



INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Michael Errante, Executive Director

MINUTES

INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Bishop City Council Chambers
377 W. Line Street
Bishop, CA 93514

March 20, 2019

9:00 a.m. Doug Thompson called the meeting to order.

ITEM NO. 1 Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Bob Kimball
Doug Thompson
Rick Pucci
Chris Costello
Steven Muchovej
Mark Tillemans

Others present:

Mike Errante, Executive Director
John Pinckney, Staff
Cynthia Browning, Secretary
Mark Heckman, Caltrans
Jill Batchelder, Caltrans
Beth Himelhoch, IMAH
David Grah, PW Director City of Bishop
Phil Moores, ESTA

ITEM NO. 2 Public Comment- None

ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM NO. 3 Secretary of the Local Transportation Commission- Request approval of the minutes of the meeting of January 22, 2019

*Motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Rick Pucci and seconded by Commissioner Chris Costello.

ITEM NO. 4 Request Commission approve Resolution No. 2019-01 authorizing the execution of the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) and allocating \$34,308 of FY 2018-2019 funds toward the purchase of an electric bus.

*Phil Moore, Executive Director of ESTA talked about funds that came through this commission for the purchase of new vehicles for ESTA. His recommendation before the Commission is that they approve allocating the funds and also appoint an authorized agent to execute the documents. Phil stated that coordination needs to happen with the Airport to have a place to charge ESTA's vehicles overnight. He also said that he had met with SCE and it was calculated that ESTA will need 3000 kilowatt battery capacity charging per night. SCE will start including ESTA, and the charging challenge in their plans and considerations. Phil said that SCE will bring electricity to the facility and provide allowances in construction that will save money. In conclusion Phil said that the whole process will take several years. John Pinckney stated that there are limitations on how many years you can accrue the funds without using them.

*Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Mark Tillemans and seconded by Commissioner Chris Costello. All in favor 6-0

ITEM NO. 5 Introduction by LTC staff to the Draft Overall Work Program for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and provide feedback.

John Pinkney stated that the overall work program is an annual document. It is similar to what was proposed last year with no significant changes. The state has allocated \$230,000.00 next year for Inyo County LTC for Rural Planning Assistance. It has to encompass planning activities and is not for project specific funds. It has been submitted to Caltrans for their review and input as well as all of the Tribes and the City of Bishop. John said that he is asking for input to be submitted back to him by April 26th so that he can bring a final draft to the Commission for the proposed May 15th meeting.

No questions were asked

ITEM NO. 6 Receive the second quarter invoice of the Rural Planning Assistance funds in Fiscal Year 2018-2019

John Pinckney gave a brief description and stated that the Inyo County Local Transportation Commission staff has invoiced the state for reimbursement of Rural Planning Assistance (RPA) funds in the amount of \$58,327.59 for the 2nd quarter of FY 2018-2019. This reimbursement request is for work completed in accordance with the FY 2018-2019 Overall Work Program. John stated that the invoice is in the packet.

ITEM NO. 7 ESTA REPORT

Phil stated that he is working with John and Jerry of Mono County in the town of Mammoth Lakes on the Short Range Transit Plan. The hope is to apply for the FTA 5304 grant funds in the fall to help with that plan. Anticipated amount is \$110,000 on the upper end.

Phil also said that Caltrans has helped ESTA with getting new vehicles. Next year 62 % of the fleet will be beyond its useful life and in two years 72 % of ESTA's fleet will be beyond its useful life. It is very expensive to keep the vehicles running at that point. Phil also stated that he has prepared a letter for John and all of our funding partners for ESTA to think about when you are applying for money and looking at your budgets, how you might assist ESTA.

Phil added that ESTA is installing onboard video cameras for part of their fleet. The cameras will be helpful in investigating accidents and customer complaints.

Commissioner Chris Costello asked Phil how the program for training and licensing commercial drivers is going. Phil said that ESTA is contracting now with a certified tester. Hopefully around June ESTA will have someone from their organization certified to conduct the tests.

ITEM NO. 8 TRIBAL REPORT

None

ITEM NO. 9 CALTRANS REPORT

Jill Batchelder of Caltrans said that the Eastern Sierra Corridor Freight study is complete. The report should be uploaded to the website shortly. The parking portion of the study was very impactful. The consultant has already reached out to some private trucking companies to talk to them about the parking in the area to see if something can be generated throughout the valley.

Jill went on to report that the Intelligent Transportation Study (ITS) has begun. The System Metrix Group will be coming to make a presentation in regard to the electronic components that are on the roadways.

Jill reported on Projects in the Bishop Area:

The N. See Vee project has been delayed due to the weather. They are waiting for the striping and signal testing.

The S. See Vee project will come out of winter suspension on April 15th.

May is Bike Month. Caltrans is working together with CHP, First 5, Kern Regional and other agencies to have Family Fun Day that will take place at the Bishop Park. It is a way to bring the community together.

The truck study recommendation regarding trucks driving in the left lane is not complete yet. The study will pick up in the spring. The communities involved will be Lone Pine, Independence and Big Pine.

Mark Heckman of Caltrans added more information regarding the Intelligent Transportation Study (ITS). He stated that the goal for this study is to look at intelligent items that are nationwide including the National Park and Death Valley. Next month the contractor will be here to solicit the commissions input on items you would like to see in Inyo and Mono County. The ITS is similar to the Freight Study and will continue for two years. Mark stated that most of the project is internal but the public can get involved.

ITEM NO. 10 CITY OF BISHOP REPORT

David Grah, PW Director City of Bishop reported that the Seibu to School Path project has finally come through and building should start late summer.

The Spruce /Hanby /Yaney sidewalks project is in final design.

The West Jay Street extension project is expected to start middle to late summer.

ITEM NO. 11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Michael Errante, PW Director, reported on North Round Valley Bridge. Mike stated that Revisions were made to the length of North Round Valley Bridge and because of this more funds have been requested.

The hope is to have North Round Valley, Carrol and Walker Bridge under construction in the next year.

ITEM NO. 12 REPORTS FROM ALL MEMEBERS OF THE INYO COUNTY LTC

John Pinckney reported on the South Lake Rd., Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) project. The FHWA contacted John and wants to go to bid with that project at the end of the summer. We are programmed for 21/22 for that match. John said he talked to local assistance and the CTC and they had indicated that since it is 87 ½ % Federal funding they would not want to miss out on it and we should submit an allocation request. John went on to say that we may go to the August meeting with this.

John also stated that the Olancha Cartago grant was submitted on March 4th. Chances are slim but we are hopeful.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Commissioner Rick Pucci asked Mark Heckman of Caltrans about the deer overpass in Mono County. Rick wanted to know if the Inyo LTC had any authority to make comments regarding it. Mark stated that Caltrans is in the process of developing a stewardship group. He also stated that it is in its infancy stages. Mark encouraged Inyo County to be an active participant.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM