



# INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

P.O. DRAWER Q  
INDEPENDENCE, CA 93526  
PHONE: (760) 878-0201  
FAX: (760) 878-2001



Michael Errante, Executive Director

## MINUTES

### INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**Bishop City Council Chambers  
301 W. Line Street, Bishop, CA 93514**

**DATE: June 19, 2019**

**9:05 a.m.** Doug Thompson called the meeting to order.

**ITEM NO. 1** Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Doug Thompson  
Rick Pucci  
Joe Peci  
Chris Costello  
Steven Muchovej

Others present:

Deston Dishion, City of Bishop  
Lynn Martin, Dial a ride passenger  
Genevieve Evans, LSC Transportation Consultants  
Beth Himelhoch, IMAH  
Jenny Park, IMAH  
Jill Batchelder, Caltrans  
Phil Moores, ESTA  
Brent Green, Caltrans  
Michael Errante, Executive Director  
John Pinckney, Staff  
Cynthia Browning, LTC Secretary

## **ITEM NO. 2** Public Comment

Passenger of ESTA had a complaint about the head rests. She said they are very uncomfortable. She also said she has osteoporosis and the jolting of the busses is painful for her. She hopes for a possible solution.

Phil Moores responded by suggesting that special needs people let the driver know what their needs are and the driver can slow down to make the passenger more comfortable.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**ITEM NO. 3** Secretary of the Local Transportation Commission - Request approval of the minutes of the meeting of May 15, 2019.

\*Commissioner Costello motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Pucci seconded it.

\*All in favor 5

**ITEM NO. 4** Request Commission adopt and approve a.) Unmet Transit Needs Findings as presented by staff and b.) Resolution No. 2019-03, a Resolution regarding unmet transit needs.

\*John Pinckney gave a brief description in regard to the packet. He stated that an interesting topic in the comments section of the packet, that has been addressed multiple times, is the Northern Inyo Hospital's need for special accommodation of moving patients to and from the Hospital. NIH has started the Care Shuttle Program which has been very successful; Pinckney says he believes NIH's needs are being met and that it will be revisited next year. Another topic was regarding IMA and the evening and weekend transport needs. John stated that it does not qualify as an unmet transit need, rather a scheduling issue.

\*Phil Moores of ESTA, in relation to the fixed route topic, stated that ESTA is far away to having a fixed route and plans to address it more thoroughly next year. Joe asked if ESTA would be able to expand the routes to meet the needs for IMA for evening and weekend transport. Phil stated that they do not have plans to expand the schedule in this budget year.

\*Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Pucci, and seconded by Commissioner Pesci

\* All in favor. 5

**ITEM NO. 5** Request Commission approve Resolution No. 2019-04 apportioning and allocating Local Transportation Funds (LTF) for fiscal year 2019-2020.

\*John Pinckney stated that the resolution was not in the packet, handed out copies and explained the resolution.

\*Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Pesci and seconded by Commissioner Costello.

All in favor 5.

**ITEM NO. 6** Request Commission approve Resolution No. 2019-05 allocating all of FY 2019-2020 STA funds estimated as \$180,251 to Eastern Sierra Transit (ESTA) for public transit operating and capital expenses (\$178,160 unrestricted, \$2,091 capital restricted)

\*Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Muchovej and seconded by Commissioner Pucci

\*All in favor 5

**ITEM NO. 7** Request Commission ratify a letter in support of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority FTA Section 5339 competitive grant application for replacing transit vehicles.

\*Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Costello and seconded by Commissioner Pesci

\*All in favor 5

**ITEM NO. 8** Request Commission approve Resolution No. 2019-06, a resolution to 1) approve the Overall Work Program for the Inyo County LTC for FY 2019/2020, 2) authorize the Executive Director to sign related documents and 3) allow staff to make minor technical changes if required.

\*Commissioner Muchovej asked that the language be changed on two sentences on the freight section, page 7

1. “Economic benefits of Eastern Sierra freight movement to the industry.” has been changed to “Potential economic benefits of Eastern Sierra freight movement to the industry.”
2. “The ICLTC received a presentation on the Freight Study and will seek to build the additional truck parking recommendations...” has been changed to “The ICLTC received a presentation on the Freight Study and will explore opportunities to build the additional truck parking recommendations...”

\*Motion to approve with changes was made by Commissioner Pesci and seconded by Commissioner Costello

\*All in favor 5

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**ITEM NO. 9** Request Commission receive a presentation by Genevieve Evans of LSC Transportation Consultants introducing the draft 2019 update to the Inyo County Regional Transportation Plan.

\*Genevieve Evans gave an informative presentation.

**ITEM NO. 10** City of Bishop request for additional funding on the Seibu to School Bike Path

\*Deston Dishion requested an additional \$20,000 to complete the pre-construction phases.

\*John Pinckney stated that the resolution to approve this discussion will be brought to the next meeting on Aug 21<sup>st</sup>.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**ITEM NO. 11** ESTA Report

\*Phil Moores, Executive Director of ESTA stated that they began the Bishop Creek Shuttle on June 15th. Phil also said that he prepared a report on transportation demand between the Airport and Mammoth with estimates on costs. The report will be delivered in the next few weeks.

Commissioner Muchovej asked if ESTA has explored the possibility of having a shuttle service in the winter to Chalk Bluff road and the Buttermilk region. Phil answered that he has not explored that and said he has no demand for it but is open to see if there is a need.

**ITEM NO. 12** Tribal Report  
None

**ITEM NO. 13** Caltrans Report

\*Brent Green, Director of Caltrans stated that the Governor has appointed a new undersecretary for California State Transportation Agency and they are about to get a new Director. They do not know what the impact will have on their strategic direction. Brent reported that The Olancha/Cartago 4 Lane Hwy Project is moving forward.

In regard to the Freeman Gulch project 1, 2, and 3, Brent said that 1 has already been constructed and that they are working on the funding for 2 and 3. Brent went on to discuss Hwy 395 and a task force that was developed to look at what improvements can be made on Hwy 395 between Ridgecrest and I-15. He said that delineators will be put on 12 foot intervals in the center medians to hopefully reduce collisions and fatalities. Brent stated that the vehicle charging stations are still on hold and they are just waiting for the legislature to give them the green light to go forward.

**ITEM NO. 14** City of Bishop Report

Destin Dishion reported on the status of the charging stations. He stated that they have preliminary plans from Tesla which is focusing next to the shop on Warren Street. They will have 10 regular and 2 handicap spots.

**ITEM NO. 15** Executive Director's Report

Mike Errante gave updates on some high profile projects. He stated that Public Works recently had open bids for the Taxiway improvements for Bishop Airport as well as the Birchim Lane Project. Mike said that the goal is to have the North Round Valley Bridge under construction in the summer of 2020. He went on to say that a 7.8 million dollar grant was received from the FAA to widen the main runway at Bishop Airport. Also received was a grant to improve the runway at LP Airport which will go out to bid soon and will be under construction later this fall. Doug Thompson asked Mike if commercial airlines are interested in providing service. Mike said that United Airlines has been in communication and Sky West is interested.

**ITEM NO. 16** Reports from all members of the Inyo County LTC  
None

**ADJOURNMENT**  
**10:55 a.m.**