



CALIFORNIA High-Speed Rail Authority

California High-Speed Rail Authority Board meeting minutes September 9-10, 2020

Webcast

<http://www.hsr.ca.gov>

The meeting of the California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) Board convened on September 9, 2020, 11:00 a.m. via webinar due to Governor Newsom's State of Emergency declaration regarding the COVID-19 outbreak and in accordance with Executive Order N-25-20 and the Guidance for Gatherings issued by the California Department of Public Health. The Minutes were prepared in the order items were presented during the meeting.

Members Present:

- Mr. Tom Richards, Acting Chair
- Mr. Ernest Camacho
- Mr. Henry Perea
- Ms. Nancy Miller
- Ms. Lynn Schenk
- Ms. Martha Escutia
- Mr. James Ghielmetti
- Mr. Andre Boutros
- Mr. Anthony Williams
- The Honorable Dr. Joaquin Arambula, Ex Officio

Member Members Absent:

- The Honorable Jim Beall, Ex Officio Member

Public Comment

An opportunity for public comment was made at the outset of the meeting.

Agenda Item #1 – Board Chair and Vice Chair Election

Motion to vote Director Richards as Chair of the High-Speed Rail Authority Board of Directors was moved for approval by Director Schenk, Seconded by Director Miller and approved (8-0).

Motions to vote Director Miller as Vice Chair of the High-Speed Rail Authority Board of Directors was moved for approval by Director Camacho, seconded by Director Schenk and approved (8-0).

Agenda Item #2 – Consider Approving the August 13, 2020, Board Meeting Minutes

The August 13, 2020, meeting minutes were moved for approval by Director Schenk, seconded by Director Camacho, and approved (8-0).

Agenda Item #3 – Road 27 Construction and Repair Issues

Chief Operating Officer for the Authority, Joseph Hedges, Vice President of Operations and Project Executive, Ghassan Ariqat and President and Chief Bridge Engineer for Corven Engineering Inc., John Corven provided a presentation on Road 27 construction and repair issues. Questions were asked by the Board and answered by presenters.

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For further information, visit the California High-Speed Rail Authority web site at <http://www.hsr.ca.gov/>

Agenda Item #4 – Intrusion Protective Barrier Safety Requirement

Chief Operating Officer for the Authority, Joseph Hedges and Chief of Rail Operations for the Authority, Frank Vacca provided a presentation on the Intrusion Protective Barrier Safety Requirements. Questions were asked by the Board and answered by Mr. Hedges and Mr. Vacca.

Agenda Item #5 – Business Plan Update

Chief Executive Office for the Authority, Brian Kelly, provided a report on the Draft 2020 Business Plan to the Board. Questions were asked by the Board and Answered by Mr. Kelly.

Meeting Adjourned

The September 9, 2020, California High-Speed Rail Authority Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. for the day.

The California High-Speed Rail Authority's September 9-10, 2020, Board of Directors meeting reconvened September 10, 2020, at 10:30 a.m.

Members Present:

- Mr. Tom Richards, Acting Chair
- Mr. Ernest Camacho
- Mr. Henry Perea
- Ms. Nancy Miller
- Ms. Lynn Schenk
- Ms. Martha Escutia
- Mr. James Ghielmetti
- Mr. Andre Boutros
- Mr. Anthony Williams
- The Honorable Dr. Joaquin Arambula, Ex Officio

Member Members Absent:

The Honorable Jim Beall, Ex Officio Member

Agenda Item #6 – Staff Presentation on the Merced to Fresno Section: Central valley Wye Final Supplemental EIR/EIS, Proposed Selection of SR 152 (North) to Road 11 Wye Alternative, and Related Decisions

Director of Environmental Services for the Authority, Mark McLoughlin and Northern California Director of Projects, Gary Kennerley provided a presentation on the CV Wye final EIR/EIS. No Questions were raised.

Public Comment

An opportunity for public comment was provided at this point of the meeting. At the conclusion of public comment Board members asked question about the process.

Agenda Item #7 – Finance and Audit Committee Report

Finance & Audit Committee Chairman Tom Richards provided a brief status report on the Committee's work.

Agenda Item #8 – CEO Report

Chief Executive Office for the Authority, Brian Kelly, provided a report on the California High-Speed Rail Project Updates, Program Advancements, Construction Updates and look-ahead issues to the Board. Questions were asked by the Board members and answered by Mr. Kelly.

At 12:58 p.m. Chairman Richards announced that the Board would take a 90-minute recess. The Board reconvened at 2:32 p.m.

Agenda Item #9 – Brief Staff Response to Public Comment Following Staff Presentation on Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye Final Supplemental EIR/EIS and Proposed Decisions

Director of Environmental Services for the Authority, Mark McLoughlin and Northern California Director of Projects, Gary Kennerley provided a presentation in response to public comment and Board questions on the Central Valley Wye Final Supplemental EIR/EIS and Proposed Decisions. Further questions were asked by the Board and answered by Mr. Kelly, Mr. McLoughlin and Mr. Kennerley.

Agenda Item #10 – Consider Certifying Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye Final Supplemental EIR/EIS under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Chief Legal Counsel to the Authority, Alicia Fowler and Deputy Attorney General for the California Department of Justice, Danae Aitchison provided information on the certification of the Merced to Fresno Section: EIR/EIS under the California Environmental Quality Act. No questions were asked by the Board. Motion was moved for approval by Director Perea, Seconded by Director Miller and approved (9-0).

Agenda Item #11 – Consider Approving SR 152 (North) to Road 11 Wye and Adopting California Environmental Quality Act Findings, Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

Chief Legal Counsel to the Authority, Alicia Fowler and Deputy Attorney General for the California Department of Justice, Danae Aitchison provided information on SR 152 (North) to Road 11 Wye and the California Environmental Quality Act Findings, Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. No questions were asked by the Board. Motion was moved for approval by Director Miller, Seconded by Director Williams and approved (9-0).

Agenda Item #12 – Consider Approving SR 152 (North) to Road 11 Wye and directing Chief Executive Officer to sign Draft Supplemental Record of Decision for the Merced to Fresno Section and Issuing it as Final Supplemental Record of Decision for the Merced to Fresno Section.

Chief Legal Counsel to the Authority, Alicia Fowler and Attorney, Al Ferlo provided information on SR 152 (North) to Road 11 Wye and directing Chief Executive Officer to sign Draft Supplemental Record of Decision for the Merced to Fresno Section and Issuing it as Final Supplemental Record of Decision for the Merced to Fresno Section. No questions were asked by the Board. Motion was moved for approval by Director Ghielmetti, Seconded by Director and approved (9-0).

Meeting Adjourned

Acting Chair Richards announced at 3:53 p.m. that the Board would adjourn.