



**SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (METRO)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES*
FEBRUARY 25, 2022 – 9:00 AM
MEETING HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) convened on Friday, February 25, 2022, via teleconference.

The Board Meeting Agenda Packet can be found online at www.SCMTD.com. *Minutes are “summary” minutes, not verbatim minutes. Audio recordings Board meeting open sessions are available to the public upon request.

This document was created with accessibility in mind. With the exception of certain third party and other attachments, it passes the Adobe Acrobat XI Accessibility Full Check. If you have any questions about the accessibility of this document, please email your inquiry to accessibility@scmttd.com.

- 1 CALLED TO ORDER** at 9:09 AM by Board Chair Lind.
- 2 ROLL CALL:** The following Directors were **present** via teleconference, representing a quorum:

Director Rebecca Downing	County of Santa Cruz
Direct Jimmy Dutra	City of Watsonville
Director Shebreh Kalantari-Johnson	City of Santa Cruz
Director Manu Koenig	County of Santa Cruz
Director Donna Lind	City of Scotts Valley
Director Bruce McPherson	County of Santa Cruz
Director Donna Meyers	City of Santa Cruz
Director Larry Pageler	County of Santa Cruz
Director Ari Parker	City of Watsonville
Director Kristen Petersen	City of Capitola
Director Mike Rotkin	County of Santa Cruz
Ex-Officio Director Dan Henderson	UC Santa Cruz
Ex-Officio Director Alta Northcutt	Cabrillo College

Dawn Crummié
Julie Sherman

Interim CEO/GM
General Counsel

- 3 ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Today’s meeting is being broadcast by Community Television of Santa Cruz County.
- 4 APPROVE BOARD OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**
Chair Lind spoke to the two slates presented. Director Rotkin presented a third slate at the meeting. Discussion continued regarding the three slates and providing representation from the Watsonville region to the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC).

Brian Peoples, Trail Now, expressed his organization's support for transit and felt the Watsonville area should have representation on the SCCRTC and METRO should only appoint elected officials to the Commission.

James Sandoval, SMART Local 0023 Chairperson, supports Director Koenig's slate.

Nate Abrego, SMART Local 0023, also expressed support for representation from the Watsonville area on the SCCRTC.

Holly Alcorn, Vice President - SEA Chapter of SEIU 521, advocated for supporting Director Koenig's slate.

ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE ENTIRE SLATE 1 AS PRESENTED

MOTION: DIRECTOR McPHERSON SECOND: DIRECTOR PAGELER

MOTION DID NOT PASS WITH 3 AYES (Directors Lind, McPherson and Pageler)

ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE ENTIRE SLATE 2 AS PRESENTED

MOTION: DIRECTOR KOENIG SECOND: DIRECTOR DUTRA

MOTION PASSED WITH 8 AYES (Directors Downing, Dutra, Kalantari-Johnson, Koenig, Meyers, Pageler, Parker, and Petersen)

NO MOTION MADE ON SLATE 3 AS SLATE 2 WAS APPROVED BY A MAJORITY

Director Lind welcomed Director Pageler as the new Chair.

5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Hearing none, Chair Pageler moved to the next agenda item.

6 ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hearing none, Chair Pageler moved to the next agenda item.

7 LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

James Sandoval, SMART Local 0023 Chairperson, congratulated Chair Pageler on his election and was pleased that Slate 2 passed.

Ms. Martinez from the public requested comment on the flyer presented in the agenda and expressed concern that the Brown Act may have been violated. Julie Sherman, Legal Counsel, responded that she was not privy to the conversations when this letter was circulated and signed by the Board Members, but will review the issue. The only official action that the Board took (at its January 28, 2022 meeting) was providing direction to staff to agendize this matter (a discussion of the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) jurisdiction) once a new CEO was hired.

James Sandoval, SMART 0023 Chairperson, commented that legislation does not require Board support. The thank you flyer is to those Board Members that have spoken in support of this legislation and the union was only expressing gratitude to them.

Director Meyers remarked that she was supportive of bringing this matter to the entire Board for discussion, as suggested at the January meeting, in a transparent

and public way and expressed frustration that James Sandoval did not remove her name from the letter when requested.

Director McPherson was disappointed that other Board Members did not follow the direction provided to staff at the January Board meeting and was concerned that this could lead to complications. Director Rotkin mirrored Director McPherson's comment.

Hearing nothing further, Chair Pageler moved to the next agenda item.

8 WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chair Pageler acknowledged receipt of the METRO Advisory Committee's letter.

There were no public comments.

9 ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS

Item 12 – Slides were provided to the Directors on 2/24/22 and will be added to the online agenda.

Hearing nothing further, Chair Pageler moved to the next agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA

10.1 ACCEPT AND FILE: PRELIMINARY APPROVED CHECK JOURNAL DETAIL FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2022

10.2 ACCEPT AND FILE: MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 28, 2022 SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (METRO) REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, FEBRUARY 11, 2022 FINANCE, BUDGET, & AUDIT STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING, AND FEBRUARY 25, 2022 PERSONNEL/HR STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

10.3 ACCEPT AND FILE: THE YEAR-TO-DATE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF JANUARY 31, 2022

10.4 ACCEPT AND FILE: THE YEAR TO DATE KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI) REPORT FOR 2ND QUARTER FY22 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021

10.5 ACCEPT AND FILE: QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT OF GRANT APPLICATIONS, ACTIVE AND PENDING GRANTS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF FY22

10.6 ACCEPT AND FILE: THE METRO PARACRUZ OPERATIONS STATUS REPORT FOR OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER 2021

10.7 APPROVE AND FILE: THE METRO SYSTEM RIDERSHIP REPORTS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF FY22

10.8 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF DECLARING VEHICLES AND/OR EQUIPMENT AS EXCESS FOR PURPOSES OF DISPOSAL OR AUCTION

10.9 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO ASSIGN A NEW DBELO FOR THE SANTA CRUZ METRO DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) PROGRAM

- 10.10 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND DIRECTING THAT THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEE MEETINGS WILL CONTINUE TO BE HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE
- 10.11 ACCEPT AND FILE: CY22 STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
- 10.12 APPROVE: RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT'S EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO) PROGRAM, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025
- 10.13 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO EXECUTE A 4TH CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH MANSFIELD OIL COMPANY TO INCREASE THE CONTRACT TOTAL BY \$150,000 FOR FURNISHING AND DELIVERING CARB ULTRA-LOW SULFUR DIESEL FUEL
- 10.14 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF RATIFICATION OF A 2ND AMENDMENT WITH BONFIRE INTERACTIVE L.T.D. FOR THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATED TO ESOURCING AND CONTRACT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE, EXTENDING THE AGREEMENT FOR TWO YEARS AND INCREASING THE TOTAL BY \$25,000

There were no public comments.

ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED

MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN

SECOND: DIRECTOR MEYERS

MOTION PASSED WITH 11 AYES (Directors Downing, Dutra, Kalantari-Johnson, Koenig, Lind, McPherson, Meyers, Pageler, Parker, Petersen, and Rotkin)

REGULAR AGENDA

11 PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS: (10 YEARS: URIEL ESTRADA, MARIE HOYOS, AND PAUL LENNON)

Chair Pageler read bios that were available for each employee receiving a longevity award and thanked them for their service.

There were no public comments.

12 APPROVAL TO PREFUND THE FIRST PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PAYMENT ON THE BOND DUE AUGUST 1, 2022

Chuck Farmer, CFO, spoke to the presentation and the results of the sale of the sales tax revenue bonds. The Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL) savings is \$17.1 million. As part of this bond process, METRO needs to prefund the first six months of principal and interest (\$3.4 million), which will be recouped over the next six months when the intercept takes place.

Director Koenig responded that it is great to see such a high demand for these bonds. Discussion followed on how this helps METRO's structural deficit.

Director Rotkin thanked CFO Farmer in explaining the process to the Board and public, and thanked former Chair Lind who pressed for this bond sale to proceed.

Directors McPherson and Parker thanked the Board and administration for putting this forward and Chuck Farmer for spearheading it and seeing it through.

There were no public comments.

ACTION: MOTION TO PREFUND THE FIRST PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PAYMENT ON THE BOND DUE AUGUST 1, 2022

MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN

SECOND: DIRECTOR McPHERSON

MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Downing, Kalantari-Johnson, Koenig, Lind, McPherson, Meyers, Pageler, Parker, Petersen, and Rotkin. Director Dutra was absent.)

13 INTERIM CEO ORAL REPORT / COVID-19 UPDATE

Dawn Crummié, Interim CEO/GM, announced the new hires and promotions:

New Hires:

Vincent Garcia	Bus Operator
Roberta Rodriguez	Bus Operator
Edgar Garcia Ramos	Bus Operator
Ramiro Arizpe	Paratransit Operator

Promotions:

Veronica Hoover	Dispatcher/Scheduler
Freddie Martinez	Revenue Account Program Manager
Joan Jeffries	Purchasing Manager

COVID-19 Updates:

- METRO had 14 new cases since January 28, 2022; however, only one case in the last 14 days.
- Operations department is considered as having a "major outbreak" with 20 positive cases within a 30-day period, which triggered an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) audit. It was an extensive review of METRO's processes. Curtis Moses, Safety, Security & Risk Director, worked with the auditors while they were on site. It could take months to get a final report back, but the auditors shared that nothing stood out that caused concern. They were happy with METRO policies and procedures that are in place.

Directors McPherson and Lind both thanked Interim CEO/GM Crummié for the excellent job she is doing, as well as the administrative team, and applauded everyone for the work they are doing in this interim period.

There were no public comments.

14 ACCEPT AND FILE: STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM SHAW, YODER, ANTWIH, SCHMELZER AND LANGE

Josh Shaw and Michael Pimentel spoke to the presentation and discussed key legislation (SB114, SB922, AB2622, SB878 and AB1919) being introduced this year.

Director Rotkin commented that SB878 sounds like a positive bill to get young riders on the buses and possibly make them life-long transit riders.

Chair Pageler asked for clarification on "intent language only" on AB1919. Mr. Pimentel said this language is used when a legislator is still working on a concept and will provide more specifics later as new language is introduced. Ex-Officio

Director Henderson asked if there is a public website to find additional information on AB1919 as it unfolds. Mr. Pimentel said his firm would reach out to METRO as soon as this bill is in print.

Mr. Shaw reviewed the Governor's proposal for transit funding and possible funding opportunities for METRO. Mr. Pimentel also reviewed existing funding available.

Director McPherson said Central Coast Community Energy (CCCE) has many incentive programs for zero-emission vehicles. Could that help METRO in applying for some of these funds? Mr. Shaw responded that there are at least four programs that could help METRO take advantage of the CCCE connection. His firm can work with staff to handle those grants so that we highlight that aspect correctly.

Director Rotkin thanked Mr. Shaw and Mr. Pimentel for their work and affirmed METRO made a good decision in selecting them to represent us in Sacramento.

There were no public comments.

15 ACCEPT AND FILE: FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM CAPITAL EDGE

Chris Giglio spoke to his presentation on federal legislation. He covered the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Build Back Better Bill, and the FY22 Department of Transportation (DOT) Budget. Discussion followed on the Lo-No Grant Program and steps METRO can take to be competitive in the next round of grants.

Mr. Giglio reminded the assembly that the Build Back Better Bill is still pending and it does not have many transportation provisions in it.

16 ORAL PACIFIC STATION UPDATE

John Urgo, Planning and Development Director, spoke briefly on the Pacific Station North Project, which has received over \$50 million in state funding grants and awards. In talking with the developers and partners at the City of Santa Cruz, it looks like construction will begin in November 2023. Director Kalantari-Johnson thanked Mr. Urgo for the update and his continued work with the City of Santa Cruz.

No public comments.

17 ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Chair Pageler announced the next regular Board meeting is on March 25, 2022 at 9:00 AM via teleconference.

18 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Pageler adjourned the meeting at 11:24 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bauer
Executive Assistant