



**Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)
Joint Powers Authority
MINUTES**

DATE

Monday, July 24, 2017

The regular meeting of the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) Joint Powers Authority Board was held on Monday, July 24, 2017, at the Sierra Center Mall, Board of Supervisors Conference Room, Third Floor, 452 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA and conducted by video/teleconference at the Merced County Association of Governments, front conference room, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA, Fresno Council of Governments, 2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201, Fresno, CA and was called to order by Chair Smallcombe at 1:05 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rosemarie Smallcombe, Mariposa County Supervisor, Chair
Stacy Corless, Mono County Supervisor, Vice Chair (via videoconference)
Bob Gardner, Mono County Supervisor (via videoconference) arrived at 1:20pm
Daron McDaniel, Merced County Supervisor
Jerry O'Banion, Merced County Supervisor
Tom Wheeler, Madera County Supervisor (via videoconference)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rhonda Armstrong, Council Member, City of Kerman
Miles Menetrey, Mariposa County Supervisor
John Gray, Tuolumne County Supervisor
Nathan Vosburg, Council Member, City of Coalinga

OTHERS PRESENT

Peggy Arnest, Fresno County (via videoconference)
Denise Demery, VIA Adventures
Michael Draper, Mono County (via videoconference)
Cindy Kelly, YARTS Staff
Kathleen Morse, NPS (via videoconference)
Patrick Pittenger, Executive Director, MCAG
Steve Smallcombe, AAC Committee
Danna Stroud, AAC Committee Chair (via videoconference)
Dick Whittington, YARTS Staff
Joy Young, MCAG staff

1. Introductions

Chair Smallcombe led the introductions.

2. Public Comment

None.

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

Danna Stroud gave the report from the Authority Advisory Committee and stated that the meeting was held during the Detwiler fire and they did not have a quorum. The committee agreed by consensus to recommend Items 6, 7, 8 and 9. She also stated that the committee had a good discussion about the Short Range Transit Plan.

4. Minutes of the April 10, 2017 YARTS JPA Meeting

Director Corless moved to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2017 YARTS JPA meeting.

Second by Director McDaniel.

Ayes - Directors Smallcombe, McDaniel, O'Banion, Corless

Noes - None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Information/Discussion Only

- a. VIA Monthly Service Reports for April – May 2017
- b. YARTS Ridership History/Visitation
- c. YARTS Financial Report/Budget Update
- d. Minutes of the April 5, 2017 YARTS AAC meeting
- e. YARTS Joint Powers Authority Meeting Dates for 2017 - 2018

So noted.

6. Federal Lands Access Program

Director O'Banion moved to authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute an agreement to accept funding from the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) grant, if awarded.

Seconded by Director McDaniel.

Ayes - Directors Smallcombe, McDaniel, O'Banion, Corless, Gardner

Noes - None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Amtrak Services Contract

Director O'Banion moved to approve the negotiated rate and authorize the Executive Director to sign and execute an agreement between Amtrak and YARTS from July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2020.

Seconded by Director McDaniel.

Ayes - Directors Smallcombe, McDaniel, O'Banion, Corless, Gardner

Noes - None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. YARTS/Fresno COG Amendment No. 1 to Agreement for Services Contract

Director Corless moved to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Services Contract with Fresno Council of Governments and give the Executive Director authority to execute the documents and direct staff to draft a support letter for submittal to Fresno Council of Governments
Seconded by Director McDaniel.

Ayes - Directors Smallcombe, McDaniel, O'Banion, Corless, Gardner

Noes - None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. YARTS/NPS Cooperative Agreement Update

Dick Whittington stated that progress has been made in the effort to get the NPS Cooperative Agreement signed.

10. Quarterly Social Media Recap

Cindy Kelly gave an update on the current trends of social media as it relates to YARTS.

11. YARTS Reservation Update

Cindy Kelly distributed a handout with an update on reservation statistics that was not in the agenda packet.

Dick Whittington stated that there has been an increase in online reservations and that staff has been working on refund issues.

12. Oral Report – National Park Service Report

Kathleen Morse gave the National Park Service report stating that the park has experienced some difficult times with flooding and fires and that some areas of the park are still closed. She stated that the Mariposa Grove should be open by October.

13. Oral Report – Manager's Report

Dick Whittington stated that he has had YARTS brochures distributed to hotels and visitor centers. He also discussed that staff will work on setting privacy policy in regards to customer payment information.

14. Board Member Remarks

Director Corless stated that she is happy the snow is finally melting.

Director O'Banion stated he hopes for things to improve for Mariposa.

Director Smallcombe stated that she will discuss with Dick Whittington about park employee transportation and housing options.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OF THE YARTS JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY THE MEETING WAS
ADJOURNED AT 2:50 P.M.**

