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**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**Tuesday, March 25, 2025**

**10:00 a.m.**

Antelope Valley Transit Authority Community Room

42210 6<sup>th</sup> Street West, Lancaster, California

[www.avta.com](http://www.avta.com)

**OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Crist called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Director Ohlsen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT

Chairman Marvin Crist, Vice Chair Dianne Knippel, Director Eric Ohlsen, Director Raj Malhi, Director Michelle Royal, Alternate Director Kathryn Mac Laren

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

On a motion by Vice Chair Knippel and seconded by Director Malhi, the Board of Directors approved the agenda as comprised.

Vote: Motion carried (6-0-0-0)

Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice Chair Knippel, Directors Ohlsen, Malhi, Royal, Alternate Director Mac Laren

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**PUBLIC BUSINESS– AGENDIZED AND NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS:**

Timothy McLaughlin complimented the Dial-A-Ride (DAR) operators and staff for going above and beyond.

Fran Sereseres expressed gratitude to the DAR operators and staff. Vice Chair Knippel thanked the leadership for the messages from the top, emphasizing the importance of serving and caring for the passengers.

Milcah White thanked the DAR staff and operators for providing excellent customer service and suggested offering holiday services between DAR and Access Services.

Charlotte Baxter stated she is experiencing issues with dispatch coordinating her rides and the DAR app and customer service hold time.

**SPECIAL REPORTS, PRESENTATIONS, AND REQUESTS FOR DIRECTION  
(SRP):**

**SRP 1 LEGISLATIVE REPORT FROM SENATOR SUZETTE VALLADARES' OFFICE**

Jack Danielson, State Senator Valladares' field representative, introduced Chris Ward, the veteran representative for State Senator Valladares, who spoke about Access Services. Chairman Crist directed Executive Director/CEO Martin Tompkins to follow up with Ms. Ward. Mr. Danielson announced that Senator Valladares had been selected as the Republican Caucus Minority Whip and reported on Senate Bill (SB) 23: Property taxation: exemption: disabled veteran homeowners.

**SRP 2 LEGISLATIVE REPORT FROM ASSEMBLYMEMBER TOM LACKEY'S OFFICE**

Angela Marie Allen, Assemblymember Lackey's district field representative, reported on Assembly Bill (AB) 486: Vehicle: sideshows and street takeovers, which prohibits a person from engaging in, aiding, or abetting a motor vehicle speed contest on a highway or in an off-street parking facility.

**SRP 3 PRESENTATION TO CARLOS LOPEZ, CUSTOMER SATISFACTION MANAGER, FOR 15 YEARS OF SERVICE**

Executive Director/CEO Martin Tompkins presented the award to Customer Satisfaction Manager Carlos Lopez in recognition of 15 years of outstanding and dedicated service to the Authority.

**SRP 4 PRESENTATION TO AVTA EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY 2025**

Customer Satisfaction Manager Carlos Lopez presented Customer Services Representative II Karla Iraheta with the Employee of the Month award.

**SRP 5 PRESENTATION TO MV TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEE AND OPERATOR OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY 2025**

MV Transportation General Manager Thomas Conlon presented Joseph Valle with the Operator of the Month award and recognized Roberto Santos as the Employee of the Month, who was unable to attend the meeting.

**SRP 6 PRESENTATION TO AV TRANSPORTATION SERVICES (AVTS) EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY 2025**

AV Transportation Services President Art Minasyan presented Leonardo Sandoval with the Employee of the Month award and presented an award to Joseph Lorana for 15 years of service.

**SRP 7 AVTS MICROTRANSIT AND DIAL-A-RIDE KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI) REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2025**

Mr. Minasyan presented the report.

**SRP 8 LEGISLATIVE REPORT FOR MARCH 2025**

Chief Financial Officer Judy Vaccaro-Fry reported on CalSTA's 2024 Accomplishments, Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) Credits, various assembly and senate bills, the FFY 2024/2025 continuing resolution, USDOT competitive grants and policy rescissions, the Senate confirmation of Steven Bradbury as the next U.S. Deputy Secretary of Transportation, and Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's FY 2026 funding marks. She highlighted proposed bills AB-1070 Transit districts: governing boards: compensation: nonvoting members, AB-1237 Counties of Los Angeles and Santa Clara: sporting events: ticket charge: public transit, AB-939 Safe, Sustainable, Traffic-Reducing Transportation Bond Act of 2026, and SB-359 Diesel Fuel Tax Law: exempt bus operation.

**SRP 9 MAINTENANCE KPI REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2025**

Operations and Contract Compliance Manager Joseph Sanchez presented the report.

**SRP 10 OPERATIONS KPI REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2025**

MV Transportation Assistant General Manager Genie Maxie presented the report. The Board discussed the increase in complaints.

**CONSENT CALENDAR (CC):**

**CC 1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

Approve the Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2025.

**CC 2 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2024**

Receive and file the Financial Report for February 2025.

**CC 3 DESTRUCTION OF AVTA RECORDS**

In accordance with AVTA's Record Retention Policy, authorize the destruction of the on-site records (paper, electronic, audio, photographic, etc.) detailed on the Records Destruction list.

On a motion by Vice Chair Knippel and seconded by Director Royal, the Board of Directors approved the Consent Calendar as comprised.

Vote: Motion carried (6-0-0-0)

Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice Chair Knippel, Directors Ohlsen, Malhi, Royal, Alternate Director Mac Laren

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**NEW BUSINESS (NB):**

**NB 1 CONSIDER ANTELOPE VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO APPROVE MEMBERSHIP IN THE FIRST PUBLIC HYDROGEN AUTHORITY (FPH<sub>2</sub>)**

Executive Director/CEO Martin Tompkins presented the staff report, and Director Alexis Merino of First Public Hydrogen presented the PowerPoint presentation. The Board discussed the potential obligations and costs associated with hydrogen, both now and in the future, and inquired whether a hydrogen bus could go back and forth to Los Angeles without stopping. Mr. Tompkins responded that the bus could go to Los Angeles and that we could use the hydrogen bus for other services.

On a motion by Vice Chair Knippel and seconded by Alternate Director Mac Laren, the Board of Directors moved to receive and file the report.

Vote: Motion carried (6-0-0-0)

Yeas: Chairman Crist, Vice Chair Knippel, Directors Ohlsen, Malhi, Royal, Alternate Director Mac Laren

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (RA):**

**RA 1 REPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO**

There were no reports or announcements.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS – NON-AGENDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ITEMS:**

No miscellaneous business items were presented.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Crist adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m. to the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors on April 22, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Antelope Valley Transit Authority Community Room, 42210 6<sup>th</sup> Street West, Lancaster, CA.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of APRIL 2025.



Marvin Crist, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:



DeeAnna Cason, Executive Assistant

Audio recordings of the Board of Directors Meetings are maintained in accordance with state law and AVTA's Records Retention Policy. Please contact Karen Darr, Clerk of the Board, at (661) 729-2206 to arrange to review a recording.