

California Vanpool Authority (CalVans)

Minutes of Board Meeting

A regular meeting of the California Vanpool Authority was called to order by Joe Neves, Board member at 10:00 a.m. on May 14, 2015 in the conference room of CalVans, 1340 North Drive, Hanford, CA. 93230

California Vanpool Authority Members

- AMBAG – Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments
- Fresno COG – Fresno Council of Governments
- ICTC – Imperial County Transportation Commission
- KCAG – Kings County Association of Governments
- Kern COG – Kern Council of Governments
- MCTC – Madera County Transportation Commission
- MCAG – Merced County Association of Governments
- SBCAG – Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
- TCAG – Tulare County Association of Governments
- VCTC – Ventura County Transportation Commission

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call – Clerk of the Board

Directors present:

AMBAG	Scott Funk	Primary
Fresno COG	Sylvia Chavez	Primary
Kern COG	Cheryl Wegman	Primary
KCAG	Joe Neves	Primary
MCAG	Jerry O'Banion	Primary
MCTC	Robert Poythress	Primary

Directors absent:

ICTC	Maritza Hurtado
SBCAG	Jim Richardson
TCAG	Cameron Hamilton
VCTC	James White

Counsel present: Zack Smith

Staff/Visitors in attendance:

Ron Hughes, Georgina Cardenas, Baldev Randhawa, Susie Nava and Cecelia Marquez from CalVans.

Also in attendance were Terri King, Sandra Scherr, Steve DeGeorge, Bob Snoddy and Susanne Campbell.

2. UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES:

No unscheduled appearances.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR:

A). Minutes of March 12, 2015 B). Resolution Authorizing Submittal of AHSC (Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities) grant C). CalVans' Title VI Plan and Resolution

A motion was made by Commissioner Poythress and seconded by Commissioner Chavez to approve: A). Minutes of March 12, 2015 B). Resolution Authorizing Submittal of AHSC (Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities) grant, Item C was pulled from agenda.

AYES: Commissioners Chavez, Funk, Neves, Poythress, O'Banion, Wegman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commissioners Hamilton, Hurtado, Richardson, White

4. SYSTEM UPDATE

A. REVIEW BY REGION

Ron reported that most of the vans have returned from the Imperial/Yuma area to the Salinas Valley, Tehachapi area and the south part of the San Joaquin Valley. Most of the vans that returned to the Salinas Valley are receiving vouchers from their employers. The growers/contractors are providing vouchers to ensure a stable workforce and insure compliance with farm labor laws involving licensed drivers and vehicle insurance.

Ron reported that since October, CalVans has been sending data information each month to AMBAG. AMBAG has been using their GIS system to track all van movement in the Salinas Valley on a monthly basis. They will take the data for the entire year and plot the movement and pattern of vehicles in the Salinas Valley going forward.

Several Imperial Valley growers have expressed support and thanked staff for bringing the program to Imperial. They appreciate the ability to move their crews from Imperial to other CalVans areas for work during the summer months. In the next month, CalVans will begin doing outreach focusing on the general vanpools in the area.

The Santa Maria, Ventura, Oxnard and Thousand Oaks areas have been successful in the general vanpools. General vanpools have gone from 3 to 7 with the addition of three new companies serving farmworkers. Cal Coast Harvesting, Rio Farms and Solimar made the move after seeing us in the area over the past several years with two of the companies providing vouchers.

In the San Joaquin Valley, the major vanpool activity is in an area bound by Huron, Fresno, and Visalia. Most of the vans in this area were motivated by the Measure C support provided to Fresno County residents. In the past

Fresno Rural Transit Agency has purchased vans for Fresno County residents. They purchased 40 general vanpools and 40 farm labor vanpools. This year Fresno Rural Transit Agency will be purchasing additional vans for the area.

General vanpools in the Bakersfield area have increased due to people leaving illegal vehicles to join our program. CalVans is still in the process of recruiting someone to work in the Bakersfield area.

Unlike most of south valley work trips, Merced residents are traveling north to Stockton, Sacramento or the San Francisco areas. CalVans will be working with Merced and San Joaquin Commute Connection to target vans traveling north leaving Merced. We will be using the \$300 a month being offered through San Joaquin Commute Connection program and the \$30 per person monthly voucher being offered by the San Joaquin Air Pollution Control District.

B. REVIEW OF FY 14/15 FUNDS GENERATED BY CALVANS NTD REPORTING

Ron stated a list of public transit agencies that CalVans reports for was attached to the agenda. The reporting generates ridership trips through the NTD reporting. The growth in funds generated has averaged about \$500,000 over the past two years and should grow at about the same rate going forward.

The attachment titled "Transit reporting by transit mode" lists the transit data reported by each city as well as that reported by CalVans. Breaking down and comparing the data reported for Fresno Area Express shows vanpool revenue miles at 3.3 million about equal to Fresno's 3.8 million.

Agency	Mode	Revenue Miles	Revenue Hours	Passenger Miles	Passenger Trips	Operating Expenses
California Vanpool Authority	VP	3,313,276	99,782	30,305,814	741,847	2,698,991
Fresno Area Express	DR	1,094,217	92,660	1,439,509	203,999	6,087,823
Fresno Area Express	MB	3,861,958	328,312	30,489,743	12,442,248	40,237,044

The following unit costs chart compares the Fresno Area Express MB (Fixed route) to CalVans. The first three categories are lower for CalVans and the fourth is slightly higher due to the fact that the CalVans' trips are longer than the average fixed route trip.

Transit Agency	Cost per Revenue Mile	Cost per Passengers Hour	Cost Passenger Mile	Cost per Passenger Trip
Fresno Area Express	\$ 10.42	\$ 122.56	\$ 1.32	\$ 3.23
California Vanpool Authority	\$ 0.81	\$ 27.05	\$ 0.09	\$ 3.64
Difference in Cost	\$ 9.60	\$ 95.51	\$ 1.23	\$ (0.40)

5. REVIEW DRAFT LETTER ADDRESSING ISSUES RAISED BY KCAG.

Staff received a letter from Kings County Association of Governments expressing a number of concerns related to the CalVans operation. The primary concern is competing with its member agencies for state or federal funds that the member agencies are or could be receiving. This concern stems from the fact that CalVans will become a recipient of State Transit Funds due to the recent requirement that it begin reporting to the State Controller's office.

Staff received notification last August that the agency was to submit its report to the Controller's office by September 29th. When Staff inquired about submitting a report when CalVans was established, Staff was told that it was not needed.

Staff has informed the Board in prior meetings of the reporting requirement and the fact that the reporting could result in STA funds being identified for CalVans. At this time, Staff has not seen this reflected in any STA reports, but was told it may be reflected in the Controller's August 2015 report. The information submitted by CalVans reflects all of its member's jurisdictions.

Ron stated that CalVans is reporting in Kings County because that is where our main office is located. The report will show the City of Corcoran, KCAPTA (Kings County Area Public Transit Agency) and CalVans. The City of Corcoran and KCAPTA receive around \$80,000 and \$600,000. CalVans may see from 1 to 2 million in STA funds. The STA fund totals \$33 million and is expected to increase next year to \$83 million with the addition of \$50 million in Cap and Trade funds.

The draft letter provides a more detailed response, outlining the direct and indirect benefits resulting from the CalVans operations. Also provided was a letter from CalVans' attorney D. Zackary Smith concluding that KCAG is legally required to allocate any STA funds identified for CalVans and does not violate CalVans' JPA agreement.

Ron stated the only solution to get around this would be to disband as a public agency and become a private agency eliminating our requirement to report NTD data to the Federal government.

Staff recommended that the draft letter be approved and forwarded to KCAG with copies going to each of the member agencies.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poythress and seconded by Commissioner Funk to approve the draft letter addressing issues raised by KCAG:

AYES: Commissioners Chavez, Funk, Neves, Poythress, O'Banion, Wegman
NOES: None
ABSENT: Commissioners Hamilton, Hurtado, Richardson, White

6. REVIEW OF PRESENT YEAR EXPENDITURES.

Ron stated that an updated breakdown of FY 14/15 was included in the agenda packet based on an accrual bases. Overall expenses are at 71% while revenues are at 69%. The 2% will be less by the end of the year as farm labor vanpool activity peaks during the summer months. Professional and special services is one area where costs were higher due to installation related to upgrading from 2G to 4G technology on all vehicle radios this past year. CalVans has sufficient funds to offset the 1 to 2 percent shortfall should that be necessary.

7. REVIEW DRAFT FY 15/16 BUDGET

The FY draft 15/16 budget is along the same line as last year. Ron stated that it is a draft budget because CalVans is about a month away from getting notification on one, possibly two grants. One grant is for a carshare program and the other is for up to 100 new farm labor vehicles. Both grants total slightly over 4 million and will require some modification to the final budget.

The Administration (9170) covers the general office and accounting functions. General VP (9171) covers non-agricultural vanpool activity, with the biggest expense being fuel and oil. Agricultural (9172) covers all agricultural vanpool activity, with the biggest expense being fuel followed by administrative allocation.

Staff recommended approval of the draft FY 15/16 budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Chavez and seconded by Commissioner O'Banion to approve the FY 15/16 Draft Budget.

AYES: Commissioners Chavez, Funk, Neves, Poythress, O'Banion, Wegman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commissioners Hamilton, Hurtado, Richardson, White

8. MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

9. NEXT MEETING DATE.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald H. Hughes
Executive Director

3/12/2015 cm