

**Wednesday,
June 25, 2025 - 1:30 PM**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Manuel Sanchez, SRTD Chair, Doña Ana County
Javier Perea, SCRTD Treasurer, City of Sunland Park
Majorie Powey, SCRTD Member, Village of Williamsburg
Russell Hernandez, SRTD Vice-Chair, Town of Mesilla
Diana Murillo, SCRTD Member, City of Anthony
Yvonne Flores, Secretary, City of Las Cruces

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Robert Martinez, Village of Hatch
Shannon Reynolds, Doña Ana County

SCRTD STAFF:

David Armijo, SCRTD Executive Director
Sara Vasquez, SCRTD Human Resources
Crystal Gomez, SCRTD Accounting Assistant
Veronica De La O, SCRTD Administrative Assistant
Adam Shea, SCRTD Finance Manager
Rosa I. Talamantes, SCRTD Senior Accountant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Manuel Sanchez called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

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

Motioned by Javier Perea, seconded by Russell Hernandez. Passed unanimously.

5. PUBLIC INPUT

Isabela Moraga, office intern at SCRTD introduced herself.

Destiny Soto, office intern at SCRTD introduced herself.

David Armijo introduced the new Senior Accountant at SCRTD, Rosa Talamantes.

6. APPROVAL OF SCRTD MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 28, 2025

Motioned by Javier Perea with one change, to move the Chair notation to Manuel Sanchez. Seconded by Russell Hernandez. Passed unanimously.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - DAVID ARMIJO

David Armijo reported that SCRTD will be starting a vanpool program to serve veterans in Truth or Consequences. Cost to the riders is \$50 per month and SCRTD is subsidizing part of the cost. The vehicles were bought through the DFA about four years ago. There were several previous attempts to start the vanpool, but this time the clients came to the SCRTD looking for the service so maybe it will work this time. The round trip is 150 miles and takes about an hour and a half to arrive in T or C from Las Cruces. The vehicle is a 15-passenger van with five registered riders, healthcare staff going up to serve the veterans in T or C. departure time from Las Cruces is about 6:30 a.m. SCRTD is partnered with New Mexico Veterans' Home and will provide gas cards and pay for the insurance. The driver will be responsible for tracking mileage daily, tracking ridership weekly, and moving the vehicle. The State will provide revenue according to ridership. The van will leave from Mesilla Valley Hospital on Del Rey.

Manuel Sanchez, David Armijo, Adam Shea, and Russell Hernandez met with David Harris who runs mobility programs for NMDOT and others regarding the funding SCRTD is entitled to from El Paso and El Paso MPO. The meeting concerned trying to become a direct recipient of the funds and to bypass the El Paso MPO. NMDOT indicated that they will speak to the Federal partners to try to make sure the funds are provided in a timely manner. The Texas governor has to agree to change the current financial arrangement. SCRTD is currently running 10% of the total service in the urbanized area of the City of El Paso, but only the New Mexico side is funding the service. SCRTD wants to get funded from the El Paso side as well. Sun Metro in El Paso has to get that sorted out with the County of El Paso. David Armijo and staff are working on a senior bus pool to serve Sunland Park. The project should cost about \$50,000 and SCRTD can cover half of it. David Armijo suggested that Russell Hernandez should look into something similar for Mesilla's seniors. The City of El Paso has asked for \$5,000 a year for three bus stops and the State of NM has agreed to it. David Armijo instructed the Board that this will all be political because the money is just being shuffled back and forth.

8. A PRESENTATION ON THE SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2026 CAPITAL PROJECT LIST - DAVID ARMIJO

David Armijo commented that the State funds must be encumbered before the year is out in order to keep it, but then there will be about three or four years to spend the money. He discussed that the Venus project will take two to three years and that the NEPA part is

finished now. The next phase is acquisition and design of the property which means going back to the FTA. He hopes the process will go faster this time. The Sunland Park micro-transit station is in the engineering process and hopefully will be ready to begin construction and commissioning by the end of this summer. This facility will be integrated into the EV charging program. The Anthony parking lot project will be finished this year and is funded from this year's budget. There is a new grant program passed by the Legislature for solar canopies. As of July 1, 2025 there will be \$25 million coming available. David Armijo will be looking into that. Other projects include resurfacing and expansion of the Sunland Park property. There is a new grant that will be effective October 1, 2025 that gives SCRTD \$170,000 for that. David Armijo also plans to set up an electric security gate with cameras and lights, etc. to make sure the facility is secure. This should be in place by December. Staff has been building bus shelters for about \$1,000 each and the shelters are very nice. SCRTD is working with the City of Sunland Park to improve the area across from the casino. Mr. Armijo has turned over all of the bus shelter renovations to them. Staff is looking at peak hours services and adding trips due to high ridership numbers. The buses that have been in service since 2016 should be retired this year. There are some new grants awarded, so staff has paperwork to do on those. In June SCRTD was awarded a grant that looked at performance in seven categories, and SCRTD was the best in the state for the third year in a row. The New Mexico Matching Fund continues to provide money. David Armijo will discuss the Financial Plan when the public outreach phase of the Ten-Year Plan is completed. Adam Shea will be starting the annual audit soon. New accounting software will be implemented during this year as well. Staff plans to increase marketing and communications, as SCRTD is weak in that area. Staff expansion is slow, with only three new people hired recently, and David Armijo is still considering whether to get private contractors to run the Sunland Park facility. Staff is working on a CEO training program and launching the service at Sunland Park.

9. A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2026 ANNUAL BUDGET - ADAM SHEA

Adam Shea discussed the annual budget. Personnel costs total \$2,010,851.50 due to the increased number of operators, 61.9% of the total expenditure budget. Other expenditures include travel and maintenance totaling \$325,000, decreased from last year and amounting to 10% of the overall budget, supplies were \$27,000 and also a decrease, insurance increased due to the discounts being stopped, contractual services were \$108,200 and amounting to 3.3% of the overall budget, operational costs were \$125,350 and amounting to 3.86%. This gives a total of \$3,246,648.84, which is an increase over last year of 7.86%.

Capital has increased drastically this year. Revenue totals \$3,878,719.63, which is an increase over last year of 22.8% and should leave a carryover balance of about \$632,000 for next year. This is due to some of the matching funds received. There has been no change in the grants and MOUs at \$132,764.50; other grants and MOUs are \$2,914,122.13; other source revenues are \$708,833. This has also increased due to the 5307 funds in Region 6 for Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025. These should come in next year and are for operating revenue.

Capital totals \$9,228,092.33, which is a decrease over the current year of 47.2% due to the purchase and payment for several buses and facilities. Planning funds from 5303/5304 are \$90,353.48; 5310 funds total \$323,001; 5311 funds total \$744,702.21; local and match

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Resolution motioned by Yvonne Flores, seconded by Manuel Sanchez. Passed unanimously.

10. A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT INVENTORY REPORT - ADAM SHEA

Adam Shea discussed the inventory report. The year 2025 has been the largest influx of vehicles ever. Several of the old vehicles were disposed of. Capital totals \$11,199,918.25 and includes the facilities, land, and vehicles. This total has to be included in the next audit.

Diana Murillo got her computer to transmit sound and voted verbally.

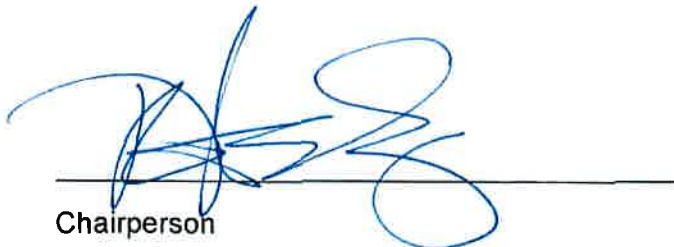
Resolution motioned by Yvonne Flores, seconded by Russell Hernandez. Passed unanimously.

11. A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS WITH THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FOR FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE - DAVID ARMIJO

David Armijo discussed filing applications for urban funds. This is the same application the Board approved two years ago.

Resolution motioned by Yvonne Flores, seconded by Diana Murillo. Passed unanimously.

12. ADJOURNMENT - NEXT MEETING JULY 23, 2025



Chairperson