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**FRESNO COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT AGENCY (FCRTA)
MEETING AGENDA**

DATE: Thursday, January 27, 2022
TIME: 5:30pm, **AFTER** the Fresno Council of Governments (FCOG) Meeting
PLACE: FCOG / FCRTA Offices
Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721
*(Corner of Tulare and Van Ness Ave. - 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.

THE FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND FRESNO COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT AGENCY BOARD MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE IN PERSON AT THE FRESNO COG SEQUOIA ROOM AND VIA ZOOM.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82575190204?pwd=b29nemhhS1MybGZRRTBBcmxwM3Z3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 825 7519 0204 Passcode: 540533

Dial In: +1 669 900 6833

If you wish to address the Board during the public comment portion of the agenda, click on the "Reactions" at the bottom center of your PC or Mac screen. Select the Hand icon, click the icon to "RaiseHand". Your digital hand will now be raised.

When on the phone, if you wish to address the Board during the public comment portion of the agenda, Press *9 to "RaiseHand" and we will select you from the meeting cue.

**If joining by phone use *6 to unmute and mute yourself. When joining the meeting all participants are automatically muted. Do NOT use the mute function on your land line phone or cell phone.

Those addressing the Board are asked to state their first and last name and agency for the record.

To facilitate electronic access, no person shall speak until recognized by the Chair.

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. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Approve Executive Minutes of November 18, 2021 [ATTACHMENT]

B. Approve Executive Minutes of January 6, 2022 Special Meeting [ATTACHMENT]

C. Request for Proposals (RFP) Microgrid Feasibility Study Project [INFORMATION]

Summary: FCRTA was awarded \$455,500 in funding through the Caltrans Sustainable Communities Transportation Planning Grant Program. The project includes a microgrid feasibility study for rural Fresno County. A kick-off meeting with Caltrans and FCRTA took place in December to discuss grant procedures and project details. As indicated in the grant application, FCRTA will be utilizing a qualified consultant to perform this study and complete a Request for Proposal (RFP) process for selection of a consultant. The intent of this RFP is to retain a consultant to; evaluate the feasibility of distributed energy resources such as microgrids and other affordable charging model technologies for use in Fresno County, evaluate how microgrids would make the FCRTA transit system more efficient, provide more transit service as well as multi-modal options such as electric car share and bike share, and assess space/land requirements for generation and storage technologies. The RFP was released on January 3, 2022, and proposals are due on February 3, 2022. Staff will return to the Board with a proposed consultant and agreement for approval. The RFP is available at the FCRTA website www.ruraltransit.org.

Action: Information only. The Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

D. Future Board Meeting Format (ACTION)

Summary: On September 15, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 361, amending the Ralph M. Brown Act to allow local agencies to continue conducting public meetings remotely during a state of emergency after October 1, so long as they make specific findings every 30 days, and ensure conditions related to public participation are satisfied. While the Board has the option of using teleconferencing, as was available prior to COVID restrictions, the Brown Act requires: 1) a quorum of the legislative body to participate from within the boundaries of the agency's jurisdiction, 2) the public agency to post notice of each teleconference location, and 3) the public be allowed to address the legislative body from each teleconference location. These requirements place a significant burden on both Board members and staff. Although the Governor waived AB 361's applicability until October 1 local agencies retain the option of meeting beforehand to make the required findings under AB 361 to hold future meetings remotely. Under the urgency legislation, a local agency may use the more "relaxed" Brown Act teleconferencing/videoconferencing requirements in any of the following circumstances:

1. There is a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or
2. There is a proclaimed state of emergency, and the local agency's meeting is to determine, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; or
3. There is a proclaimed state of emergency, and the local agency has determined, by majority vote, that as a result of the emergency meeting in person would present an imminent risk to the health or safety of attendees.

AB 361 defines a "state of emergency" as a state of emergency proclaimed pursuant to Section 8625 of the California Emergency Services Act. Importantly, this includes the Governor's proclaimed state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On January 6, 2022, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-01, under which the Board found that circumstances warranted remote meetings for the reasons stated therein. Since the adoption of Resolution No. 2022-01, the State remains under a declared state of emergency and continues to impose or recommend social distancing measures. In addition, FCRTA continues to impose or recommend the social distancing measures discussed in Resolution No. 2022-01.

To continue to rely on the relaxed teleconferencing provisions, the local agency must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency and make the following findings by majority vote, **every 30 days**:

- The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person; or
- State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

While the Board has the option of using teleconferencing, as was available prior to COVID restrictions, The Brown Act requires: 1) a quorum of the legislative body to participate from within the boundaries of the agency's jurisdiction, 2) the public agency to post notice of each teleconference location, and 3) the public be allowed to address the legislative body from each teleconference location. These requirements place a significant burden on both Board members and staff.

Action: Staff recommends the finding under this option would be that "The FCRTA Board of Directors finds, meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, that (1) the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members of the Board of Directors and the public to meet safely in person and (2) State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing."

3. ACTION ITEMS

A. DBE Selection for the FCRTA Selma Maintenance Facility Project [APPROVE]

Summary: FCRTA released a Request for Qualification (RFQ) on June 30th for the design and construction of the Fleet Maintenance Facility in Selma. FCRTA solicited Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from DB Entities in order to solicit information in the form of a qualification questionnaire and qualification statements to create a short-list of up to the three of the most highly qualified Entities and the short-listed Entities will be issued a Request for Proposals (RFP). FCRTA received five (5) SOQs from DB Entities from Zumwalt, Diede, Harris, Wu & Associates and AMG. The scoring panel reviewed the proposals on August 16, 2021 and Harris and Zumwalt were selected for the short-list. The Request for RFP was released to the short-listed DBE firms on November 1, 2021 and proposals were due on December 10, 2021. The scoring panel held interviews with Harris and Zumwalt on January 4, 2022 and the panel unanimously recommended Zumwalt as they presented and provided the best value, based on qualifications and other factors that were set forth in the RFP including a stipulated sum approach for the price component.

Action: Staff recommends Board approval of Zumwalt Construction Inc. as the selected Contractor for the Selma Maintenance Facility Project in the amount not to exceed \$10,290,562.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from staff.

B. Items from members.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Executive Minutes

Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 5:30 P.M after COG Policy Board Meeting
COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Members Attending:

Mayor Ron Ramsey, City of Coalinga
Mayor Alfred Valdez, City of Firebaugh
Mayor David Cardenas, City of Fowler
Mayor Gary Yep, City of Kerman
Councilmember, Michelle Roman, City of Kingsburg
Mayor Rolando Castro, City of Mendota
Mayor Victor Lopez, City of Orange Cove
Mayor Mary Fast, City of Reedley
Mayor Alma Beltran, City of Parlier
Mayor Scott Robertson, City of Selma

Moses Stites, General Manager
Janelle Del Campo, Operations Manager
Bryan Rome, County Counsel
Jeaneen Cervantes, FCOG

Absent:

Mayor Rey Leon, City of Huron
Mayor Eli Ontiveros, City of Sanger
Mayor Julia Hernandez, City of San Joaquin
Supervisor Sal Quintero, Fresno County

1. **ROLL CALL** — Meeting called to order 7:22 p.m.

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. **CONSENT ITEMS**A. **Approve Executive Minutes of October 28, 2021 [ATTACHMENT]**B. **Request for Proposals (RFP) Fleet Maintenance Facility Project [INFORMATION]**

Mayor Fast (Reedley) asked the question if we are planning to do a single contract for DBE entity or is there something else?

Moses replied, the DBE is a design-build entity that FCRTA and the Board approved a couple of months ago. The Board approved of a two-step process, the first step is the request of qualifications and there were 5 bidders that responded. Two bidders (local) were selected and they will submit their proposals. The two entities that were selected are Harris and Zumwalt Construction.
FCRTA will select the best value, based on qualification and other factors.

A motion was made by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) and second by Mayor Robertson (Selma). A vote was called, and motion carried.

3. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. FY 2020-21 Audit [ACCEPT]

Moses presented the Audit, and said they had no findings of non-compliance.

Highlights were the 10% farebox the State of California waived the 10% farebox recovery requirement and FCRTA did not add Measure C funds.

A motion was made by Mayor Robertson (Selma) and second by Mayor Castro (Mendota). A vote was called and motion carried.

B. FY 2021-22 Budget Amendment [APPROVE]

Moses informed the Board you have before you an increase in the revenue budget and an updated capital budget.

On the attachment you will find the Resolution 2021-22 with the corrections.

A motion was made by Mayor Valdez (Orange Cove) and second by Mayor Fast (Reedley). A vote was called, and motion carried.

4. **OTHER ITEMS**

A. Items from Staff

1. Special Meeting to Address AB 361 Emergency Declaration Mandate
FCRTA would like to request a special meeting to extend the COVID restriction and that meeting would follow the FCOG Policy Board meeting on January 6, 2022.

B. Items from Members

Mayor Ramsey (Coalinga) and Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) wished everyone Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Board Chairperson wished everyone Happy Holidays.

5. **ADJOURNMENT @ 7:40 p.m**

Respectfully submitted,



Moses Stites
General Manager

Executive Minutes

Thursday, January 6, 2022 at 5:30 P.M FCRTA Special Meeting
COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Members Attending:

Mayor Ron Ramsey, City of Coalinga
Supervisor Sal Quintero, Fresno County
Mayor Alfred Valdez, City of Firebaugh
Mayor David Cardenas, City of Fowler
Mayor Gary Yep, City of Kerman
Mayor Rolando Castro, City of Mendota
Mayor Alma Beltran, City of Parlier
Mayor Mary Fast, City of Reedley
Mayor Scott Robertson, City of Selma

Moses Stites, General Manager
Janelle Del Campo, Operations Manager
Bryan Rome, County Counsel
Jeaneen Cervantes, FCOG

Absent:

Mayor Rey Leon, City of Huron
Mayor Victor Lopez, City of Orange Cove
Mayor Julia Hernandez, City of San Joaquin
Mayor Eli Ontiveros, City of Sanger
Councilmember, Michelle Roman, City of Kingsburg

1. **ROLL CALL** — Meeting called to order 5:37 p.m.

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. **Future Board Meeting Format (ACTION)**

Moses thanked the Board for attending the Special Board Meeting. Moses informed the Board you have before you an action item and a proposed staff recommendation with a resolution extending the state of emergency.

Mayor Ramsey (Coalinga) asked Moses if this meeting will be monthly. Moses informed the Board that in the future this will be an item on the regularly scheduled monthly agenda moving forward.

A motion was made by Mayor Fast (Reedley) and second by Mayor Robertson (Selma). A vote was called, and motion carried.

3. **ADJOURNMENT @ 5:40 p.m**

Respectfully submitted,



Moses Stites
General Manager