

AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

August 3, 2023 – 9:44 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:

Patrick Crew, Chairman
Steve McLean, Vice Chairman
Susan Bragstad
Richard Forster
John Plasse
Julia Sierk

Absent:

None

Also Present:

John Gedney, Executive Director, ACTC
Felicia Bridges, Administrative Analyst, ACTC

AGENDA:

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Vice Chairman McLean, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

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

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: Commissioner Forster stated, with regard to the memorial/monument discussion with Caltrans in the minutes of the July meeting, there was not much concern expressed by Caltrans about the monuments unless they present a safety concern or are a complaint driven issue. Commissioner Plasse noted they did take down the one he specifically brought up at the July meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1-6):

#1. Minutes of June 1, 2023: Commissioner Forster noted minor corrections to be submitted.

Motion: It was moved by Forster, seconded by Commissioner Bragstad, and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda with minor corrections to the Minutes.

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

REGULAR AGENDA:

#7. FY 22/23 ACTC Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Distribution: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report and attachments. He noted the same distribution formula was used for the prior Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) distribution last Spring.

Commissioner Forster asked if there is a mechanism in place to ensure these funds are expended as required by the local jurisdictions and county. Mr. Gedney stated they are required to assure these funds are spent on 'streets and roads' purposes and are audited through the annual Fiscal and Compliance Audit.

Commissioner Plasse noted in the staff report the wording used 'a claim' for expenditure is submitted, and asked if a claim form is submitted to ACTC for these funds. Mr. Gedney replied yes, the form that is used for the RSTP funding is also used for the LTF funds. He explained ACTC sends a letter and claim form to the cities and county noting the amount available, then they are required to send that signed claim form to ACTC with assurance that the funds will be set aside and spent appropriately. Commissioner Plasse stated the claim form does not require them to delineate a specific project. Mr. Gedney responded no, the LTF funds are very flexible and could be spent fixing potholes or paying public works staff.

Commissioner Sierk asked if this funding is on a reimbursement basis. Mr. Gedney stated no, this is funding that is received by ACTC that has gone through the Unmet Transit Needs process and the residual funding can be provided for 'streets and roads' purposes.

Commissioner Forster stated there needs to be additional information included in the resolution that describes a requirement to report how the funding was spent. Commissioner Plasse asked if it can be stipulated that this funding cannot be used on staff expenditures to ensure those funds actually get to streets and roads. Mr. Gedney replied this board does have the discretion to define that the funds go specifically towards projects and not staffing.

Commissioner Sierk stated the City of Sutter Creek is in great need of public works staff and being allowed to use, at least, a percentage of this funding for staffing would be beneficial. Commissioner Plasse replied jurisdictions are already required to fund their staffing levels out of their general funds. Commissioner Forster added it should be shown that the funding is spent with meaningful purposes.

Commissioner Bragstad asked if the resolution is also sent to the cities. Mr. Gedney stated it could be provided with the claim form.

Terri Nobriga-Yakesh-ACTC Fiscal Officer, reviewed the RSTP claim form process recently updated and approved by the board.

Commissioners continued discussion regarding how the funding should be spent and that it should follow the new mission statement of ACTC to preserve and maintain local streets and roads. Commissioners agreed to table this item and have staff revise the documents for distribution of the LTF funding to match the RSTP claim form process and bring it back next month for further review.

#8. 2024 Draft State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Fund Estimate: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report and attachments. He stated, regarding the SR 88/Pine Grove Improvement project's status, he recently had a meeting with Dennis Agar- Caltrans District 10 Director and notice was provided to ACTC that the project authorization for construction (E-76 form) was submitted to Caltrans headquarters for final approval. Mr. Gedney noted Caltrans staff is expecting to have good news at the upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting that the project has been authorized for construction. Commissioner Forster noted his frustration with the length of time it takes to sign documents to move a project along. Commissioner Plasse commented the number of delays that have occurred with this project have now most likely delayed the construction phase another season out. Mr. Gedney replied yes, we have already missed this construction season but may be able to go out to bid this year.

Mr. Gedney stated the estimated annual apportionment to the Amador region in Regional Improvement Program (RIP) shares is just under \$600,000, which is lower than the last two (2) year cycle that totaled \$750,000 per year. Commissioner Plasse noted the amount received in years past was closer to \$1 million annually. Mr. Gedney commented yes, the projections are that revenue will start declining due to electric or more fuel-efficient vehicles. Commissioner Plasse stated the estimates included in the attachments show the ability to borrow against future apportionments, but asked how reliable this funding is with the Governor's decree that all new cars sold in California are required to be electric vehicles since this funding is provided through gas sales. Mr. Gedney replied the State will have to replace this funding with another funding source. With regard to the borrowing against future years, an agency can request funding through FY 2031/32 year (the maximum that you can program against) but that is not guaranteed to be approved. The amount that is more likely guaranteed would be the funding through FY 2028/29.

Mr. Gedney stated this is the time for this commission to work with the local jurisdictions to determine the next priority project to submit in the next Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) cycle in December. He noted potential projects such as the Sutter Street Extension or the Western Lone Roadway Improvement Strategy (WIRIS). He also highlighted projects that meet the Project Study Report (PSR) Equivalent as road rehabilitation projects where no environmental studies, plans or studies, or Right of Way phases are required because the work performed falls within the edges of existing roadway.

Commissioner Plasse asked if additional local delivery support from ACTC should be provided to the local jurisdictions to assist in this process. Mr. Gedney replied ACTC staff does currently provide support, as needed, through the TAC and the Caltrans Local Delivery Quarterly meetings.

Mr. Gedney stated at this time staff would recommend taking this information to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to receive input then bring this item back.

#9. Claims: Mr. Gedney stated on the revised claims list the California Fair Plan item in the amount of \$2,356.10, was approved last month but was sent in too late that they did not accept it. With that, we need approval to resend it. He continued that the total policy premium is \$5,800 which includes a brush/wildfire surcharge that staff is told once they examine the facility and see there is not brush, they will remove that surcharge leaving a total of \$3,400. Commissioner Plasse asked if that also has to be followed up with supplemental theft and liability insurance. Ms. Bridges noted staff is waiting to hear back from the broker for a quote on that supplemental coverage.

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

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

#10. ACTC Commissioner Reports: Commissioner Forster stated at the upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting discussion will take place with Caltrans District 10 Director- Dennis Agar regarding the SR 88/Pine Grove Improvement Project status but will also discuss the Amador County jail expansion project. This project has a permit that has already been extended three (3) times due to California Environmental Quality Act issues and the Covid-19 pandemic. The portion of the project that falls under Caltrans ROW needs to be completed by the end of the year. If that does not happen, a new permit extension will be required. However, Caltrans policy only allows three (3) extensions requiring the County to apply for a new permit which would take approximately 2 years. Commissioner Forster stated this is just another bureaucratic process from a State agency that would put this project under water.

Vice Chairman McLean stated the City of Jackson’s City Hall and Auditorium has been completed and they should begin having City Council meetings there again.

#11. ACTC Reports: Mr. Gedney stated after a recent meeting with Robert Naylor (lobbyist), Commissioner Forster and Commissioner Plasse, he reached out to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) Chair regarding the ACTC’s continued interest in the SR 16 Relinquishment process. He noted at the last meeting that with Sacramento County in February Sacramento County staff indicated they were interested in pursuing the relinquishment again. ACTC staff again registered their opposition. Mr. Gedney stated he was directed by the CTC Chair to speak with the CTC Chief Engineer who did note Sacramento County and Caltrans has reached out to him regarding the relinquishment. Mr. Gedney stated he will setup a discussion pertaining to where this is going.

Vice Chairman McLean asked if ACTC has received any feedback regarding the SR 48/88/Argonaut Lane intersection traffic investigation request provided to Caltrans or from the Amador County Unified School District pertaining to the traffic study for the school site consolidation. Mr. Gedney replied not yet, but noted he was informed they should have something in August.

#12. Caltrans Report with Marlon Regisford-Deputy District Director and Gregoria Ponce-Office Chief of Rural Planning, Caltrans District 10:

- Caltrans is celebrating its 50th anniversary and noted to celebrate, there is a new logo and a history page on the Caltrans website.
- The Protect Program from the U.S Department of Transportation is a funding opportunity with approximately \$510 million available in funding and the deadline for submittal is August 8th.
- Shoulder work along SR 88 is being performed and additional traffic advisory information can be found on the QuickMap App at quickmap.dot.ca.gov.
- Ms. Ponce stated certifications of expenditures are due August 30th, Caltrans staff is currently reviewing the 4th quarter Request for Reimbursement from ACTC staff, and they are looking forward to reviewing and commenting on the 2024 RTP environmental document.

Commissioner Forster stated a constituent notified him the timing of the light at the SR 88/Buena Vista intersection may need adjustment.

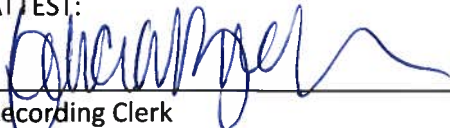
#13. Future Agenda Items:

- State Transportation Improvement Program- RTIP development
- Local Transportation Fund Distribution-continued

#14. Adjournment: At 10:53 a.m. the Chairman adjourned the regular meeting until 9:00 a.m. Thursday, September 7, 2023, at 117 Valley View Way Sutter Creek, CA 95685.



Patrick Crew, Chairman
Amador County Transportation Commission

ATTEST:


Recording Clerk

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