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FRESNO COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT AGENCY (FCRTA)
MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, October 26, 2017 at 7:30 PM after COG Policy Board Meeting
COG Sequoia Conference Room
20135 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA 93721

DATE: Thursday, October 26, 2017

TIME: 5:30 P.M., **AFTER** the *Fresno Council of Governments (FCOG) Meeting*

PLACE: FCOG/FCRTA Offices
Sequoia Conference Room
Fresno, CA 93721
*(Corner of Tulare and Van Ness. – above Club One
Park in Underground Garage - Entrance off Tulare & Van Ness Ave.
Exit Elevator on Tulare St., Turn Left, Enter Lobby Door,
Up Elevator to Second Floor, Left to Sequoia Conference Room*

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodation

The Fresno COG / FCRTA offices and restrooms are ADA accessible. Individuals with disabilities may call (559-233-4148) / FCRTA (559-233-6789) at least 3 days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the public meeting / public hearing. If Fresno COG / FCRTA are unable to accommodate an auxiliary aid or translation request for a public hearing after receiving proper notice, the hearing will be continued on a specified date when accommodations are available.

AB 23 Requirement: In accordance with the Brown Act and AB23 the amount of stipend paid to members of the Board of Directors for attending this meeting of the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency, is \$50.00.

1. ROLL CALL

Public Presentations – This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the FCRTA Board on items within its jurisdiction but not on this Agenda

NOTE: The public may also comment on any Agenda Item, as they are presented, prior to action by the FCRTA Board.

2. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approve Executive Minutes of September 28, 2017 (Attachment)
- B. Agreement between FCRTA and CALSTART INC. for technical services (Handout)

Summary: FCRTA responded to a call for projects by the FCTA/FCOG in March of 2016 under the Measure C New Technology Fund. FCRTA was awarded \$2,536,321 to operate two (2) *express* inter-city routes, one from Coalinga and another from Orange Cove to Fresno. This award is specifically for the purchase of two (2) electric 35' buses with a range of 145 miles, electric and solar tree charging units in Coalinga, Orange Cove and Fresno.

Also included in the award, are technical and administrative services by CALSTART Inc. in the amount of \$50,000 over the course of two (2) years for this project. The services will include technical assistance and reporting analysis on the project startup activities and associated energy usage with the EV charging locations and EV buses. Attached for your review is the budget as approved by the FCTA. The agreement will be provided as a handout at the Board Meeting.

Action: Staff recommends Board approval for this agreement with CALSTART Inc. for technical and administrative services in the amount of \$50,000 over a two year period. It is further recommended that the Board authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Items from Staff
- B. Items from Members

4. ADJOURNMENT



FRESNO COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT AGENCY (FCRTA)
Executive Minutes

Thursday, September 28, 2017 at 7:30 P.M. after COG Policy Board Meeting
COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA 93721

Members Attending:

Councilmember Ron Lander, City of Coalinga
Mayor Brady Jenkins, City of Firebaugh
Mayor David Cardenas, City of Fowler
Mayor Rey Leon, City of Huron
Mayor Rhonda Armstrong, City of Kerman
Mayor Michelle Roman, City of Kingsburg
Councilmember Robert Silva, City of Mendota
Mayor Victor Lopez, City of Orange Cove
Mayor Anita Betancourt, City of Reedley
Mayor Frank Gonzalez, City of Sanger
Mayor Pro Tem Amarpreet Dhaliwal, City of San Joaquin
Mayor Michael Derr, City of Selma

Moses Stites, General Manager
Arthur Wille, County Counsel
Jeaneen Cervantes, FCOG

Absent:

Mayor Alma Beltran, City of Parlier
Supervisor Sal Quintero, Fresno County

QUORUM: At the start of the meeting there were 10 members present representing 100% of the population and there was a quorum to conduct business. (Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Reedley, Sanger, San Joaquin and Selma)

1. **ROLL CALL** - Meeting call to order to order at 6:36 P.M

Public Presentations – Attorney Mariah Thompson with (CRLA) – Representing the residents of West Park. West Park is an interesting community it is less than one mile and 1/3 of a mile out of the sphere of influence from the City of Fresno so close to have access to those services but it doesn't and residents have waited a long time to have an investment in their community, they actually named their community "Los Olvidados" (The Forgotten) in terms of long term planning and investment in this community. This is a great opportunity for them as it is a galvanizing project for the community.

We would like to thank Moses for all the time and energy that he has put into this project.

Note: The public may also comment on any Agenda Item, as they are presented, prior to action by the FCRTA Board.

2. **APPROVAL ITEMS**

A. **Approve Executive Minutes of July 27, 2017 (Attached)**

A motion was made by Mayor Anita Betancourt (City of Reedley) and second by Mayor Victor Lopez (City of Orange Cove).

B. **Safety and Security Services Agreements with the Cities of Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger and Selma for FY 2017-2018**

Moses addressed the Chair and Board members and explained that the attached was an example of the Safety and Security Agreement FCRTA has with the police departments. This is a program going into the third year. Since FCRTA does not have employees that are law enforcement, we feel that these agreements with your local police departments has proven beneficial and continues to be very successful for both Police Departments and FCRTA. It also gives the passenger the perception of safety as the vehicles are boarded randomly when they are stopped at a bus stop. The officers also do visual checks at the bus shelters. It keeps our passengers safe and provides zero tolerance with potential offenders.

We are the first in the country and also the first in the state to implement and maintain this Safety and Security Program.

A motion was made by Mayor Michael Derr (City of Selma) and second by Mayor Rey Leon (City of Huron),

C. **Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program (5339 (b) Application through FTA (Federal Transit Administration)**

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) notified FCRTA that they had available funding for projects through the 5339 (b) Application. FTA has set aside \$23,000,000 of \$230,000,000 for Rural Public Agencies for Infrastructure Investment Program.

FCRTA has applied for approximately \$3,300,000 in funding with a \$660,000 local match for a total of \$3,960,000 to construct a new bus Maintenance and Fuel yard facility. Improvements and all amenities necessary for the functioning of this facility will be included in this grant proposal.

As you all know FCRTA does not have a Maintenance facility. The biggest challenge is where to locate this maintenance facility. Currently, we have our sub-contractor Fresno EOC which is located on Marks & Nielsen in Southwest Fresno. The current site is outdated and we have outgrown the location as we are servicing a 92 plus bus fleet.

FCRTA needs to acquire land (4-10 acres) looking somewhere along the SR99 Corridor either in Kingsburg, Selma or City of Fowler only because these are in a central location in Fresno County.

Also, we would be working with junior colleges to develop and or implement an electric vehicle training program for this new technology that is coming in.

A motion was made by Mayor Victor Lopez (City of Orange Cove) and second by Mayor Rey Leon (City of Huron),

D. FCRTA Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy Update (Handout)

A critical document we've had in place as it is a federal requirement for any transit agency that receives public funding from federal and state sources. We had an on site audit review by a consulting firm that was hired by federal transit administration and CalTrans through an association. They found a few areas that our policy needed to update and it's imperative our board takes action on it so that we can be in compliance. There was nothing that was significant or a major discrepancy, it was more updates with regards to testing, location of the testing, knowledge about the specimen requirements to a lot of technical information, also updating our medical information for the location where employees will be tested. The City of Coalinga, Kerman and Reedley are a part of this because you operate your own Transit system under our oversight so you will also be implementing the updates to this policy as well.

It also affects pre-employment status for commercial drivers that are employed by our member agencies or subcontractors.

A motion was made by Councilmember Ron Lander (City of Coalinga) and second by Mayor Michelle Roman (City of Kingsburg).

There is also a resolution that needs to be approved for the Drug and Alcohol Testing.

A motion was made by Mayor Rey Leon (City of Huron) and second by Councilmember Ron Lander (City of Coalinga).

E. Additional EV Bus through the SJVPD and CARB

A while back we were awarded 3 electric buses through the consortium with the SJVPD and CARB. One of the recipients of the consortium fell through, I believe it was CSUF and they put out their 3 buses to the remaining individual agencies that were part of the grant award. FCRTA was selected to obtain one additional bus and requires a match of \$85,000 which we have.

Mayor Pro Temp Amarpreet Dhaliwal (City of San Joaquin) asked what the reason was for CSUF for pulling out. Moses replied, their key transit person transferred to CSU Riverside. I am proposing to put this bus on one of the college routes.

A motion was made by Mayor Robert Silva (City of Mendota) and second by Mayor Victor Lopez (City of Orange Cove).

F. Proposed West Park Community Transit Route

Over the past few months since June I have been working with representatives and the community of West Park regarding a new route.

The community is a community with 130 residents. They have inadequate transportation for their needs to come into Fresno. Attached you will find the draft proposed route and schedule which will be 5 days a week, hours are still approximate due to all the construction going on in downtown Fresno. We will be doing a demonstration period of six (6) months and we will be monitoring the farebox as well as ridership.

Mayor Rhonda Armstrong (City of Kerman) had a question about the bus being used? Moses response, FCRTA has two different buses – one is an El Dorado (32-35 passenger) that is used in the inter-city areas the other bus is a Para Transit (12-20 passengers with wheelchair accessible. Both buses are full size buses.

Mayor Rey Leon (City of Huron) had a question if there was only one route? Moses response, this will be the only route as they are outside the sphere of influence from the City of Fresno. Since West Park is outside the sphere of influence we are considered the rural operator for that unincorporated area.

Mayor Rhonda Armstrong (City of Kerman) what is the anticipated cost for this route?

Approximate cost will be \$30,000 to \$35,000 for six months based on the proposed time it is scheduled to run. The residents are open to that and will be doing aggressive marketing for residents to ride the bus.

Mayor Pro Tem Amarpreet Dhaliwal (City of San Joaquin) questioned how is this route different from Lanare we had a strong advocacy group we did that route, did it meet the farebox requirements?

Moses response, no it did not by way of background for those who weren't here 3 years ago we had an Unmet needs in Lanare near Riverdale – we went and met with the residents and we received surveys about transit needs. After a year effort we were only transporting one or two residents per day which was not cost effective, nor did it meet the farebox or ridership requirements and the service was terminated.

The difference between both communities is that West Park is more compact in a higher density location just outside of Fresno whereas Lanare down Mt. Whitney there is a lot of sparse acreage. The Community of West Park has been very involved and outgoing for this new route.

A motion was made by Mayor Rey Leon (City of Huron) and second by Mayor Michelle Roman (City of Kingsburg).

3. **Other Business**

A. **Items from Staff**

California Energy Commission put out grant proposals. Proposals that we will be submitting in solar trees and six sites will be selected to essentially hwlp with utilities of your community centers.

California Energy Commission has this special funds that want the public transit operators to be involved so that it can be universal.

B. **Items from Members**

Mayor David Cardenas (City of Fowler) thanked Moses for doing an awesome job.

4. **ADJOURNMENT AT 7:33 P.M**

A motion was made by Mayor Victor Lopez (City of Orange Cove) and second by Mayor Michelle Roman (City of Kingsburg)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Moses Stites".

Moses Stites, General Manager

FCRTA Bus/Rail Connector Service Budget

<u>Grant Expenses</u>		
<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Equipment/Infrastructure Costs</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2	BYD model K9S 35 foot electric transit buses	\$1,237,309
1	Extra BYD Bus charger for FCRTA yard site	\$8,658
2	Envision Solar "Solar Tree" DCFC 250 units	\$760,354
2	Installation and permitting of "Solar Trees"	<u>\$480,000</u>
	Subtotal for Equipment and Infrastructure	\$2,486,321
<u>Project Admin. Cost</u>		
	CALSTART SJVCTC technical and admin. support	<u>\$50,000</u>
	Subtotal for Admin. and Reporting	\$50,000
	Total Grant Request	\$2,536,321
	Total Project Cost	\$2,536,321