

BAY AREA RURAL TRANSIT
OFFICIAL BART COMMISSION MINUTES

October 24, 2024, at 4:00 PM
BART Office Center

A. CALL TO ORDER

A General Meeting of the Bay Area Rural Transit Board was held on Thursday, August 15th, 2024, by Remote/Zoom and in person at the Bay Area Rural Transit office. Chairperson Carl Doersch called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Roll Call: Present: Bland, Doersch, Niemis, Pufall, Trimner. 5

Absent: Benton, Berlin, Lawyer, Rosa. 4

Excused: 0

B. Adoption of Agenda

Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Richard Pufall to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

C. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Bill Bland to approve the August 15th, 2024, Minutes. Motion Carried

D. Public Comments

No public comments.

E. Managers' Report

1. Staffing

Pat Daoust informed the board the mechanic was let go and a new mechanic started today. Well staffed on drivers currently. A discussion followed.

2. Electric Buses

Pat Daoust stated the EV charger in Phillips is up and running. No new updates on electric buses. A discussion followed

3. Transit Van Orders

Pat Daoust informed the board the gas engine van has arrived at BART and the EV van is due in the next two months. A discussion followed.

4. Price County Facility

BAY AREA RURAL TRANSIT

OFFICIAL BART COMMISSION MINUTES

Pat Daoust informed the board that the final layer of blacktop is finished. Pat Daoust also informed the board that that A to Z Plumbing is installing thermostats and the vehicle exhaust system. Pat Daoust informed the contractor, Dave Cecil Builders, that A to Z Plumbing has until the end of October to complete the project or a request to terminate the contract will be issued. Procurement of tools, furniture, shelving and other items have been ordered and a possible open house could be set for 11/15/24 or in the spring of 2025. The board discussed the open house and decided a spring open house would work better. A discussion followed.

5. CSR Report

Pat Daoust presented to the board the CSR report findings and the updates to the financial policy, maintenance policy as well as updating the title IV policy. A request for announcing bus stops on fixed route buses was also found. A discussion followed.

6. WIPTA

Pat Daoust informed the board that he attended the WIPTA conference earlier this month and reviewed different fare collection systems. Bill Bland asks where we are at with asking partners for more funds for the budget. A discussion followed.

F. Projects Needing Attention

1. D&A Policy Update

Pat Daoust presented to the board an update to the current drug and alcohol policy. Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Richard Pufall to update the D&A Policy. Motion carried.

2. Facility Maintenance Contract

Pat Daoust presented to the board a facility maintenance contract for the Price County facility. Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Bill Bland to approve the facility maintenance contract. Motion carried.

3. Financial Policy Amendment

Pat Daoust presented to the board an amendment to the current financial policy. Motion was made by Bill Bland and seconded by Tom Niemis to approve the amendment to the financial policy. Motion carried.

4. Wages

Pat Daoust presented to the board a 2.5% COLA in wages for employees not covered by the approved wage scale. Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Richard Pufall to approve the wages increase. Motion carried.

5. Budget

Pat Daoust presented to the board the 2025 budget for approval. Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Bill Bland to approve the 2025 budget. Motion carried.

BAY AREA RURAL TRANSIT
OFFICIAL BART COMMISSION MINUTES

F. Finances

1. Solar

Pat Daoust informed the board the solar panels have saved over \$1,800 in energy costs since installation. A discussion followed.

2. EV Charger

Pat Daoust informed the board the EV charger in Washburn has been clearing revenue with increased usage. A discussion followed.

Pat Daoust went over the 2024 financial reports. Ridership is up overall. Budget overall is in line with expectations. Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Richard Pufall to accept and place on file the 2024 financial reports. Motion Carried

G. Reports, Comments, Questions

Pat Daoust informed the board that Northland College has ended their contract with BART. Pat Daoust also stated exploring advertising options on the buses to add revenue and changing tariffs on energy usage by using less off-peak energy. A discussion followed.

H. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Richard Pufall and seconded by Tom Niemis. Motion carried. BART Board Adjourned at 4:56 p.m.