

RIVERSIDE TRANSIT AGENCY
Minutes of Meeting No. 2005-3A
Regular Meeting
March 24, 2005

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ayres called the regular meeting of the Riverside Transit Agency Board of Directors to order at 2:03 p.m., on Thursday, March 24, 2005, in the RTA Conference Room, 1825 Third Street, Riverside, CA.

Present:

1. Brenda Salas, City of Banning
2. Jon Winningham, City of Calimesa
3. Frank Kessler, City of Canyon Lake
4. Karen Spiegel, City of Corona
5. Roger Meadows, City of Hemet
6. Daryl Hickman, City of Lake Elsinore
7. Bonnie Flickinger, City of Moreno Valley
8. Frank Hall, City of Norco
9. John Motte, City of Perris
10. Ameal Moore, City of Riverside
11. Jim Ayres, City of San Jacinto
12. Jeff Comerchero, City of Temecula
13. Bob Buster, County of Riverside, District I
14. ¹Martie Killough
15. ²Andrea Puga
16. ³Patty Goodwin

Absent:

1. Warnie Enochs, City of Murrieta
2. Jeff Stone, County of Riverside

2. SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

Self-introductions of those in attendance took place.

Chairman Ayres welcomed Councilmember Marc Searl, Board alternate from the City of Hemet.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Director Spiegel led the attendees in the flag salute.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS - NON-AGENDA ITEMS

The clerk of the Board announced that there was a request to speak pertaining to item 8 of the agenda.

¹Alternate for Director Fox, City of Beaumont

²Alternate for Director Tavaglione, County of Riverside District II

³Alternate for Director Ashley, County of Riverside District V

5. PRESENTATIONS

- To Coach Operator, Suzan Schmidt in recognition of saving a passenger's life: Chairman Ayres presented Ms. Schmidt with a certificate of appreciation in recognition of having saved a passenger's life. Ms. Schmidt thanked the Board for this recognition.
- To Chief Operating Officer, Grant Bradshaw in Recognition of 23 Years of Service: Chairman Ayres presented Mr. Bradshaw with a pin in recognition of 23 years of service. Mr. Bradshaw thanked the Board for this recognition.
- To Agency's Employees in Recognition of their Participation in the 2004 United Way Campaign:
Chairman Ayres presented certificates of appreciation to employees who volunteered during the 2004 United Way Campaign, and he also presented a special plaque to Cheri Haggerty, Communications Relations Specialist for having coordinated the campaign.

Directors Buster and Flickinger and Alternate Goodwin arrived to the meeting after item 5.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 24, 2005, BOARD MEETING

M/S/C (FLICKINGER/MEADOWS) approving the February 24, 2005, Board meeting minutes. The motion carried with 14 affirmative votes and two abstentions (HALL/PUGA.)

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving the receipt and file of item A – RTA Financial Profile – February 2005. The motion carried unanimously.

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving the receipt and file of item B – Ridership Report – February 2005. The motion carried unanimously.

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving the receipt and file of item C – Personnel Report – February 2005. The motion carried unanimously.

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving the receipt and file of item D – Transportation Center Report – February 2005. The motion carried unanimously.

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving the receipt and file of item E – On Time Performance Report – February 2005. The motion carried unanimously.

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving the receipt and file of item F – Board Budget and Finance Committee Meeting – 2/2/05 Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving the receipt and file of item G – Board Operations Committee Meeting – 2/2/05 Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving the receipt and file of item H – ADA Committee Meeting – 2/3/05 Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving the receipt and file of item I – Agency Credit Card Statement for February. The motion carried unanimously.

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving the receipt and file of item J – Cash Flow Projections. The motion carried unanimously.

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving the receipt and file of item K – Festival of Lights Service Update. The motion carried unanimously.

M/S/C (COMERCHERO/HALL) approving item L – Authorization for Travel to Attend the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) Bus and Paratransit Conference. The motion carried unanimously.

8. DIAL-A-RIDE SUBSCRIPTION PASS ANALYSIS AND CHANGES

Mr. Scott Richardson, Director of Marketing, presented an analysis of the Dial-A-Ride Subscription pass.

Mr. Ken Willits, Inland Regional Center, commended RTA for having listened to passengers' concerns and deciding not to implement the subscription pass. Mr. Willits also commented that the subscription fare of \$2.50 is still too high. Mr. Willits mentioned that he would like to work with Mr. Richardson on the Buddy Fare System since they have 300-400 consumers that ride the bus from their home to a day program or job on a daily basis.

Mr. Willits inquired how often do Dial-A-Ride subscribers have to call in to schedule services. Mr. Rubio replied that calls need to be made once a week. Mr. Willits asked if the current subscription services will automatically roll over when the new fare is implemented. Mr. Rubio replied that these services will stay the same.

Mr. Willits also commented that he received many phone calls from consumers informing him that when they were notified of the \$175 per month subscription pass, they were told that they had no other option. Mr. Rubio commented that the only changes would be the addition of the Buddy Fare System and the fare increase. It was never the intention of staff to mislead customers. Customers will be able to save money by using the Buddy Fare System as long as they are willing to be flexible with their scheduled times. Mr. Rubio encouraged Mr. Willits to work with RTA to group as many customers as possible by using the Buddy Fare System.

Director Hickman asked Mr. Richardson if it would be of any assistance to assemble lists of seniors that use Dial-A-Ride and who travel to/from same destinations. Mr. Richardson replied that the more information that is gathered in advance of the presentations the better.

Chairman Ayres thanked Mr. Willits for his comments and mentioned that this Board has worked very hard to implement the new Buddy Fare System. This new system may need some adjustments, but as it evolves it will get better.

M/S/C (MOORE/FLICKINGER) as to the following:

- Eliminate the \$175 per month Dial-A-Ride subscription pass fare scheduled to

take effect on April 3, 2005.

- Price each DAR subscription trip at the standard Dial-A-Ride fare of \$2.50, and allow the “Buddy Fare” whenever possible.

The motion carried unanimously.

9. CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Chris Gallanes, Chief Financial Officer, presented an update on the Agency’s Capital Projects.

The Board of Directors unanimously approved the receipt and file of this item.

10. POLICY CONCERNING DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION TO MEMBER AGENCIES

M/S/C (KESSLER/GOODWIN) adopting the following Policy:

Directors, and designated Alternate Directors in the absence of Directors, may disclose information obtained in a closed session that has direct financial or liability implications for a member entity of RTA to the following individuals:

- A. Legal counsel of that member entity for purposes of obtaining advice on whether the matter has direct financial or liability implications for that member entity.
- B. Other members of the legislative body of that member entity present in a closed session of that member entity.

The motion carried unanimously.

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REMARKS

Chairman Ayres recognized alternate Puga and her husband Jerry, owners of Jerry’s Carpets for being the recipients of an award from the Corona Chamber of Commerce for Excellence in Retail.

Chairman Ayres commented that Directors Hall and Fox, Mr. Rubio, and he recently took the yearly trip to Washington, DC. Chairman Ayres reported that the meetings went very well, and the representatives were very supportive of the RTA’s requests as they understand our growth and our transportation issues.

Mr. Rubio said that it was a great trip as they were able to meet with the appropriate representatives. While in Washington, the Reauthorization Bill came out of the Congressional Committee and since then it has been adopted by the entire Congress.

The latest report from the Agency’s Government Affairs representative in Washington, DC states that although the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works has adopted the \$284 billion Bill, there is a move in the Senate to increase that amount. The question is whether the President will approve that increased amount.

Director Kessler reported that at a recent meeting of the National League of Cities,

two sessions were held on the Reauthorization Bill which were attended by members of the Senate and the House of Representatives. During these sessions, it was reported that the Bill would be considered after the budget and funding for Iraq are reviewed. It is projected that the Conference Committee will begin reviewing the Bill the last week of April. The people that are working with the Bill in the Senate project that it will get signed at the end of June.

12. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Rubio made the following announcements:

- A series of community outreach meetings were held at senior centers throughout our service area to inform the public about the upcoming fare changes, which will take effect on April 3rd. The Lake Elsinore meeting will be held on March 29th. If you know of any other areas that you feel should be visited, please let staff know, so we can make sure we meet with customers to try to encourage them to form groups and take advantage of the new Buddy Fare System.
- We hope you can join us at our twentieth annual bus Roadeo scheduled for Sunday, April 10th, at our Hemet facility. Festivities will begin at 8 a.m. Chairman Ayres also encouraged the Board members to attend the Roadeo.

Director Salas wished everyone a Happy Easter.

The Board members, General Counsel Smart, Mr. Rubio, and Ms. Murillo went into Closed Session at 2:57 p.m.

The Board members, General Counsel Smart, Mr. Rubio, and Murillo returned to Open Session at 3:05 p.m.

13. **CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957 TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATION OF HEARING OFFICER ROBERT D. STEINBERG REGARDING DISCIPLINE AGAINST RTA EMPLOYEE GRENETTA BROWNE**

General Counsel Smart reported that the following action was taken in Closed Session:

M/S/C (FLICKINGER/MEADOWS) as to the following:

Approve the Statement of Decision of the Board of Directors regarding the grievance of employee Grenetta Browne.

The motion carried unanimously.

14. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the RTA Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, April 28, 2005, at 2:00 p.m., in the RTA Conference Room, at 1825 Third Street, Riverside, CA.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Rubio
Chief Executive Officer

Maricela Hernandez
Clerk of the Board

ATTENDANCE SHEET

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
1. LARRY RUBIO	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
2. KEN SMART	AGENCY GENERAL COUNSEL
3. GRANT BRADSHAW	CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
4. CHRIS GALLANES	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
5. SCOTT RICHARDSON	DIRECTOR OF MARKETING
6. NICK BURRIE	DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE
7. LAURA MURILLO	DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
8. MARICELA HERNANDEZ	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/CLERK OF THE BOARD
9. JUDYLYNN GRIES	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER
10. VALERIE KELLY	OPERATIONS MANAGER
11. JILES SMITH	RISK MANAGER
12. JOE VANDERVORT	TRAINING MANAGER
13. LINDA KELLER	OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR
14. MARY ARDEN	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/ DEPUTY CLERK OF BOARD
15. RAKESHA THOMAS	HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST
16. CHERI HAGGERTY	COMMUNITY RELATIONS SPECIALIST
17. MIKE MCCOY	SENIOR PLANNER
18. LYNN ROBERTSON	COIN COUNTER
19. DEBBIE PITTS	COACH OPERATOR
20. VIREN SHAH	CITY OF CORONA
21. JERRY TRIOLO	MCDONALD TRANSIT
22. TED HARRIS	MV TRANSIT
23. DARRELL RICHARDSON	MV TRANSIT
24. KEN WILLITS	INLAND REGIONAL CENTER
25. BRAD WEAVER	PRESS ENTERPRISE
26. AMY HICKMAN	LAKE ELSINORE RESIDENT
27. MR. AND MRS. CAMPBELL	BUS RIDERS
28. PAUL LENOVER	BUS RIDER