

BAY AREA RURAL TRANSIT
OFFICIAL BART COMMISSION MINUTES

October 19, 2023, 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, October 19th, 2023, by Remote/Zoom and in person at the Bay Area Rural Transit office. Chairperson Carl Doersch called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Roll Call: Present: Beagan, Benton, Berlin, Doersch, Niemis, Oswald, Pufall, Trimner. 8

Absent: Lawyer. 1

B. Adoption of Agenda

Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Richard Pufall to approve the agenda. Jeremy Oswald questioned the "Partner Request" line, explained as an error by Pat Daoust. Motion Carried.

C. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Colleen Beagan to approve the September 21st, 2023, minutes. Motion Carried

D. Public Comments

No public comments.

E. Managers' Report

1. DVR Exemplary Employer Award

Pat Daoust informed the board that the Exemplary Employer Award presentation from DVR went well with great support from numerous BART partners in attendance. A discussion followed.

2. Electric Buses

Pat Daoust updated the board that the electric buses are still on pace for delivery in the first quarter of 2024. Price County EV chargers are still in California and waiting to be shipped. A discussion followed.

3. EV Charger

Pat Daoust informed the board the Washburn EV charger to date has a profit of \$636.57 and a total of \$3,200.00 has been taken in at the charger for payment which can be leveraged as local share for BART. A discussion followed.

4. Price County Facility

Pat Daoust informed the board that the building has had some changes made to the original plans as unforeseen challenges arise in construction including adding a gutter with three down spouts to the east side of the building, surveillance cameras that were not included in the bid but were drawn on

BAY AREA RURAL TRANSIT

OFFICIAL BART COMMISSION MINUTES

the plans must be purchased and determine who will pay for them. The epoxy coating for the garage floor has been replaced with a sealed concrete to cut costs that will help cover the changeover costs. Xcel Energy is putting in electric service today and blacktopping is set for tomorrow or next week pending weather. The HVAC unit is still on order and will be installed when in stock. A discussion followed.

5. Solar Panels

Pat Daoust updated the board on the status of the solar panels that were installed at BART in May. Currently BART has a credit from Xcel of 7,760 on-peak Kw and 1,200 off-peak Kw. On December 31st each year, Xcel will true up these credits by cutting a check to BART for the unused credits. These credits are at the rate of what it costs Xcel to produce the same energy and not at what the cost BART is charged normally by Xcel. BART will be looking to decrease overall Kw usage in hopes of changing pay tiers and reducing fees charged by Xcel. A discussion followed.

6. Budget

Pat Daoust presented to the board the proposed 2024 budget with shows an increase of 1.43% overall. The increase does include an additional day of operation in 2024 and operator wages per the approved wage scale. A discussion followed.

F. Projects Needing Attention

1. Wages

Pat Daoust presented to the board the proposed wage increases for non-operator wages. Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Jeff Benton to approve the 3% wage increase. Jeremy Oswald questioned where Pat Daoust came up with 3%, Pat Daoust explained it was an effort to keep up with COLA standards. Motion carried.

F. Finances

Pat Daoust went over the 2023 financial reports. Ridership continues to increase. BART is underbudget overall going into quarter four as BART sits at 71.4% of the budget used through three quarters. Motion was made by Mike Berlin seconded by Colleen Beagan to approve the finances. Jeremy Oswald questioned the wording of the motion and requested the wording be changed to “to accept and place on file the 2023 financial reports pending an audit. Motion was made by Mike Berlin seconded by Colleen Beagan to accept and place on file the 2023 financial reports pending an audit. Motion Carried

G. Reports, Comments, Questions

Pat Daoust informed the board that to date, \$1,073,462.00 has been paid towards the new facility in Park Falls. Carl Doersch stated that Gordy Johnson, a regular rider of BART, has commented to Carl approving of the service provided by BART. Pat Daoust will send out an invite for the Transit Committee meeting between Ashlan, Bayfield, and Price Counties set for 11/6/23 at BART. A discussion followed.

H. Adjourn

There being no further business, the motion to adjourn was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Mike Berlin. Motion carried. BART Board Adjourned at 4:49 p.m.