

**YOSEMITE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM
(YARTS) AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

April 6, 2016

The regular meeting of the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) Authority Advisory Committee (AAC) held Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at the Merced County Association of Governments, Front Conference Room, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA and conducted by video/teleconference at the Merced County Association of Governments, Front Conference Room, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA, was called to order by Danna Stroud at 10:39 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen Baker, California Welcome Center, Merced
Rich Green, The Bus, Merced
Sandy Hogan, Mono County LTC (via videoconference)
Lisa Mayo, Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau (via teleconference)
Steven Martinez for Tom Dumas, Caltrans
Michelle Miller, Yosemite/Madera County Visitors Bureau (via videoconference)
Terry Selk, Yosemite/Mariposa Tourism Bureau (via teleconference)
Steve Smallcombe, Mariposans for the Environment and Responsible Government (via teleconference)
Moses Stites, Fresno Rural Transit (via videoconference)
Danna Stroud, Mono County Citizen (via videoconference)
Sean Williams, Holiday Inn Express

MEMBERS ABSENT

Layla Forstedt, Fresno/Clovis Conference and Visitors Bureau
Tom Gaffery, Fresno State
Candy O'Donel-Browne, Mariposa County Economic Development Corp
Sheri Ogden, Yosemite National Park
Terri Peresan, Mariposa County Department of Community Services
Jeff Simpson, Mono County Economic Development

OTHERS PRESENT

Peggy Arnest, Fresno COG (via videoconference)
Scott Burns, Mono County (via videoconference)
Denise Demery, VIA Adventures
Cindy Kelly, YARTS staff
Sherrie Macias, VIA Adventures
Nanette Villegas, Merced Mall
Dick Whittington, YARTS staff

1. Introductions

So noted.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Minutes of the January 20, 2016 YARTS AAC meeting

Sandy Hogan moved to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2016 YARTS AAC meeting.

Seconded by Sean Williams.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Information/Discussion Only

- a. VIA Monthly Service Report for December 2015 – February 2016
- b. YARTS Ridership History/Visitation
- c. YARTS Financial Report/Budget Update
- d. Minutes of the January 25, 2016 YARTS JPA meeting (to be approved at the JPA April 11, 2016 meeting)

So noted.

5. YARTS Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Rich Green moved to recommend the YARTS Joint Powers Authority approve the Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Seconded by Moses Stites.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. YARTS Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Budget

Sandy Hogan moved to recommend the YARTS Joint Powers Authority approve the proposed YARTS Budget for Fiscal Year 2016/2017.

Seconded by Terry Selk.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Mariposa County Annual Contract for Services

Terry Selk moved to recommend the YARTS Joint Powers Authority 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 Steve Smallcombe.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. YARTS/MCAG Agreement for Services

Terry Selk moved to recommend the YARTS Joint Powers Authority authorize the Chair 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 Sandy Hogan.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. New Revision of Federal Master Agreement

Sandy Hogan moved to recommend the YARTS Joint Powers Authority authorize the YARTS Executive Director to sign and execute the Federal Master Agreement as required by Caltrans from time to time.

Seconded by Moses Stites.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. YARTS 2016 Summer Schedules

The committee discussed changes they would like to see that could be helpful for YARTS riders. Among some of the changes requested was the possibility of later runs from the Amtrak station in Merced to Yosemite on Friday nights and on Sunday nights from Yosemite to Merced. Also on the Mono County schedule, it was suggested to show the Devil's Postpile connection on future schedules. These possible changes should be addressed in the upcoming Short Range Transit Plan.

So noted.

11. Short Range Transit Plan – Planning Discussion

Dick Whittington gave a report on the Short Range Transit Plan and asked the committee to think about topics they want to discuss prior to the Short Range Transit Plan preparation.

Sandy Hogan stated that YARTS is at a crossroads – ready to take the next steps. With Fresno and the potential addition of Tuolumne as a member county, needs to be stressed, the importance of the Short Range Transit Plan for YARTS as a mature system.

A recommendation was stated to have the AAC and the JPA members meet by Member County.

Dick requested any additional comments to be sent to him as soon as possible.

12. YARTS Social Media Statistics

So noted.

13. Election of Officers for Fiscal Year 2016/2017

Terry Selk moved to nominate Danna Stroud as Chair of the Authority Advisory Committee for Fiscal Year 2016/2017.

Seconded by Sandy Hogan.

Abstain – Danna Stroud.

MOTION CARRIED.

Karen Baker moved to nominate Rich Green as Vice Chair of the Authority Advisory Committee for Fiscal Year 2016/2017.

Seconded by Nanette Villegas.

Abstain – Rich Green.

MOTION CARRIED.

14. Oral Report – National Park Service

None.

15. Oral Report – Managers’ Report

So noted.

16. Member Remarks

So noted.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OF THE YARTS AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 12:09 P.M.