

**SIERRA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**  
**P. O. BOX 98 – DOWNIEVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95936**

**COMMISSIONERS**

*NANCY ROGERS –CHAIRMAN*  
*PETER W. HUEBNER*  
*SHARON DRYDEN*  
*JOY MARKUM*

*PETER W. HUEBNER -VICE CHAIR*  
*MARIANNE MOORE*  
*DARLENE REIDE*  
*JAMES BEARD, ALTERNATE*

**WEDNESDAY**  
**APRIL 24, 2019**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**SIERRAVILLE SCHOOL**  
**305 SOUTH LINCOLN**  
**SIERRAVILLE, CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:**

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Chairman Nancy Rogers.

**Roll Call**

Commissioners Present: Dryden; Huebner; Moore; Markum; Roen; Rogers

Commissioners Absent: Reide

A Quorum was established.

Staff Present: Miriam Dines, Executive Secretary; Bryan Davey, Transportation Planner; Tim Beals, Executive Director

Also Present: Debbie Devenzio, Transportation Director, Incorporated Senior Citizens; John Funk, Member SSTAC; Lorie Kelly, President, Golden Rays; Sam White; Jon Lahann, Transportation Director, Golden Rays; Darrel Huckabay, PE, MGE Engineering, Inc.; Keith Basque, PG&E Rule 20A Program Liaison; Nima Kabirinassab, Transportation Planner, Caltrans District 3; Mark Marin

After Roll Call introductions were made.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Mark Marin.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Commission Action:** Commissioner Roen moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Huebner. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Commission Action:** Commissioner Huebner moved to approve the minutes of April 24, 2019; seconded by Commissioner Roen. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** No announcements were made.
6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment was given.
7. **RECOGNITION: RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION RECOGNIZING MARK MARIN**

**Commission Action: Commissioner Roen moved to adopt a Resolution of Appreciation recognizing Mr. Mark Marin, former Mayor of the City of Loyalton, for his service on the Sierra County Transportation Commission; seconded by Commissioner Huebner. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call and then presented to Mr. Marin.**

8. **TRANSPORTATION ISSUES**

Discussion with Keith Basque of PG&E regarding the Rule 20A Program for Undergrounding of Overhead Utilities as related to the Sierra City Main Street Project: Mr. Beals introduced Mr. Keith Basque, the PG&E Rule 20A Program Liaison and presented some history of the use of the Rule 20A funding in Sierra County, one being the Downieville Main Street Beautification and undergrounding utilities at the Kentucky Mine. Mr. Beals discussed briefly the Sierra City Main Street Project which has been the subject of SCTC action for a number of years, and stated that a Project Study Report is currently in progress. The project will involve reconstruction of a dedicated portion of Main Street (State Route 49), pedestrian improvements, sidewalks, drainage control, reconstruction of the roadway. Caltrans has indicated willingness to participate and hopefully conversion of overhead utilities to underground.

Mr. Basque explained the Rule 20A Program which is a program established by the California Public Utilities Commission requiring that PG&E allocate work credits to all cities and counties each year to fund the conversion of overhead utilities to underground. Currently Sierra County has a balance of \$451,503 available in the program and you can get an advance of 5 years' worth of funding which would be around \$12,000 per year, so essentially \$500,000 is available. That said it costs about \$1,200/foot for construction, which infers that other funding sources will need to be tapped in order to have a project.

Mr. Basque reported that currently the CPUC is looking at redistributing funds from communities that do not have projects (in the past 8 years). In order to have a project the Board of Supervisors would have to adopt a resolution for a project to be recognized.

A resolution or ordinance of the Board would be forming an undergrounding district and a boundary map would need to be drawn.

Mr. Basque continued and provided important information that must be planned for in the development of a project.

Commissioner Dryden expressed concern about the concept of the advance and wanted to make sure there is no encumbrance, which was confirmed.

It was clarified that the Sierra County Transportation Commission has already recognized the Sierra City Main Street Project in the Regional Transportation Plan, and also by adoption of a resolution directing development of a Project Study Report. Mr. Beals will submit a resolution to the Board of Supervisors for the County to consider with regard to identifying this project.

Bridge Projects Update: Mr. Davey reported that plans for both the Salmon Creek Road Project and the Packer Lake Road Bridges are essentially complete although the right of way is yet to be

cleared. Quotes will be solicited soon from 3 consultants to develop the package for purchase of the right of way for the Salmon Creek Bridge and the US Forest Services is closer to having an agreement in place for the right of way for the Packer Lake Road Bridge. Construction will likely be allocated for next year.

On the Plumbago Bridge a draft report for cultural resources has been submitted to Caltrans with comments and Darrel Huckabay of MGE Engineering, Inc. reported that he has been in communication with Caltrans with regard to the cultural resources report.

Discussion on crosswalks and pedestrian safety in Sierraville: This issue was brought to the SCTC by Ms. Kathy Funk at the November 2018 meeting. Mr. Beals reported that Ms. Funk has talked to him since that meeting and was concerned that the issue was being ignored. He has approached the CHP and requested more of a presence at the intersection of State route 89/49. He did point out that as far as crosswalks are concerned it is difficult to have those installed on State Highways. The one that is in Sierraville is there because the school was there. He stated that there is definitely room for review of the issues affecting the community with Caltrans including better striping and delineation, safety issues with regard to the school bus, review of signage and so forth. By consensus it is determined that the item should stay on the SCTC agenda for further discussion and direction.

Authorize letter of opposition for Senate Bill 152, with regard to the Active Transportation Program (ATP): Mr. Davey reported that this bill is put forth by Senator Beall who is strongly support of the Metropolitan Planning Program. The ATP came in about 6 years ago having replaced TE (Transportation Enhancement) as a funding source. With ATP the funds were all rolled into one pot, a little was set aside for the RTPAs (rural), a little for the MPOs (metropolitan), and the rest went into a competitive pot. SCTC has tried a number of times to access ATP funds with no success, however other rural agencies have found some success in competing. The bill as proposed sounds like it offers improvements for rural counties, however the proposal comes from the MPOs and has the potential to suppress the rural counties' ability to compete for funds. Staff is recommending opposition to Senate Bill 152.

**Commission Action: Commissioner Roen moved to authorize a letter of opposition for Senate Bill 152 as presented; seconded by Commissioner Huebner. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.**

## 9. TRANSIT ISSUES

Mr. Davey reported that the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council conducted their annual meeting on April 17, 2019. The SSTAC recommendations are recorded in their minutes will be provided at the May meeting of the SCTC.

Mr. Davey also reported a slight upward trend on funding. Mostly funding has been steady for the past 3 years with a slight tendency upward. The program in place seems to be working. The budgets for next year are in from the providers and will be presented for approval at the next meeting. The transit contracts are presented to the County Board of Supervisors at the first meeting in June.

Two new vehicles are in the works. Commissioner Roen stated that it worked really well for the schools when the last two transit vans were cycled out and he would like to see the next surplus vans cycled out to the school district as well. The new vans can likely be anticipated in the next fiscal year.

Mr. Davey also reported on a funding program where the state is collecting for greenhouse gas emissions and a portion of those funds are allocated to transit services. The funds can supplement the fare box revenues. This should be a factor in next year's budget. He noted, and everyone agreed, that current fuel prices are a problem.

#### 10. OVERALL WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Davey reported that the first two quarterly reports are submitted and we've received reimbursement for those requests. Next Year's Overall Work Program is submitted for Caltrans' review.

#### 11. REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Mr. Davey reported that the kick-off meeting will be this afternoon at 1:00 p.m. The first part of the Regional Transportation Plan update is collecting data.

Commissioner Dryden stated that she has a lot of questions regarding Smithneck Creek Road. Bryan gave a brief history of the project, how it was tied in with the bike path and when that project was cancelled the rehab was as well. Mr. Davey stated that in his opinion the rehabilitation of Smithneck is one of the highest priorities, and that it is already listed in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Davey further explained why the bike bath was de-obligated, which was that since it wasn't fully funded the project was in "use it or lose it" situation so de-obligating was the only thing that could be done to protect the funds that are available for a project. The project was deprogrammed until a solid plan to fund it is developed. Mr. Davey also reminded the commission that SCTC has several million dollars in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) that is currently unallocated.

There was also discussion on correspondence from Plumas County Transportation Commission with regard to the Plumas County Regional Transportation Plan 2020.

**Commission Action: By consensus direction is given to correspond with Plumas County regarding concerns with A-23, A024, Heriot, Gold Lake and Dyson Lane (Not Sierra County but serves Sierra County residents).**

#### 12. REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Mr. Davey explained that these funds for the last number of years have been utilized for installation of the speed feedback signs. In fact, expenditure of this next round of funds has already been authorized for installation of signage that will hopefully have a positive impact on the area of Loyalton near the elementary school. There will be some funds left over, however there is no need to make expenditure decisions at this time.

#### 13. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION

Mr. Beals distributed a draft travel policy and recounted the history that led to the development of the document. A summary of the policy is that if the Commissioner is an elected official of either the County or the City then travel reimbursement is not authorized (this does not preclude one from requesting travel reimbursement from their respective agencies, i.e. the City or County). Travel reimbursement for the appointed SCTC Member representing Transit is authorized.

**Commission Action: Commissioner Roen moved to adopt the travel policy (Resolution 2019-03); seconded by Commissioner Huebner. Motion was carried unanimously by roll call.**

**14. CALTRANS REPORT**

Nima Kabirinassab reported that another coordination meeting is being planned for August and that he will be sending out an e-mail with regard to potential dates, as well as draft of potential subjects for discussion. He also reported that the draft Overall Work Program would be signed off and sent back to the SCTC soon.

Mr. Kabrinassab discussed his work with ESRI, a geographic information systems development company, in a project that he was working on with Butte County to develop a GIS database for use to further grant applications, and word got out and now other local agencies are interested in having their own databases developed.

Mr. Beals informed Mr. Kabirinassab that the wildlife fence on along State Route 89 is very beat up after this winter. Also, Mr. Beals is requesting an update on the motorcycle signage program on State Route 49 for the next meeting.

Also discussed was the successful construction of the turnouts on State Route 89, however they will need no parking signs posted as the winter recreationists ended up utilizing the turns for parking this past winter.

There was also a brief discussion on the speed issue near the elementary school in Loyalton. Mr. Beals reported the restriping of the centerline from Poole Lane south into the City to identify the school zones; the speed feedback signs for that area are ordered and everything possible is being done to get the word out and get drivers to slow down. It was agreed that enforcement is needed.


Mr. Beals also reminded all to be on top of the SB1 process, a resolution needs to be submitted to the State of California by May 1, 2019.

**15. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING**

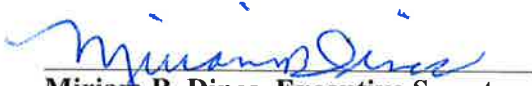
The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 22, 2019, 10:00 a.m. in Sierraville.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Rogers adjourned the meeting at 11:34 a.m.

  
Peter W. Huebner, Vice-Chairman  
Sierra County Transportation Commission

**ATTEST:**

  
Miriam B. Dines, Executive Secretary