

**YOSEMITE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM
(YARTS) JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

MINUTES

April 11, 2016

The regular meeting of the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) Joint Powers Authority Board was held Monday, April 11, 2016, at the Merced County Association of Governments, Front Conference Room, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA and conducted by video/teleconference at Sierra Center Mall, Board of Supervisors Conference Room, Third Floor, 452 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA and the Fresno Council of Governments, 2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201, Fresno, CA, was called to order by Commissioner Carrier at 1:03 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tim Alpers, Mono County Supervisor (via video/teleconference)
John Carrier, Mariposa County Supervisor
Sylvia Chavez, Mayor, City of Huron (via video/teleconference)
Stacy Corless, Mono County Supervisor (via video/teleconference)
Hub Walsh, Merced County Supervisor
Tom Wheeler, Madera County Supervisor

MEMBERS ABSENT

Stephen Hill, Mayor, City of Kerman
John Gray, Tuolumne County Supervisor
John Pedrozo, Merced County Supervisor
Rosemarie Smallcombe, Mariposa County Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT

Denise Demery, VIA Adventures
Cindy Kelly, YARTS staff
Sherrie Macias, VIA Adventures
Danna Stroud, AAC Committee Chair (via video/teleconference)
Dick Whittington, YARTS staff

1. Introductions

So noted.

1a. Agenda Order Revision

Commissioner Carrier requested a change to the order of the agenda as he had to leave the meeting early. Items 5, 11, 12 and 13 will be moved to the end of the agenda.

Commissioner Walsh moved to approve the change in the agenda order.
Seconded by Commissioner Corless.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Oral Report – Authority Advisory Committee Chair or Designee - Recommendations

Danna Stroud gave the report from the Authority Advisory Committee.

4. Minutes of the January 25, 2016 YARTS JPA meeting

Commissioner Walsh moved to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2016 YARTS JPA meeting.

Seconded by Commissioner Alpers.

Ayes – Commissioners Walsh, Alpers, Corless, Carrier

Noes - None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. YARTS Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2015 – 2016

Commissioner Alpers moved to approve the Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2015 – 2016.

Seconded by Commissioner Walsh.

Ayes – Commissioners Walsh, Alpers, Corless, Carrier

Noes - None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Public Hearing – YARTS Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Budget

Dick Whittington gave a review of the YARTS Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Budget. Dick stated that a public hearing is required to receive comments regarding the YARTS Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Budget.

Public hearing opened: 1:15 p.m.

Public hearing closed: 1:16 p.m.

After a public hearing, where no comments were received, Commissioner Corless moved to approve the YARTS Budget for Fiscal Year 2016/2017.

Seconded by Commissioner Walsh.

Ayes – Commissioners Walsh, Alpers, Corless, Carrier

Noes - None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Mariposa County Annual Contract for Services

Commissioner Walsh moved to approve the Contract for Services between YARTS and the County of Mariposa and authorize the Executive Director to execute the Contract for Services on behalf of YARTS.

Seconded by Commissioner Corless.

Ayes – Commissioners Walsh, Alpers, Corless, Carrier

Noes – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. YARTS/MCAG Agreement for Services

Commissioner Alpers moved to authorize the Chair to sign the Agreement for Services between the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System and the Merced County Association of Governments for a period of one year from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

Seconded by Commissioner Walsh.

Ayes – Commissioners Walsh, Alpers, Corless, Carrier

Noes – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. New Revision of Federal Master Agreement

Dick Whittington gave a review of the new revision of the Federal Master Agreement. Commissioner Alpers inquired if the revision needed to be done on an annual basis instead of from “time to time” as in the staff report. Commissioner Walsh stated that this was a federal document and the he thought that it may be updated only as needed and that the federal government would probably notify Caltrans when those updates were required.

The commissioners requested staff update the Board during the 5311(f) funding authorization approval in regards to the timing of revisions of the Federal Master Agreement.

Commissioner Alpers moved to authorize the YARTS Executive Director to sign and execute the Federal Master Agreement as required by Caltrans.

Seconded by Commissioner Corless.

Ayes – Commissioners Walsh, Alpers, Corless, Carrier

Noes – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. YARTS Authority Advisory Committee Nomination

Commissioner Alpers moved to approve the nomination of Nanette Villegas to serve on the YARTS Authority Advisory Committee.

Seconded by Commissioner Walsh.

Ayes – Commissioners Walsh, Alpers, Corless, Carrier

Noes – None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. Election of Officers for Fiscal Year 2016/2017

Commissioner Alpers moved to elect Commissioner Corless as Chair for Fiscal Year 2016/2017.

Seconded by Commissioner Walsh.

Ayes – Commissioners Walsh, Alpers, Corless, Carrier
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Commissioner Walsh moved to elect Commissioner Pedrozo as Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 206/2017.

Seconded by Commissioner Corless.

Ayes – Commissioners Walsh, Alpers, Corless, Carrier
Noes – None
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

16. YARTS Joint Powers Authority Meeting Dates

Commissioner Walsh moved to approve the meeting dates for Fiscal Year 2016/2017 as follows:

July 18, 2016 – Mono County

October 24, 2016 – Mariposa County

January 23, 2017 – Merced

April 10, 2017 - Merced

Seconded by Commissioner Corless.

Ayes – Commissioners Walsh, Alpers, Corless, Carrier
Noes – None
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

17. Draft Amendment to NPS Cooperative Agreement Expanded Service – Summer 2016

Commissioner Walsh moved to approve the proposed Amendment to the Cooperative Agreement to fund the expanded summer service and authorize the YARTS Executive Director to execute the final version of the 2016 Amendment to the Cooperative Agreement so long as it does not substantially vary from the draft that was reviewed by the Board.

Seconded by Commissioner Alpers.

Ayes – Commissioners Walsh, Alpers, Corless, Carrier
Noes – None
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Information/Discussion Only

- a. VIA Monthly Service Reports for December 2015 – February 2016
- b. YARTS Ridership History/Visitation
- c. YARTS Financial Report/Budget Update
- d. Minutes of the January 20, 2016 YARTS AAC meeting

So noted.

11. YARTS 2016 Summer Schedules

So noted.

12. Short Range Transit Plan – Preplanning Discussion

Dick Whittington spoke on the upcoming Short Range Transit Plan (SRTA) and the request for ideas from the JPA Board and the AAC in what they would like to see included in the SRTP.

Statements / Comments from the Commissioners are as follows:

Commissioner Walsh – The Merced River Plan – what is YARTS role and timeline to implement participation in the Merced River Plan. Items to think about, new rates, member contributions, new members, – i.e. Tuolumne County and Fresno/Madera, what does route 41 look like – post the two year project.

Commissioner Wheeler – YARTS coordinating with MCC and Madera County.

Commissioner Corless – Discussed items Mono County JPA and AAC members developed and presented to staff – multimodal opportunities, expansion of services.

Other ideas presented – Organizational consideration, succession planning, sustainable funding and growth, reservations / advance purchase options, should YARTS branch out on its own, marketing between YARTS and Now-Gov. Organizations (NGO's), data driven decision making. Is YARTS Yosemite driven or are we branching out as a regional transit system.

13. YARTS Social Media Statistics

So noted.

18. Oral Report – National Park Service

There was no report available from the National Park Service.

19. Oral Report – Manager's Report

So noted.

20. Board of Commissioners Remarks

So noted.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OF THE YARTS JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 2:42 P.M.