



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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

DATE

Thursday, July 21, 2022

The regular meeting of the Merced County Association of Governments Governing Board held on Thursday, July 21, 2022 at the Merced County Administration Building, 3rd Floor, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 2222 M Street, Merced, CA and was called to order by Chair Serratto at 3:00 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Director Juan Aguilar
Director John Cale
Director Rodrigo Espinoza
Director Tom Faria
Director Daron McDaniel **
Director Pat Nagy
Director Lloyd Pareira
Director Josh Pedrozo, Vice Chair
Director Matthew Serratto, Chair
Director Scott Silveira

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Director April Hogue

GUESTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Dennis Agar, Caltrans District 10 **
Leah Brown, Resident **
Jose Delgadillo, Citizens Advisory Committee
Juan Martinez, United Way
Edgar Hauilarcazaro, Public Transit Rider
Ellison PL, Resident **
Marlon Regisford, Caltrans District 10 **
Georgiena Vivian, VRPA Technologies **

MCAG STAFF PRESENT

Alexandra Arroyo, Procurement Specialist I **
Natalia Austin, Associate Planner
Nav Bagri, Deputy Executive Director
Christine Chavez, Transit Manager
Elizabeth Forte, Director of Planning and Programming
Xavier Garcia, Assistant Planner **
Stacie Guzman, Executive Director
Emily Haden, Legal Counsel
Kristina Hernandez, HR and Risk Management Manager**
Kyle Loreto, Diversion Programs Manager
Alicia Ochoa-Jones, Procurement Manager
Jose Perez, Assistant Transit Manager
Mary-Michal Rawling, Public Affairs Manager
Mauricio Torres, Assistant Planner **
Patrick Womble, Environmental Resources Manager
Joy Young, Administrative Assistant II
Daisy Zaragoza, Procurement and Reporting Analyst**
Eric Zetz, RWA Director

*arrived after roll call

**attended via zoom

1. Call to order

- a. Roll call
- b. Invocation
- c. Pledge of allegiance

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present. Eric Zetz led the invocation. Director Pareira led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Approval of agenda

Director Nagy moved to approve the MCAG Governing Board meeting agenda for Thursday, July 21, 2022. Seconded by Director Cale.

Roll call vote:

AYES – Directors Aguilar, Cale, Espinoza, Faria, McDaniel, Nagy, Pareira, Pedrozo, Serratto, Silveira

NOES – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Recognition of Service – Director Lloyd Pareira as Chairman of the MCAG Governing Board – July 2021 to June 2022

At this time, Chair Serratto presented a plaque in recognition to Director Pareira for his service as Chairman of the MCAG Governing Board – July 2021 to June 2022.

Several members of the Board and staff thanked Director Pareira for his service and all the effort he put in as chairman over the last year.

4. Public comment

No public comments were received.

5. Caltrans Report

Dennis Agar presented the Caltrans report. He recognized Director Pareira and thanked him for his service and efforts in the past year as chairman of the Governing Board and stated that Caltrans is looking forward to working with Chair Serratto this year. For his report, Mr. Agar discussed the following topics:

- New Caltrans Director Tony Tavares
- Merced County Multimodal Regional Network discussion and meeting coming up
- Broadband Middle Mile network initiative is underway with delivery by 2024
- District 10 Ambassador Program to enhance communication and strengthen partnership within the county
- Congratulated the region on the ribbon cutting for Campus Parkway Segment 3

Marlon Regisford discussed the following topics:

- Bipartisan infrastructure law funding opportunities
- Safe streets and roads for all program funding available over the next five years
- Bridge investment program has grant funding available this year
- Reconnecting communities program has been extended to October 15; support letter request due by July 29th

- Active Transportation Program Cycle 6 closed although another funding call will happen in a few months
- Thanked MCAG staff, specifically Nav Bagri, for getting the planning funds spent and for their efforts on the Overall Work Program

Director McDaniel stated that there are two bridges on Highway 59 that are in need of repair and modifications and asked if Caltrans is willing to partner with the City of Merced and the County of Merced.

Dennis Agar responded to the partnership request and stated that he will take this information back to Caltrans for discussion.

Director Silveira asked what the possibility is of the new Caltrans Director attending one of the MCAG Governing Board meetings.

Director Silveira asked who the ambassador will be for Merced County. Dennis Agar responded that Grace Magsayo is the ambassador for Merced County.

Director Silveira also asked if someone could check on Highway 33 in the Dos Palos area at the Arroya Canal where there appears to be a sinkhole, and new Clark Bros where there is a dangerous dip.

Director Pareira stated that the intersection at V street and Highway 140 at the underpass of SR 99 backs up with a lot of traffic and he stated that a way to relieve traffic would be to add a green arrow for those that want to turn right onto Highway 140.

Director Pareira thanked Caltrans for their work on the shoulder repair on Highway 59 and for their continued efforts.

Director Espinoza stated that in the Caltrans report the Safe Streets and Roads for all was mentioned and he would like to mention south of Childs Avenue there are several streets without sidewalks and no drainage.

Director Espinoza asked about the proposed roundabout at Gerard Avenue and he stated that he doesn't think the roundabout would be the best option for that area and if he could get an update on Highway 140 in Planada. Dennis Agar will follow up with Director Espinoza.

Director Faria asked for an update of the signalization at Ortigalita Road and Pioneer Road in Los Banos and the possible study of signalization at Mercy Springs and Pioneer Road.

Chair Serratto thanked Caltrans for the grant approval for the beautification of the seven underpasses in Merced. He also stated his support of Caltrans and the Finish the 99 project.

6. Citizens Advisory Committee report

Jose Delgadillo presented the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) report.

7. Information items:

- a. **Merced County Association of Governments**
 - i. Transportation Planning and Measure V update
 - ii. MCAG Governing Board calendar – 2022
 - iii. Calendar of meetings, conferences, and events
 - iv. Draft minutes of the July 13, 2022 Technical Review Board meeting
 - v. MCAG newsletter – July 2022
 - vi. City-County Dinner Host Rotation Schedule
 - vii. FY 21/22 Quarter 4 Governing Board Summary
- b. **Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County**
 - i. TJPA monthly update
- c. **Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority**
 - i. RWA monthly update

So noted.

8. Consent calendar:

- a. **Merced County Association of Governments**
 - i. Approve the minutes of the June 16, 2022 MCAG Governing Board, Transit Joint Powers Authority Board, and the Regional Waste Management Authority Board meeting
 - ii. Affirm adoption of Resolution No. 2021/10-21-03 authorizing the MCAG Governing Board and all of its subordinate committees to hold virtual meetings in accordance with AB 361
 - iii. Approve the Measure V Regional Project Funding Agreement – City of Gustine for the Highway 33/140 Signalization Project
 - iv. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for a Merced County Water and Sewer Infrastructure Capacity Assessment in the amount of \$208,153 with MKN & Associates
 - v. Authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract amendment for financial and compliance auditing services in the amount of \$147,960 for two years with Hudson Henderson & Company, Inc.
 - vi. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for Travel Demand Modeling Support Services in the amount of \$145,000 with Fehr & Peers
- b. **Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County**
 - i. Authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract amendment to exercise the remaining four option years in the existing contract with Van De Pol for the Delivery of Bulk Fuel and Lubricants to Transit Facility
 - ii. Authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract amendment to exercise the remaining four option years in the existing contract with Hunt & Sons, Inc. for a Fueling & Fuel Card Program
- c. **Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority**
 - i. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for uniform and laundry services in the amount of \$114,749 for a total of five years with Aramark Uniform Services

- ii. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into six-year contracts for on-call California Environmental Quality Act consulting services with: Ascent Environmental Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$300,000; and Helix Environmental Planning, Inc., in an amount not-to-exceed \$300,000

Director Silveira moved to approve the consent calendar.

Seconded by Director Pedrozo.

Roll call vote:

AYES – Directors Aguilar, Cale, Espinoza, Faria, McDaniel, Nagy, Pareira, Pedrozo, Serratto, Silveira

NOES – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MERCED COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

9. Action items:

- a. Public Hearing on the Draft 2022 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, Environmental Impact Report and Draft 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity Analysis

Stacie Guzman presented the Draft 2022 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, Environmental Impact Report and Draft 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity Analysis stating a need to conduct a public hearing to solicit comments during the meeting.

At this time, Chair Serratto opened the public hearing at 3:51 p.m. and called for public comment. Seeing no comments made, Chair Serratto closed the public hearing at 3:52 p.m.

Stacie Guzman stated that the presentation will be posted on our website for public review and can be found at: https://www.mcagov.org/DocumentCenter/View/3654/Public-Hearing-Draft-RTP-SCS-and-FTIP_72122?bidId=

- b. Public Hearing on the Draft Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Methodology Framework Memorandum

Natalia Austin presented the Draft Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Methodology Framework Memorandum stating the need to conduct a public hearing to solicit comments during the meeting.

At this time, Chair Serratto opened the public hearing at 3:54 p.m. and called for public comment. Seeing no comments made, Chair Serratto closed the public hearing at 3:55 p.m.

- c. Authorize the Executive Director to request \$100,000 in REAP 2.0 Advanced Funding and adopt associated Resolution No. 2022/07-21-02

Stacie Guzman summarized the request to authorize the Executive Director to request \$100,000 in REAP 2.0 Advanced Funding and adopt associated Resolution No. 2022/07-21-02.

Director Pareira moved to authorize the Executive Director to submit a REAP 2.0 Planning Grant Advance Allocation Request for Metropolitan Planning Organizations in the amount of \$100,000; and adopt the authorizing resolution for the MCAG REAP 2.0 Advance Application - Resolution No. 2022/07-21-02.

Seconded by Director Silveira.

Roll call vote:

AYES – Directors Aguilar, Cale, Espinoza, Faria, McDaniel, Nagy, Pareira, Pedrozo, Serratto, Silveira

NOES – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- d. Authorize the use of up to \$482,333 in Measure V Transit funding as local match for the purchase of one zero-emission bus

Stacie Guzman summarized the request to authorize the use of up to \$482,333 in Measure V Transit funding as local match for the purchase of one zero-emission bus.

Director Silveira moved to authorize the use of up to \$482,333 of Measure V Transit funding by the Transit Joint Powers Authority for the purchase of one zero-emission vehicle and related parts and equipment.

Seconded by Director Pareira.

Roll call vote:

AYES – Directors Aguilar, Cale, Espinoza, Faria, McDaniel, Nagy, Pareira, Pedrozo, Serratto, Silveira

NOES – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- e. Provide direction for next steps in the renewal of the draft 3rd Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement for MCAG

Stacie Guzman presented next steps in the renewal of the draft 3rd Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement for MCAG stating that staff is seeking direction from the Board.

Director McDaniel moved to release the draft JPA to the jurisdictions for execution.

Seconded by Director Nagy.

At this time, Director Faria discussed the options and requested that more time be allotted to jurisdictional staff to view presented changes to the Joint Powers Authority agreement. He stated that there was need to ask for a six-month extension for review of the document. Several Directors concurred with the request for an extension of the review period. There was also discussion with the extension being a less amount than 6-months.

Director McDaniel stated that there has been enough time for jurisdictions to review the presented documents with Director Nagy in agreement. Director McDaniel stated that there had been plenty of discussion on the Joint Powers Agreement changes at the Board Retreat.

Emily Haden discussed the ramifications of the delay of the JPA stating that the expiration date is July 18, 2023.

At this time, Director Pareira moved to release the draft JPA to the jurisdictions for execution in 60 days.

Seconded by Director Silveira.

Roll call vote:

AYES – Directors Aguilar, Cale, Espinoza, Faria, McDaniel, Nagy, Pareira, Pedrozo, Serratto, Silveira

NOES – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

At this time, Director McDaniel withdrew his motion.

10. Discussion items:

a. Roles and Goals of MCAG

Chair Serratto shared his interest to examine the current roles and goals of MCAG and it was a consensus among the Directors that there is interest to have an item come back on a future agenda about MCAG and its involvement in regional transportation along with housing and SB 1383.

TRANSIT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY FOR MERCED COUNTY

11. Action items:

a. Authorize the Executive Director to issue a purchase order for four battery-electric buses in an amount not-to-exceed \$4,929,333

Christine Chaves summarized the request to authorize the Executive Director to issue a purchase order for four battery-electric buses in an amount not-to-exceed \$4,929,333.

Director Pareira moved to authorize the Executive Director to cancel PO No. EBUS002 with Proterra and Authorize the Executive Director to issue a PO to Gillig for an amount not to exceed \$4,929,333 to purchase four 35-40-foot, low floor, battery-electric buses along with associated depot chargers, options, spare parts, training, and special tools.

Seconded by Director Pedrozo.

Roll call vote:

AYES – Directors Aguilar, Cale, Espinoza, Faria, Nagy, Pareira, Pedrozo, Serratto, Silveira

NOES – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Public Hearing and adoption of the Transit Route Schedule and Service Revisions effective August 13, 2022

Jose Perez summarized the Transit Route Schedule and Service Revisions effective August 13, 2022 and the request to conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the route schedule and revisions.

At this time, Chair Serratto opened the public hearing at 5:09 p.m. and called for public comment.

Edgar Hauilarcazaro made a comment and asked that The Bus bring back the W2 route and the A3 route in Winton and Atwater as many riders are experiencing difficulties getting to the college in time for classes and back home after night classes.

After seeing no additional comments, Chair Serratto closed the public hearing at 5:11 p.m.

Director Silveira moved to conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the transit route schedule and service revisions, and then adopt the respective schedule and service changes to go into effect Saturday, August 13, 2022. .

Seconded by Director Pedrozo.

Roll call vote:

AYES – Directors Aguilar, Cale, Espinoza, Faria, Nagy, Pedrozo, Serratto, Silveira

NOES – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. Discussion items:

None.

MERCED COUNTY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY-

13. Action items:

None.

14. Discussion items:

- a. Update: SB 1383 Organic Waste Processing or Transfer Request for Proposal

Kyle Loreto summarized the SB 1383 Organic Waste Process or Transfer Request for Proposals and discussed next step options.

OTHER REPORTS

15. Executive Director's report

Stacie Guzman discussed the following topics:

- Introduced Elizabeth Forte as the new Director of Planning and Programming
- Thanked Eric Zetz for his dedicated service at RWA and thanked him for his leadership not just at RWA but at MCAG as well

16. Directors' Reports

Director Pareira thanked Eric Zetz and stated that he appreciates his attention to detail and welcomed Elizabeth Forte to MCAG.

Director Aguilar thanked Eric Zetz for his service and regretfully declined to attend the City-County Dinner but not for the reason that he has to miss it. He will attend the key ceremony for the new recreation center that the Farmers Association will host in Livingston.

Director Pedrozo welcomed Elizabeth Forte and thanked Eric Zetz for his service.

Director Espinoza welcomed Elizabeth Forte and thanked Eric Zetz for his service and will attend the Livingston ceremony for the new recreation center.

Director Faria thanked Eric Zetz for his positive attitude and for the smile that he always brings to the meetings, and it shows that he cares about his work. He also welcomed Elizabeth Forte to MCAG.

Director Silveira welcomed Elizabeth Forte to MCAG and thanked Eric Zetz saying goodbye from RWA and hello to the county.

Director Silveira would like to better understand the roles of the Citizens Advisory Committee and the Technical Review Board and have that as a future agenda item.

Director Cale welcomed Elizabeth Forte to MCAG and thanked Eric Zetz for his wonderful work at RWA and hopes that he can return to offer additional invocations at future meetings. He wanted to remind everyone of the City-County Dinner happening directly after the meeting.

Director Nagy welcomed Elizabeth Forte and thanked Eric Zetz stating that he was a godsend to us.

Chair Serratto welcomed Elizabeth Forte to MCAG and thanked Eric Zetz for his service and thanked everyone for coming.

17. Adjournment

Chair Serratto adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

There being no further business of the MCAG Governing Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

_____/s/_____
Joy Young, Administrative Assistant II