



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

DATE

Monday, January 14, 2019

The regular meeting of the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) Joint Powers Authority Board was held on Monday, January 14, 2019 at Merced County Association of Governments, Front Conference Room, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA and conducted by video/teleconference at, Mariposa County Government Center, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 5100 Bullion Street, Mariposa, CA, Sierra Center Mall, Board of Supervisors Conference Room, Third Floor, 452 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA, and Fresno Council of Governments, 2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201, Fresno, CA and was called to order by Vice Chair Menetrey at 1:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Daron McDaniel, Merced County Supervisor, Chair
Miles Menetrey, Mariposa County Supervisor, Vice-Chair
Stacy Corless, Mono County Supervisor (via videoconference)
Rosemarie Smallcombe, Mariposa County Supervisor

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rhonda Armstrong, Council Member, City of Kerman
Bob Gardner, Tuolumne County Supervisor
John Gray, Tuolumne County Supervisor
Nathan Vosburg, Council Member, City of Coalinga
Tom Wheeler, Madera County Supervisor
Vacant, Merced County Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT

Selena McKinney, LSC Transportation Consultant
Denise Demery, VIA Adventures
Peggy Arnest, Fresno Council of Governments (via videoconference)
Tyler Summersett, Tuolumne County Transportation Council (via videoconference)
Phil Moores, Executive Director, Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (via videoconference)

STAFF PRESENT

Stacie Dabbs, Executive Director
Xavier Garcia, Transit Administrative Assistant
Cindy Kelly, Assistant Transit Manager
Mary-Michal Rawling, Public Affairs Manager
Artis Smith, Transit Director

1. Introductions

Vice-Chair Menetrey led the introductions. Director McDaniel arrived at 1:09 P.M. and took over as Chair.

2. Public Comment

Phil Moores introduced himself as the Executive Director of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority and shared his contact information with the directors.

2a. YARTS Operations During Government Shutdown

Stacie Dabbs requested the Board to provide direction for YARTS operations during the government shutdown due to reports from drivers and other staff about the conditions of the park that could present safety and health issues for passengers.

Director McDaniel asked if the ridership had dropped since the government shutdown. Cindy Kelly responded that the ridership has increased due to the fact that YARTS buses have restrooms and trash cans on board.

Director Smallcombe described the efforts being done to clean up Yosemite Valley; she directed staff to collect more information about the cost of service to YARTS during the shutdown, and how to maximize ridership while minimizing those costs.

Director McDaniel stated that he doesn't want to see gateway communities affected by service modification or suspension.

Director Menetrey asked if the service can be modified for one bus daily.

Director Corless suggested that we identify a spending cap. YARTS would spend a specific amount before modifying service.

Directors requested staff to provide additional information and schedule a follow up meeting for action. VIA Trailways will provide current ridership data.

3. Minutes of the August 22, 2018 Continued YARTS Joint Powers Authority meeting

Director Menetrey moved to approve the minutes:

- a. October 22, 2018 YARTS Joint Powers Authority Meeting
- b. October 17, 2018 YARTS Authority Advisory Committee and Joint Powers Authority Short Range Transit Plan meeting

Seconded by Director Corless.

Ayes - Directors Corless, McDaniel, Menetrey

Noes - None

Abstain - Director Smallcombe

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Information/Discussion Only

- a. Monthly Ridership and Customer Service Report for September 2018 - November 2018
- b. YARTS Ridership History
- c. YARTS Financial Report/Budget Update
- d. Minutes of the July 11, 2018, YARTS Authority Advisory Committee meeting

Director Menetrey mentioned that the data label is missing from the September Hwy 41 reports.

No questions. So noted.

5. Social Media Report - Year in Review

No questions. So noted.

6. YARTS Reservation System Update - Year in Review

No questions. So noted.

7. YARTS Free Days Update - Year One

Director Corless praised staff for running a very successful program for the first year.

Director Smallcombe asked to add the year (2018) to the report and stated that the pictures provided in the report look great.

8. CalOES Emergency Funding for Mariposa Park & Ride Sinkhole Repair; Status of the Mariposa Park & Ride

Cindy Kelly reported that the CalOES request for assistance was submitted and is in the review process. Response is estimated to arrive by March but could change because of the government shutdown.

Director Menetrey commented that Mariposa County may be interested in purchasing the property if it goes up for sale.

Director Menetrey moved to table any action regarding the Mariposa Park & Ride until the status of CalOES funding for repair has been determined.

Seconded by Director Smallcombe.

Ayes - Directors Corless, McDaniel, Menetrey, Smallcombe

Noes - None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Adopt the YARTS 2018 Short-Range Transit Plan

Director Smallcombe mentioned the marketing network for YARTS and asked how do YARTS and tourism bureaus interact.

Cindy Kelly shared that YARTS and tourism bureaus interact using bloggers and locals in the communities to share YARTS information on social media.

Stacie Dabbs introduced Mary-Michal Rawling – Public Affairs Manager for MCAG. Ms. Dabbs stated that Mary-Michal will be involved in the marketing network.

Director Menetrey moved to adopt the YARTS 2018 Short-Range Transit Plan as presented.
Seconded by Director Smallcombe.

Ayes - Directors Corless, McDaniel, Menetrey, Smallcombe

Noes - None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Oral Report - National Park Service Report

Kathleen Morse was unable to attend due to the continued government shutdown.

11. Transit Director's Report

Artis Smith provided the Transit Director's report.

12. Member Remarks

None

13. Adjournment

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OF THE YARTS JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY THE MEETING WAS
ADJOURNED AT 2:13 p.m.**