

**REDWOOD COAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
MINUTES
JUNE 24, 2024, AT 5:30 P.M.**

ATTENDED: JOEY BORGES (CHAIR), KELLY SCHELLONG (VICE CHAIR), VIDETTE ROBERTS, RAY ALTMAN, DARRIN SHORT

ABSENT: NONE

ALSO PRESENT: JOSEPH RYE, FERNANDO HERNANDEZ, ALICIA FERREIRA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER. ROLL CALL. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Borges called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Alicia Ferreira conducted roll call. Chair Borges led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following person(s) addressed the Board: NONE

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

3A. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 22ND, 2024, RCTA BOARD MEETING & WORKSHOP

3B. APPROVE ALIGNING RCTA ELECTRONIC ACCESS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT IN PUBLIC MEETINGS WITH COUNTY & CITY

3C. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2023-24-15 AUTHORIZING FTA 5339 FUNDING FOR BUS REPLACEMENTS

3D. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2023-24-16 AUTHORIZING FTA 5311 & 5311(f) FUNDING FOR OPERATING ASSISTANCE

3E. APPROVAL OF 2024 SUMMER SERVICE SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE MAY 28, 2024, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

On a motion by Director SCHELLONG seconded by Director SHORT, unanimously carried on a polled vote, the Redwood Coast Transit Authority Board of Directors approved the Consent Agenda items 3A-3E.

4. PUBLIC HEARING – RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT ON FARE INCREASE, DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

On a motion by Director SHORT and seconded by Director SCHELLONG, unanimously carried on a polled vote, the Redwood Coast Transit Authority Board of Directors approved the Fare Increase.

5. PRESENTATION ON GHD WILLIAMS DRIVE CHARGING STATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT AND NEXT STEPS

Discussion was held regarding GHD Williams Drive Charging Stations Infrastructure Project and the Next Steps

6. APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH ADKINS ENGINEERING NOT-TO-EXCEED \$8500 FOR WILLIAMS DRIVE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT APPROVALS AND ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTIVE AGREEMENT

Discussion was held regarding the approval of agreement with Adkins Engineering Not-to-exceed \$8500 for Williams Drive Charging Infrastructure Project Approvals and Environmental Documentation and Authorize Executive Director to Execute Agreement.

On a motion by Director SCHELLONG, seconded by Director ALTMAN, unanimously carried on a polled vote the Redwood Coast Transit Board Authority of Directors approved the Agreement with Adkins Engineering Not-To-Exceed \$8500 for Williams Drive Charging Infrastructure Project Approvals and Environmental Documentation and Authorize Executive Director to Executive Agreement.

7. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2023-24-17 APPROVING THE FY 2024-25 RCTA BUDGET

Discussion was held regarding Adopt Resolution 2023-24-17 Approving the FY 2024-25 RCTA Budget.

On a motion by Director SHORT, seconded by Director ALTMAN, unanimously carried on a polled vote the Redwood Coast Transit Authority Board of Directors Adopted and approved Resolution 2023-24-17 Approving the FY 2024-25 RCTA Budget.

8. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2023-24-18 APPROVING SUBMITTAL OF THE FY 2024-25 RCTA TDA CLAIM

On a motion by Director SHORT seconded by Director ALTMAN, unanimously carried on a polled vote the Redwood Coast Transit Authority Board of Directors Adopted and approved Resolution 2023-24-18 approving submittal of the FY 2024-25 RCTA TDA Claim.

9. REVIEW AND ACCEPT FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 RCTA FINANCIAL AUDIT FROM O'CONNOR CPA'S

Discussion was held regarding The Review and Acceptance of Fiscal Year 2023-23 RCTA Financial Audit from O'Connor CPA's and agreed to bring back this line item to the next meeting for public comments. Since the two final audit documents were omitted from the posted agenda packet, this item will return on the next RCTA agenda for re-approval.

On a motion by Director SCHELLONG seconded by Director ROBERTS, unanimously carried on a polled vote the Redwood Coast Transit Authority Board of Directors Accepted Fiscal Year 2023-23 RCTA Financial Audit from O'Connor CPA's.

10. MANAGEMENT REPORT – TRANSDEV GENERAL MANAGER

Fernando Hernandez updated the board on status reports. It was also noted that the drivers have been instructed to stop at designated areas for pickup if someone is there or within 15 ft of bus stop, whether they signal intention to board the bus or not. Otherwise, if nobody is near bus stop, driver will continue on route without stopping.

11. RCTA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Rye addressed the fact that Greyhound has pulled out of its long held route between San Francisco and Arcata. This Route originally extended all the way to Crescent City and was a precursor of RCTA forming and the Route 20 concept. In 2004, Greyhound pulled out of the Arcata to Crescent City piece to shorten the route and due to low ridership on the northerly most segment. Since the COVID pandemic, Greyhound had further reduced its services in this corridor, and tried several (surprising) timetable changes. As of June 2024 Greyhound was running SF to Arcata Wednesday through Sunday. It was announced that Greyhound cannot make the route work financially without a 5311(f) subsidy of over the standard \$300k per year. Fortunately, RCTA and its partners on the corridor, including Humboldt Transit, Mendocino Transis, and Lake Transit formed a partnership in 2024 called the Redwood Coast Express, with coordinated schedules between the four agencies to allow same day seamless travel between Del Norte and Santa Rosa. From Santa Rosa travellers can reach San Francisco through Golden Gate Transit. Route 20 serves as the northern segment of the Redwood Coast Express co-branded service. The early morning southbound Route 20 trip, as well as the evening return trip that departs Eureka before 6pm are “Redwood Coast Express” trips within the Route 20 schedule. It remains to be seen how the RCX does in picking up the travel demands from Greyhound, in particular weekend service will be impacted initially. The RCX system only runs M-F, although RCTA operates Route 20 M-Sat.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

13. ADJOURN

Redwood Coast Transit Board of Directors adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting will be on Monday August 26th, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

Joseph Rye, Executive Director
Redwood Coast Transit Authority