

**AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
April 7, 2022 –9:29 a.m.**

The Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC) met on the above date, and the following proceedings were had, to wit:

**Present on Roll Call:**

Steve McLean, Vice Chairman  
Susan Bragstad  
Patrick Crew (alternate for Richard Forster)  
Brian Oneto  
John Plasse

**Absent:**

Dominic Atlan, Chairman (Absent at roll call due to personal matter, later joined via conference call as public member only due to AB-361.)

**Also Present:**

John Gedney, Executive Director, ACTC  
Felicia Bridges, Administrative Secretary, ACTC  
Dennis Agar, District Director, Caltrans District 10 (Conference call line)  
Gregoria Ponce, Chief-Office of Rural Planning, Caltrans District 10 (conference call line)

**AGENDA:**

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Commissioner Crew and carried to approve the agenda with the modification to move item #15 and #9 above Closed Session, immediately following Public Matters Not on the Agenda.

Ayes: McLean, Bragstad, Crew, Oneto, Plasse  
Noes: None  
Absent: Atlan

**PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** Gary Reinoehl, Amador County resident, extended his appreciation to Caltrans Maintenance staff for removing the hazardous trees located at 16 AMA 1.2 that were killed during one of the recent fires. He also asked for an update regarding the video conferencing option for the meetings since the conference call line is poor quality. Mr. Gedney replied bids have come in higher than expected but efforts continue.

**REGULAR AGENDA #15. Caltrans Report with Dennis Agar:**

- Caltrans (Statewide) is returning to the office setting with telework as an option, but if any meetings need to take place in-person Caltrans staff will participate.
- Steven Keck is the interim Director of Caltrans as Toks Omishakin has been appointed as Secretary of the California State Transportation Agency.
- Regarding the Clean California State Beautification project in Amador, there was an approved project on State Route (SR) 49 and Main St. with the enhancement of the existing Roundabout, a gateway monument, and a landscape trail system. Caltrans is working with the city and looking forward to moving that project along.

- There is one broadband approved project in place in Amador County. This project is on SR 88, between Jackson Valley and Sutter Hill.
- California Transportation Commission (CTC) has issued a 'Call for Projects' for the Active Transportation Program-cycle 6. The deadline for application submittal is June 15, 2022. Caltrans is open to partnering with local agencies or are prepared to provide letters of support. Please notify Caltrans immediately so they may have time to prepare those letters.
- The Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) program was released in March by the Department of Transportation (DOT) and include: the National Infrastructure Project assistance grants program (MEGA), Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects grant program (INFRA), and the Rural Surface Transportation grant program (Rural).
- Regarding the Roundabout on SR 88/Liberty Road, there have been many comments and/or concerns expressed from the ACTC board, and Mr. Agar recommends holding a separate meeting with ACTC staff to further discuss this project.

Commissioner Oneto stated he believes the Roundabout at Liberty Road/SR 88 will be scheduled as an agenda item at the Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting to discuss sending a letter to Caltrans asking not to install roundabouts in Amador County/District 10. He also noted a possible issue on SR 88 regarding tree trimming has upset a resident, he noted he advocated for the work being performed along that roadway and asked Caltrans to continue fuel mitigation efforts. He added if a letter of support would help, the County may be willing to provide one to Caltrans. Commissioner Oneto also asked if widening the shoulder (one foot of asphalt on each side) on SR 49 in Drytown could be performed to reduce the number of accidents that take place at that location. Commissioner Bragstad noted a reduction in speed may also help. Mr. Agar stated Caltrans would appreciate a letter of support regarding the fuel reduction efforts and noted he will take the comments back regarding the shoulder work in Drytown to determine what can be improved.

Commissioner Plasse stated he does not think holding a separate meeting regarding the SR 88/ Liberty Road Roundabout without public participation is acceptable and it should be held in public session of a board meeting as there have been comments from board members as well as the public. Commissioner Oneto commented he asked to have this topic included as a future agenda item at a BOS meeting and this discussion could be included in that item. Mr. Agar clarified that his intent was not to exclude public participation and he would be open to have that meeting in whichever forum preferred. Commissioner Plasse commented that discussion should take place at the BOS level partially due to the BOS wanting to mitigate impacts of the Harrah's Northern Casino in Buena Vista, which funded a portion of the round-a-bout project. Mr. Agar stated he will coordinate to get that meeting on the BOS agenda.

Mr. Gedney stated regarding the ATP cycle 6 'Call for Projects', ACTC will be submitting an application with the City of Jackson and would appreciate a letter of support from Caltrans. Mr. Gedney conveyed appreciation on behalf of Chairman Atlan to Caltrans for working with the City of Ione to address the conflicting roadwork schedule in Ione during their Homecoming event.

Gregoria Ponce stated Caltrans has provided comments to ACTC on the draft FY 2022/23 Overall Work Program. She noted some additional funding grants available which included:

- The Federal Highway Administration's National Scenic Byways Program (NSBP)
- The Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) Low or No emission Vehicle Program- 5339 (c) program
- The Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program with \$1.5 billion available funding.

**REGULAR AGENDA #9. Amador Transit Draft Audit for Fiscal Year ended June 30,2021:** Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report.

Chairman Atlan joined the meeting via conference call line. Mr. Gedney and Ms. Bridges noted as a resolution to continue with virtual or hybrid meetings under the AB 361 requirement, effective September 30, 2021 has not been approved by ACTC, Chairman Atlan can participate via conference call as a member of the public.

Commissioner Plasse stated the Finance Committee held a meeting to discuss the audit. He noted on page 45, the auditor identified what he considered a significant deficiency with regard to how the accounting procedures handle State Transit Assistance funds. He stated the auditor goes by the letter of the law however, he disagrees with the auditor. How Amador transit shows those funds as revenue received (not waiting until the expenditures are reimbursed, is more transparent and understandable for the board members that have to review the budgets. Commissioner Plasse added that discussion took place with the auditor and the auditor's findings were noted, but the committee decided to continue with the way AT is currently providing it.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Commissioner Crew and carried to review and accept Amador Transit's Fiscal Audit for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2021 as presented.

Ayes: McLean, Bragstad, Crew, Oneto, Plasse  
Noes: None  
Absent: Atlan

Commissioners suspended the meeting for a break at 9:57 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:11 a.m.

**Closed Session:** At 10:11 a.m. Vice Chairman Mclean called for a Closed Session as noticed: Conference with Legal Counsel-Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9. At 10:53 a.m. the Vice Chairman resumed the regular meeting of ACTC and reported an update was provided by legal counsel and direction was given to staff regarding drafting a letter to Sacramento County.

**CONSENT AGENDA (Items #1-8):**

**#3. Approval of the FY 2022 updated ACTC Bylaws:** Commissioner Plasse extended appreciation for providing the document in the 'track changes' format as it was much easier to review the changes incorporated. He asked, regarding page #15-Bicycle and Pedestrian Set Aside, why there is a change made that reads 'ACTC shall set aside 2% of the remaining funds for pedestrian and bicycle facilities.' Mr. Gedney stated that was imposed with an amendment to the TDA law approximately three (3) to four (4) years ago. Commissioner Plasse asked if the rest of that paragraph is needed then. Mr. Gedney replied yes, that does remain in the document. However, there is still flexibility with the funding as long as a public finding is made.

**#6. Resolution #22-08 approving an allocation to Amador City in the amount of \$3,600.00 for reimbursement of the installation cost for two (2) radar speed signs:** Commissioner Plasse stated this item was brought before the board last month and that this resolution should reflect the vote taken at that meeting which was recorded in the minutes as follows:

**"Motion:** It was moved by Chairman Atlan, seconded by Commissioner Bragstad, and carried to approve the installation cost for two (2) radar speed signs at a cost not to exceed \$3,600. "

Ayes: Atlan, McLean, Bragstad, Forster  
Noes: Plasse, Crew  
Absent: None

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Commissioner Crew and carried to approve Consent Agenda.

Ayes: McLean, Bragstad, Crew, Oneto, Plasse  
Noes: None  
Absent: Atlan

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**#10. Radar Speed Signs-Installation Reimbursement Request:** Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report.

Mr. Gedney noted a few years ago the City of Lone and City of Plymouth were the first to be awarded reimbursement funding from the RSTP account to purchase radar speed signs. At that time the cost covered was only for the purchase of the signs.

Dominic Atlan, resident of Lone, stated this started when Lone requested funding just for the signs themselves, then there was an issue in Plymouth and now this current request. He stated there should have been a more specific allocation process established from the beginning to avoid discrepancies like this. He noted Lone did pay for their own installation and purchased one additional sign themselves.

Commissioner Plasse stated this was supposed to be implemented as a cost-sharing project for those jurisdictions that determined they needed these signs and ACTC could assist with the cost. However, after making the decision at the last meeting to reimburse Amador City for the installation of the signs other jurisdictions are now asking for that same assistance. Commissioner Plasse stated all jurisdictions should be able to perform the installation work on their own.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Commissioner Crew and carried to deny the request to reimburse jurisdictions for the cost of installation of radar speed signs.

Ayes: McLean, Crew, Oneto, Plasse  
Noes: None  
Abstain: Bragstad  
Absent: Atlan

**#11. Jackson Creekwalk Grant Application:** Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report and attachment.

Commissioner Oneto stated the local residents may like this proposal since it would allow for a better flow of traffic.

Commissioner Crew commented the crosswalks currently in place have always been a safety concern, and to create a safer walking path would be beneficial, especially with the various events held in the downtown area.

Commissioner Plasse asked if this grant would cover the entire cost of the project. Mr. Gedney stated this grant is through the Active Transportation Program (ATP) which is the same program that funded the Safe Routes to School project in Plymouth. A similar process was completed where consultant services were utilized to prepare an application with conceptual design and a cost estimate included. Mr. Gedney added we would ask the consultant to fully disclose all costs of the project including right-of-way with a contingency and that is what would be submitted as an application to the program.

Commissioner Plasse stated when this project was brought forward in the past the issues were right-of-row access and fish and game was involved with regard to the creek. He noted this could still be a concern.

Mr. Gedney stated if this project was awarded it would be fully funded through this program at an estimated cost of \$5 million.

Commissioner Plasse asked, regarding the staff report, how the Technical Advisory Committee became involved. Mr. Gedney replied that California Transportation Commission staff was willing to meet so a notice was put out to the cities to determine if there was interest in applying for this program. As all cities showed some level of interest, this program and the cities project proposals were discussed at a TAC meeting and following that discussion they agreed to promote one project for submittal for this cycle. Mr. Gedney reaffirmed that ACTC policy is brought down to the TAC as the process. He stated additional discussion took place at the TAC regarding cities who would be receiving this benefit be asked to provide some financial support to the grant application process.

Vice Chairman McLean stated the specifics have not been discussed yet but the City of Jackson is open to providing some support. Mr. Gedney noted the amount discussed as an option was 10%.

Mr. Gedney noted the recommendation would be to utilize the Pedestrian/Bicycle fund for this additional work performed.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Crew, seconded by Commissioner Bragstad and carried to approve staff recommendation to amend and increase the existing on-call consulting contract with GHD in the amount of \$30,000 from the Bicycle/Pedestrian Fund, to assist with additional engineering and cost estimates along with development of the application to the Active Transportation Program, provided a jurisdiction provides a match to be determined for each project.

Ayes: McLean, Bragstad, Crew, Oneto, Plasse  
Noes: None  
Absent: Atlan

**#12. Approve Monthly Claims List:** Mr. Gedney noted there is a revised claims list recommended for approval with additional items that included: Comcast, cleaning services, IT support, the Sacramento Bee for advertisement of the Triennial Performance Audit, and PG&E.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Bragstad, seconded by Commissioner Plasse and carried to approve the revised claims list.

Ayes: McLean, Bragstad, Crew, Forster, Plasse  
Noes: None  
Absent: Atlan

**#16. ACTC Commissioner Reports:** None

**#17. ACTC Reports:** Mr. Gedney stated ACTC submitted an application to the Caltrans planning grant program last year regarding outreach pertaining to vegetation management and vertical roadway clearance for wildfire protection and received notice that this application was not awarded. He noted it was disappointing as wildfire safety is one of the most important topics for this region and suggested that the application may have better support if submitted directly by the County.

Dominic Atlan, resident of Lone, extended appreciation to Caltrans for working with the City of Lone with regard to rescheduling road work during the Homecoming event. He asked if in the future there could be better communication from Caltrans regarding upcoming projects, and noted there was recently an issue with a contractor installing a corner post in the park.

**#19. Future Agenda Items:**


- Funding Distribution Allocation

**#20. Adjournment:**

At 11:49 a.m. the Vice Chairman adjourned the meeting until 9:00 a.m. Thursday, May 5, 2022, at 117 Valley View Way Sutter Creek, CA 95685.

  
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Dominic Atlan, Chairman  
Amador County Transportation Commission

ATTEST:

  
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Recording Secretary

(Note: Copies of referenced documents are available at the ACTC office.)