

**ITEM 6# March 22, 2023**

**South Central Regional Transit District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday,  
March 22, 2023 - 1:30 PM**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Javier Perea, Chair, City of Sunland Park  
Kasandra Gandara proxy Yvonne Flores, City of Las Cruces  
Nora Barraza, RTD Vice Chair, Town of Mesilla  
Diana Murillo, City of Anthony  
Majorie Powey, Village of Williamsburg  
Robert Martinez, Village of Hatch

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Yvonne Flores, City of Las Cruces  
Peter Atencio, Village of Hatch  
Sharon Thomas, Citizens Advisory Committee  
Manuel Sanchez, Doña Ana County

**SCR TD STAFF:**

David Armijo, SCR TD Executive Director  
Sara Vasquez, SCR TD  
Cristina Gamboa, SCR TD  
Sarah Portillo, SCR TD  
Loretta Gallegos, SCR TD  
Adam Shea, SCR TD

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Becky Baum, RC Creations, LLC, Transcriptionist

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Javier Perea called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

ALL STAND FOR THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

**3. ROLL CALL**

A quorum was determined to be present.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

There were no changes to the agenda. Motioned by Nora Barraza, second by Diana Murillo. Passed unanimously.

**5. PUBLIC INPUT**

There were none.

**6. APPROVAL OF SCRTD MEETING MINUTES OF January 25, 2023**

There were no changes to the minutes. Motioned by Nora Barraza, seconded by Kasandra Gandara. Passed unanimously.

**7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

David Armijo gave the Executive Director's report. He had sent out a packet with today's information. The MPO provided three CMAQ grants totaling over \$5.5 million. The SCRTD won an award at the Albuquerque conference for "Best Transit System in the State of New Mexico for the 5311 Rural Services." The SCRTD was the only submittal for 2023

for the Congestion/Air Quality Grant and therefore received it, as well as other monies totaling roughly \$8 million. The local match is only 10%. The consultants from TTI will hopefully come out to talk about the feasibility study soon. Preliminary numbers for March show 8,500 rides for the month. SCRTD is working on getting more Gillig electric buses and is working with El Paso Electric and a local contractor called Diamond to get this program up and running. Currently the charging stations and training for drivers are being planned. The bus shelters are mostly repaired and repainted and re-installed. They have solar lighting, but taggers have ripped off the panels so they can make more graffiti on the shelters. The buses have been on order for three years and should arrive next month. They are small and have electronic/manual ramps. They will carry about 18 to 25 passengers and will allow the old, worn-out buses to be retired.

8. **ACTION: FY2022 AUDITORS REPORT - ITZA SOSA**
  - a) **March 9, 2023, office of the State Auditor Correspondence Authorization to release SCRTD Audit Report.**
  - b) **Resolution to approve FY2022 Audit Report.**

Itza Sosa gave the audit report for July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. Board Members have the final version of the report in front of them. All opinions were clean. The only finding was that two employees exceeded the maximum allowed accrued PTO but that was not a huge problem. There was a discussion regarding the amount of accrued leave permitted and what staff did to correct the problem.

Motioned by Kasandra Gandara, seconded by Nora Barraza. Passed unanimously.

9. **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION OF THE CMAQ GRANT**

David Armijo discussed the resolution. The information is on page 11 of the packet. He coordinated with the El Paso MPO to get the correct numbers based on the current fiscal year. This resolution will provide for two buses and a charging station for them. Local match is 10%.

Motioned by Nora Barraza, seconded by Kasandra Gandara. Passed unanimously.

10. **DISCUSSION OF ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS PURCHASE**

Sara Vasquez, Chief Procurement Officer reported that staff is working with consultants, New Mexico Department of Transportation, Gillig, and El Paso Electric Company regarding charging stations for the new Gillig buses. Each of the three stations can charge two vehicles. Staff hope to have the stations by fall of this year.

**11. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO RECEIVE FUNDING FROM THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION AND TO COMMIT LOCAL FUNDING TO SUPPORT SECTIO 5307 GRANT FUNDS FOR FY22 AND FY23**

This is combined operating and capital funding. The FTA and Fort Worth have not yet released funds for 2022, pending reinforcement of the agreement of the service expansion policy with Sun Metro. Staff hope for letters of support from the Mayors of Anthony, Sunland Park, Las Cruces, and Mesilla to reaffirm local commitment. Local match is provided in the MOA with Dona Ana County.

Motioned by Nora Barraza, seconded by Diana Murillo. Passed unanimously.

**12. CLOSED SESSION**

Motioned by Nora Barraza, seconded by Diana Murillo. Passed unanimously.

Approximately 30 minutes.

**13. BOARD COMMENT**

There were none.

**14. ADJOURNMENT (2:29 p.m.) - Next meeting April 26, 2023**



Chairperson