

Tuolumne County Transit Agency

August 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The August 8, 2018 meeting of the Tuolumne County Transit Agency was called to order at 3:01p.m. by Chairman Michael Ayala. Also in attendance were: Councilmember Jim Garaventa; Councilmember Matt Hawkins; Councilmember John Gray; Executive Director Darin Grossi; Laura Shinn, Senior Administrative Analyst; Tyler Summersett; Senior Transportation Planner; Alex Padilla, Transportation Planner and Administrative Technician, Denise Bergamaschi.

Also present at today's meeting was Gregoria Ponce' representing Caltrans District 10. Councilmember Evan Royce was absent from today's meeting.

1. Oral communication (15 minutes) to allow the public to speak on any item not on the printed agenda.

Carol Doud approached the podium and stated that during her service on Jury Duty and talking to others; that she is surprised at the number of persons residing in Tuolumne County that have never gone downtown nor have knowledge of Public Transit. She suggested that some type of "juror bag" containing information on various eateries downtown as well as a transit schedule should be offered to jurors. She also stated that Transit should have had some sort of outreach for the Magic of the Night event.

Consent Calendar:

2. Approval of the July 11, 2018 Meeting Minutes.

3. Update TCTA Fixed Route Dial a Ride Policies to include Senate Bill 20 language addressing the use of seat belts on transit vehicles.

Councilmember Gray moved to approve all items on the Consent Calendar as presented.

Councilmember Garaventa seconded the motion.

All items approved with a 4-0 vote.

Regular Agenda:

4. Report on Stockton/Washington Street bus stop project.

Executive Director Grossi informed Council Members that staff has hired a consultant to assist with the design phase of this project and that it is currently in the early phases. He added that the City recently had a meeting to receive public input for this project and at the City Council meeting on August 6th it was approved with a 3-2 vote to move forward.

Carol Doud approached the podium and stated that Stockton Road is a pig sty and that anything would be an improvement as to how it currently looks. She also added that staff should be mindful of the money being spent.

There was no action required for this item as it was for informational purposes only.

5. Recommend consideration of adopting Resolution 48-18 recognizing 8 years of service from John Schulz on behalf of Tuolumne County Transit.

Executive Director Grossi informed Council Members that Mr. Schulz has been with Tuolumne County Transit for 8 years, has worn many hats and has been a tremendous asset to the Transit Agency over the years. He added that he provides great customer service, has performed dispatch services when required to do so, acted as the safety operator and has also driven the buses. He stated that Mr. Schulz will be greatly missed by everyone.

Cathy Salsedo, the Transit Manager, approached the podium and read letters from several co-workers stating what a great guy and co-worker John has been. She added that John met and surpassed expectation on every level and that he was a great mentor and had a way of bringing a smile to everyone's face. She stated that he will be greatly missed but that she and everyone at the transit office wish him well in his retirement.

Carol Doud added that John has driven her on several occasions and that he is always pleasant and delightful. She also wished him luck on his retirement.

John Schulz approached the podium and thanked everyone at Tuolumne County Transit and said that it has been a real pleasure.

At this time, Chairman Michael Ayala presented Mr. Schulz with a Certificate of Recognition from the Transit Agency.

Councilmember Gray moved to approve adopting Resolution 48-18 recognizing 8 years of service from John Schulz on behalf of Tuolumne County Transit.

Councilmember Garaventa seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 4-0 vote.

6. Recommend authorizing the Executive Director to sign reimbursement agreement with Columbia College allowing Students to ride Fixed Route and Dial a Ride services for free with valid Student Identification.

Sr. Transportation Planner, Tyler Summersett, informed Council Members that staff has been working on this agreement for some time now and that with this year being the 50th Anniversary of the College, that the timing couldn't be better. He also informed Council Members that the College will provide reimbursement for the free services being provided. He stated that he is hoping to begin the service at the start of the school year. He added that staff is ready to move forward with approval.

Discussion ensued.

Carol Doud approached the podium and stated that this is a wonderful idea and that the buses should be free to everyone all the time. She also added that the buses should provide service to Groveland.

Councilmember Garaventa moved to approve authorizing the Executive Director to sign reimbursement agreement with Columbia College allowing Students to ride Fixed Route and Dial a Ride services for free with valid Student Identification.
Councilmember Hawkins seconded the motion.
Motion approved with a 4-0 vote.

7. Review the California Air Resources Board's revised Clean Transit Regulation

Executive Director, Darin Grossi, expressed his concern to Council Members regarding buses to meet a Zero Emissions requirement by 2020. He stated that the manufacturers simply aren't making buses that meet those requirements at that quick of a pace.

Discussion ensued.

There was no action required for this item as it is for informational purposes.

8. Reports

Executive Director Grossi reported that YARTS is looking at a fare increase but has decided to defer it for now. He also added that due to the smoky conditions, that YARTS has suspended their services indefinitely for now. He also reported that, once again due to the smoky conditions, staff has decided to suspend the Pinecrest service for now. Mr. Grossi also stated that due to the fires, ridership has been down.

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:43m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise A. Bergamaschi
Administrative Technician