendment to the list and removal of Jose Alfredo Moran:

- a. Dennis Brazil – Agriculture Industry
- b. John Cates – Ethnic Community Group
- c. Jean Okuye – Environmental Advocacy Group
- d. Jose Alfredo Moran – city of Atwater Representative
- e. Jerry Antonetti – City of Dos Palos Representative
- f. Paul Parreira – City of Los Banos Representative
- g. Karla Seijas – City of Merced Representative

Seconded by Director Pareira.

**Ayes – Directors Espinoza, Hogue, Lor, McCabe, McDaniel, Murphy, Oliveira, Pareira, Price**

**Noes - None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**15. Unmet Transit Needs Finding of Fact FY 18-19**

Director Murphy moved to:

- a. Adopt Resolution No. 2018/04-19-01 with a finding of fact that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet; and
- b. Approve the Unmet Transit Needs FY 2018-2019 Analysis and Recommendations Report.

Seconded by Director McCabe.

**Ayes – Directors Espinoza, Hogue, Lor, McCabe, McDaniel, Murphy, Oliveira, Pareira, Price**

**Noes - None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**16. Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Apportionment for Fiscal Year 2018-2019**

Senior Planner, Matt Fell gave an update on the Local Transportation Fund Apportionment for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 stating that the LTF fund monies are available contingent upon the Transportation Development Act annual unmet transit needs process. Hearings have been held and there were no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet. He stated that funds will be requested by the Transit Joint Powers Authority and YARTS for capital and operating needs. Mr. Fell discussed the proposed LTF apportionment schedule adding that there is an option is to set aside a reserve for future passenger rail so that funds are available if a funding match is needed in the future.

Director Lor moved to adopt Resolution 2018/04-19-02 approving the Local Transportation Fund apportionment schedule for Fiscal Year 2018/19 and authorize staff to forward the claim forms to the local jurisdictions.

Seconded by Director McDaniel.

**Ayes – Directors Espinoza, Hogue, Lor, McCabe, McDaniel, Murphy, Oliveira, Pareira, Price**

**Noes - None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**17. Regional Rail Planning Update**

Senior Planner, Matt Fell gave an update on the Regional Rail Planning stating that the early morning run will start on May 7<sup>th</sup> with the first train departing at 5:20 a.m. The early morning train will allow riders to arrive in Sacramento before 8:00 a.m. for meetings or for day trips. Mr. Fell also discussed:

- New Business Plan - Amtrak
- ACE - moving forward with extension to Ceres and future extensions to Merced and Sacramento
- Transit Intercity Rail Program - State will award at the end of the month

**18. Regional Transportation Impact Fee (RTIF) and SB 1 Local Partnership Program (LPP) Options**

Executive Director, Patrick Pittenger gave an update on the Regional Transportation Impact Fee (RTIF) stating that additional jurisdictions have acted and that Interim City Manager, Lori Waterman will seek approval at the May 14<sup>th</sup> Atwater City Council meeting. Mr. Pittenger stated that there is a slight increase in RTIF funding that was not listed on the funding chart, in addition to that increase; Mr. Pittenger discussed funding options using RTIF monies and/or Local Partnership Program monies. The board agreed by consensus to move forward on the funding options discussed.

**19. Recommendation of the Anna Maria Fuentes Scholarship Committee**

Deputy Executive Director, Stacie Dabbs reported on the recommendation of the Anna Maria Fuentes Scholarship Committee stating that MCAG received 57 applications from students within Merced County. She stated that the chosen student, Yadira Hernandez-Figueroa, is from Merced High School and has a grade point average of 4.35. Ms. Dabbs also mentioned that this outstanding student has completed over 500 hours of community service.

Director Pareira moved to award the 2018 Anna Maria Fuentes Scholarship to Yadira Hernandez-Figueroa.

Seconded by Director Murphy.

**Ayes – Directors Espinoza, Hogue, Lor, McCabe, McDaniel, Murphy, Oliveira, Pareira, Price  
Noes - None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**20. 2018-2019 Draft Overall Work Program and Budget**

Nav Bagri gave a brief update on the 2018-2019 Draft Overall Work Program and Budget and thanked the Board members who were able to attend the workshop held earlier today. Mr. Bagri offered his assistance stating that he would be willing to meet with any of the board members if they needed any additional information.

## **TRANSIT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY FOR MERCED COUNTY**

**21. Oral Report – Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County Monthly Update**

Transit Director, Artis Smith gave the Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County monthly update stating that ridership is up with the Measure V funding that offers free rides for seniors and veterans. Mr. Smith stated that a workshop was held in Dos Palos recently and that the Maintenance Facility is moving forward and on track.

**22. Authorization to Award Contract for Architectural Services for Transit Building Remodel**

Director McDaniel moved to authorize the Executive Director to enter into contract with Comstock Johnson Architects, Inc., for consultant services for building remodel in the amount not to exceed \$69,726.

Seconded by Director Oliveira.

**Ayes – Directors Espinoza, Hogue, Lor, McCabe, McDaniel, Murphy, Oliveira, Pareira, Price  
Noes - None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **23. Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County FY 2018/19 Draft Budget**

Nav Bagri gave a brief update on the Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County FY 2018/19 Draft Budget and thanked the Board members who were able to attend the workshop held earlier today. Mr. Bagri noted that although fare box ratio is down, ridership is not. He stated that the decrease is due to other funding sourced such as LCTOP and Measure V monies. Mr. Bagri offered his assistance stating that he would be willing to meet with any of the board members if they needed any additional information.

## **MERCED COUNTY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

### **24. Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority Monthly Update**

Brooks Stayer gave the Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority update on:

- Landfill tonnage revenue generated from the Hwy 59 and Billy Wright Landfills
- Construction of Phase 2B Expansion at Billy Wright Landfill
- 600-acre parcel purchase for Billy Wright Landfill
- Blower repair and third unit installation at Hwy 59 Landfill
- Landfill gas migration mitigation at Hwy 59 Landfill
- Landfill gas-to-energy project (air permit analysis and pipeline path review)
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days:
  1. Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Hwy 59 Landfill's HHW Facility
  2. Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 403 F Street in Los Banos

### **25. Ascent Environmental Contract Authorization**

Regional Waste Authority Director, Brooks Stayer stated based upon their familiarity with the Highway 59 facility, their work on the EIR that was certified in 2016, and the timing and importance of the project, we are requesting the authorization to contract with Ascent Environmental to prepare the environmental review documents for the UCM/LFGTE Project.

Director Pareira moved to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Ascent Environmental Inc. to prepare environmental documents for the UCM/LFGTE Project.

Seconded by Director Oliveira.

**Ayes – Directors Espinoza, Hogue, Lor, McCabe, McDaniel, Murphy, Oliveira, Pareira, Price**

**Noes - None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **26. Capital Project Budget Amendments: Projects 80030 & 80031**

Regional Waste Authority Director, Brooks Stayer stated that In April of 2016, the board authorized Capital Project 80030 that would construct a tank system to store water and use it for on-site dust control and irrigation purposes at the Hwy 59 landfill. The tank(s) would recover and re-use a portion of the ~13,000,000 gallons of filtered water collected annually. He stated that staff has determined the project to be cost-prohibitive. No funds have been spent for the project and staff recommends the board authorize the deletion of the project along with the release of the \$85,000 in allocated funds for Capital Project 80031 which was authorized in April of 2016 to make improvements to the 1.4 miles of aesthetic berm that parallels the Highway 59 landfill. The project includes replacing dead and dying vegetation with more appropriate native species, removing trees located beneath power lines, and amending soils to promote growth. The project also involves the overhaul of the existing decades-old irrigation system that has weakened over time and is fraught with leaks, faulty wiring, and non-functioning valves. The tank project had been intended to work in conjunction with the upgraded irrigation system. However, since the tank project is no longer a viable solution, the redistribution of the tank funds is essential to complete, improve, and sustain the aesthetics of the Hwy 59 facility for the next generation.

Director Price moved to rescind Capital Project 80030, Hwy 59 CAP Tanks and reapportion \$75,000 of allocated funds to Project 80031, Hwy 59 Berm & Irrigation Improvements.

Seconded by Director Hogue.

**Ayes – Directors Espinoza, Hogue, Lor, McCabe, McDaniel, Murphy, Oliveira, Pareira, Price**

**Noes - None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**27. Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority FY 2018/19 Draft Budget**

Nadia Gonzalez gave an update on the Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority FY 2018/19 Draft Budget stating that this is the fifth year that there have not been any rate increases for the jurisdictions which is a good thing for our residents. She stated that revenue projections are up although the operating expenses are also up, staff feels they are in line with the projected revenue increases. Ms. Gonzalez stated that they are expected to fulfill the bond obligation and will start a reserve account for the future.

## OTHER REPORTS

**28. Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director, Patrick Pittenger reported on:

- One Voice Trip – May 1-4, 2018
- Transit Maintenance Facility – on track, will discuss issues at a future meeting
- Transit Data – will work with staff to provide points of information at a future meeting

**29. Directors' Report**

Director Hogue thanked Transit and their staff for presenting at the council meeting and stated that Dos Palos had a very good cleanup day.

Director Murphy stated there was a good attendance at the Builders Forum with over 50 vendors attending. Director Murphy invited everyone to attend the May 19<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Bike Ride and stated that the regional committees are working on a solution to widen Hwy 59.

Director Pareira thanked staff for putting together a good budget.

Director McDaniel thanked Patrick Pittenger and Matt Fell for attending the town hall meeting las month.

**30. CLOSED SESSION**

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (d) (2) of Section 54956.9: 1 case

Action reported from Closed Session:

Staff direction was given.

There being no further business of the MCAG Governing Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_/s/  
Joy Young  
Administrative Assistant II