



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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

DATE

Thursday, March 17, 2022

The regular meeting of the Merced County Association of Governments Governing Board held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at the Merced County Administration Building, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 2222 M Street, Merced, CA and via Zoom was called to order by Chair Pareira at 2:32 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, Chair
Director Josh Pedrozo
Director Matthew Serratto, Vice Chair

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Director April Hogue
Director Scott Silveira

GUESTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

John Ceccoli, Human Services Agency
Darrell Fonseca, City of Dos Palos
Jack Jackson, Citizens Advisory Committee
Marlon Regisford, Caltrans District 10 **
Sheng Xiong, Leadership Council**
Nick Jensen, CRLA**

MCAG STAFF PRESENT

Nav Bagri, Deputy Executive Director
John Costa, RWA Operations Manager**
Christine Chavez, Transit Manager
Stacie Guzman, Executive Director
Emily Haden, Legal Counsel
Kyle Loreto, Diversion Programs Manager**
Alicia Ochoa-Jones, Purchasing and Contracts Manager
Mary-Michal Rawling, Public Affairs Manager
Jose Perez, Assistant Transit Manger**
Skyler Summers, Assistant Transit Manager
Joy Young, Administrative Assistant II
Eric Zetz, RWA Director

*arrived after roll call

**attended via zoom

WORKSHOP

1. Call to order

a. Roll call

At this time, Chair Pareira called the meeting to order and asked that roll call be taken. It was determined that a quorum was present.

2. Public comment

None.

3. Discussion on Regional Homelessness and Housing

John Ceccoli presented information about policies and programs related to addressing homelessness.

Director Espinoza thanked Mr. Ceccoli for his presentation and for the assistance to address homelessness. Director Espinoza also voiced concern over the amount of community members that are facing eviction and is interested in the increase of affordable housing stock.

Director Cale asked for clarification on homelessness status if a person is living in a recreational vehicle. Mr. Ceccoli stated that if the recreational vehicle is not placed at a designated site then yes it is considered homelessness.

Chair Pareira asked for clarification on number of housing units available.

REGULAR MEETING

4. Call to order

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

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

At this time, Chair Pareira requested that the invocation and the pledge of allegiance items switch in their order on future agendas.

5. Approval of agenda

Stacie Guzman requested to remove Item 16b from the agenda with the intent to bring this item back at the April Governing Board meeting so that Director Hogue can participate.

Stacie Guzman stated that the revised draft Technical Review Board meeting minutes for March 9, 2022 have been distributed for information only.

Director McDaniel moved to approve the March 17, 2022 MCAG Governing Board meeting agenda.
Seconded by Director Aguilar.

Roll call vote:

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

NOES – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Public comment

Dos Palos City Manager Darrell Fonseca announced his retirement and thanked the Directors and their predecessors for all of the help and support that they have given Dos Palos over the years. He especially thanked everyone for assistance during times of crisis and for the accomplishments such as funding for roads projects and Measure V and for standing with Dos Palos.

Director Espinoza thanked Mr. Fonseca for all that he has accomplished over the years and for his dedicated service.

7. Caltrans Report

Marlon Regisford presented the Caltrans report via webinar and discussed the following topics:

- HAWK signal installation in Hilmar at Lander Avenue and Echo Street
- Clean California Local Grant Program funding allocation to underserved counties across the state
- Winton Community Park restoration will include new walking paths, playground, and picnic areas

Chair Pareira stated that there will be several upgrades to Winton Park.

Director Espinoza thanked Caltrans and Chair Pareira for the upgrades to Winton Park and for the HAWK system that has been installed in Hilmar. He asked Caltrans to not forget about the request for a HAWK system in Planada. Director Espinoza also stated that the northbound SR 99 split is very dangerous.

Chair Pareira stated that North Highway 59 still has shoulder issues that need to be addressed.

8. Citizens Advisory Committee report

Jack Jackson presented the Citizens Advisory Committee report.

Chair Pareira stated that he appreciates the report given monthly from the Citizens Advisory Committee.

9. Information items:

a. Merced County Association of Governments

- i. MCAG Governing Board revised calendar – 2022
- ii. Calendar of meetings, conferences, and events
- iii. Revised Draft minutes of the March 9, 2022 Technical Review Board meeting
- iv. MCAG newsletter – March 2022
- v. City-County Dinner Host Rotation Schedule
- vi. Transportation Planning and Measure V update

- vii. Letter of Support for San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission/San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program funding (TIRCP) application
- viii. City-County Dinner Save the Date flyer
- b. **Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County**
 - i. TJPA monthly update
- c. **Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority**
 - i. RWA monthly update

10. Consent calendar:

- a. **Merced County Association of Governments**
 - i. Approve the minutes of the February 17, 2022, Transit Joint Powers Authority Board, Regional Waste Management Authority Board, and the MCAG Governing Board meeting
 - ii. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for janitorial services three years with two, one-year extension options in an amount not to exceed \$152,744

Director McDaniel requested to pull Item 10aiii for separate consideration.

Director McDaniel moved to approve consent calendar and to take Item 10aiii as a separate item.

Seconded by Director Nagy.

Roll call vote:

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

NOES – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- iii. 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

Director McDaniel stated that AB 361 was put in place for an emergency status and does not want to continue approving this item out of convenience.

Stacie Guzman stated that this resolution covers all of the committees that fall under MCAG.

Director Nagy and Director Serratto stated that they support the option to still hold virtual or hybrid meetings while the emergency order is still in effect in California and are in favor of voting on this item.

Director Nagy moved to affirm the adoption of Resolution No. 2021/10-21-03 declaring the Governing board's need, along with its subordinate committees, to continue to meet virtually in accordance with AB 361.

Seconded by Director Serratto.

Roll call vote:

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

NOES – Directors Cale, McDaniel

MOTION CARRIED.

TRANSIT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY FOR MERCED COUNTY

11. Action items:

- a. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a three-year construction contract for bus shelter repairs, removal, and installation in an amount not to exceed \$570,000

Christine Chavez summarized the request to Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a three-year construction contract for bus shelter repairs, removal, and installation in an amount not to exceed \$570,000.

Director McDaniel moved to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a three-year construction contract for bus shelter repairs, removal, and installation in an amount not to exceed \$570,000. Seconded by Director Cale.

Roll call vote:

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

NOES – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. Discussion items:

None.

MERCED COUNTY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY-

13. Action items:

- a. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a construction contract for Highway 59 6B-2 and Billy Wright 2C landfill liner expansions and authorize FY 21/22 budget amendments

Eric Zetz summarized the request to Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a construction contract for Highway 59 6B-2 and Billy Wright 2C landfill liner expansions and authorize FY 21/22 budget amendments.

Director Nagy moved to:

1. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for the construction of the Highway 59 Phase 6B-2 and Billy Wright Phase 2C landfill liner expansions in the amount not to exceed \$10,426,157; and
2. Authorize Budget Amendment to FY 21/22 Budget to:
 - Transfer \$759,578 from Capital Improvement Project (CIP) budget #80062 (Billy Wright Phase 2C Liner Expansion); and
 - Transfer \$300,074 from CIP budget #80036 (Highway 59 Valley Fill Phase 1 Construction), to CIP budget #80062 (Billy Wright Phase 2C Liner Expansion).

Seconded by Director Pedrozo.

Roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. Discussion items:

None.

MERCED COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

15. Action items:

- a. Adopt the 2022 One Voice Legislative Platform

Mary-Michal Rawling summarized the request to adopt the 2022 One Voice Legislative Platform and the comments made by members of the Citizens Advisory Committee.

Director Espinoza moved to adopt the proposed 2022 One Voice legislative platform.
Seconded by Director Aguilar.

Roll call vote:

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

NOES:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. Recommend approval of REAP 1 funding allocation funding table

Stacie Guzman summarized the request to approve the REAP 1 funding allocation table.

Sheng Xiong asked what the timeline would be for the funds and is a timeline within the grant or does it have its own timeline. Stacie Guzman stated this funding would be solely funded by the REAP allocation grant with expectations of completion within the timeline of the program.

Director Nagy moved to approve the REAP 1 funding allocation summary table as presented.
Seconded by Director McDaniel.

Roll call vote:

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

NOES:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- c. Form a Highway 99 Subcommittee to develop a regional engagement strategy for multi-modal investments

Stacie Guzman summarized the request to form a Highway 99 Subcommittee to develop a regional engagement strategy for multi-modal investments.

Director Nagy moved to nominate and approve a Highway 99 subcommittee comprised of up to five Directors with staff recommendations as presented.

Seconded by Director McDaniel.

AYES: Directors Cale, Espinoza, Faria, McDaniel, Nagy, Pareira, Pedrozo, Serratto

NOES: Director Aguilar

MOTION CARRIED.

16. Discussion items:

- a. Draft Overall Work Program Budget 22/23

Nav Bagri presented the draft Overall Work Program Budget for fiscal year 2022/2023.

- b. Modernization of Merced County Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE)

This item was pulled from the agenda and will be brought back at a future meeting.

- c. California Transportation Assessment (AB 285 Report)

Stacie Guzman summarized the California Transportation Assessment (AB 285 Report) stating that the report includes recommendations that, if implemented, would have substantial impact on the role of MPOs, specifically in relation to land use and funding allocations at the jurisdiction level; and make the planning for, funding, and delivery of needed regional road/highway projects more difficult.

- d. San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Conference

Stacie Guzman summarized the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Conference stating that the conference will be held at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District on May 11-13, 2022.

OTHER REPORTS

17. Executive Director's report

Stacie Guzman presented the Executive Director's report and discussed the following topics:

- Highway 99 Summit
- JPA Renewal Process
- City-County Dinner: April 12, 2022

So noted.

18. Directors' report

Director Nagy thanked Stacie Guzman and staff for their hard work on the agenda.

Chair Pareira stated that he has issues with the inability to win bids in our own county and would like to see that process change.

19. Adjournment

Chair Pareira adjourned the meeting at 4:21 p.m.

There being no further business of the MCAG Governing Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

/s/
Joy Young, Administrative Assistant II