



MINUTES

Board of Directors' Meeting

Call to Order

The May 18, 2020, Board of Directors (Board) meeting of the Los Angeles - San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency (Agency) was called to order by Chairman Murray at 11:17 a.m. at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, Board Room – Conference Room 07-08, 550 South Main Street, Orange, California.

Chairman Murray announced that several of the Directors would participate in today's meeting via teleconferencing, and all votes would be taken by roll call.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Al Murray, Chairman
Dana Reed, Vice Chairman (teleconference)
Jewel Edson, NCTD (teleconference)
John Fasana, Metro (teleconference)
Caylin Frank, SDMTS (teleconference)
Gregg Hart, SBCAG (teleconference)
Ellie Haviland, SANDAG (teleconference)
Bryan MacDonald, Immediate Past Chairman, VCTC (teleconference)
Tim Shaw, OCTA
Fred Strong, SLOCOG (teleconference)
Jess Talamantes, Metro (teleconference)
Kyle Gradinger, Caltrans, Ex-Officio (teleconference)
Tamika Smith, Amtrak, Ex-Officio (teleconference)

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: Jennifer L. Bergener, Immediate Past Managing Director
Donna DeMartino, Managing Director (teleconference)
Martha M. Ochoa, LOSSAN Clerk of the Board
Gina Ramirez, LOSSAN Deputy Clerk of the Board
James M. Donich, General Counsel (teleconference)

Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was led by Director Shaw.

1. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Special Calendar

There were no Special Calendar matters.

Consent Calendar (Items 2 through 7)

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Immediate Past Chairman MacDonald, seconded by Director Strong, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 11-0, to approve the minutes of the LOSSAN Agency Board of Directors meeting of February 18, 2020.

3. Fiscal Year 2019-20 Second Quarter Budget Status Report

A motion was made by Immediate Past Chairman MacDonald, seconded by Director Strong, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 11-0, to receive and file as an information item.

4. Pacific Surfliner Marketing Update

A motion was made by Immediate Past Chairman MacDonald, seconded by Director Strong, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 11-0, to receive and file as an information item.

5. Amendment to the Federal Fiscal Year 2019-20 Operating Agreement with Amtrak for Pacific Surfliner Intercity Passenger Rail Service

A motion was made by Immediate Past Chairman MacDonald, seconded by Director Strong, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 11-0, to:

- A. Authorize the Managing Director to amend the Amtrak operating agreement for federal fiscal year 2019-20 for business class equipment enhancements in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.
- B. Authorize the Managing Director to execute all funding agreements necessary for business class equipment enhancements.

6. Agreement for Pacific Surfliner Digital Marketing Services

A motion was made by Immediate Past Chairman MacDonald, seconded by Director Strong, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 11-0, to:

- A. Approve the selection of GoSeeTell Network, doing business as Sparkloft Media to provide digital marketing services for the Pacific Surfliner marketing program.
- B. Authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Agreement No. L-0-0001 between the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency and GoSeeTell Network, doing business as Sparkloft Media, in the amount of \$198,000, to provide digital marketing services for the Pacific Surfliner marketing program for a one-year term.

7. Amendment to Cooperative Agreement No. L-9-0005 for the Rail 2 Rail Program with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation

A motion was made by Immediate Past Chairman MacDonald, seconded by Director Strong, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 11-0, to:

- A. Authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. L-9-0005 between the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency, Southern California Regional Rail Authority, and National Railroad Passenger Corporation to continue the Rail 2 Rail program for a term of three months through September 30, 2020 and to maintain the maximum obligation of \$2,400,000.
- B. Direct the Managing Director to continue to work with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority and National Railroad Passenger Corporation to pursue an alternate program to facilitate cost-sharing of the Rail 2 Rail program with passengers.

Regular Calendar

8. **Final Approval of the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency Business Plan Submittal for Fiscal Years 2020-21 and 2021-22**

Roger M. Lopez, Manager of Planning & Analysis, provided background and an overview for this item of the following:

- The final draft of the LOSSAN Agency's annual business plan is ready for submittal for fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22 to the Secretary of the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA).
- Key assumptions for the business plan include staffing levels, projections on ridership, revenue, and overall cost assumptions.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- Coast Rail Corridor Service Implementation Plan and Passenger Rail Improvement Study, High-Speed Rail Connection, and the impacts to the budget due to the Governors May Revised Budget.

A motion was made by Chairman Murray, seconded by Director Talamantes, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 11-0, to:

- A. Adopt the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency business plan for fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- B. Approve the staff submittal of the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency business plan for fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22 to the Secretary of the California State Transportation Agency on May 1, 2020.
- C. Direct staff to return to the Board of Directors in September 2020 with an updated business plan that includes revised budget assumptions consistent with the revenue and expense estimates provided by Amtrak for federal fiscal year 2020-21.

9. 2020 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program Grant Award Authorization

James D. Campbell, Manager of Programs, provided an overview of the item as follows:

- CalSTA issued a call for projects for the 2020 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP).
- The LOSSAN Agency submitted an application requesting a total of \$80 million in grant funding, and was awarded \$38.7 million.
- Two of the LOSSAN Agency's member agencies were successful in receiving 2020 TIRCP grant funding totaling \$119 million.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- Funding application for the Moorpark Right-of-Way Study, identifying funding sources, coordination with San Luis Obispo Council of Governments and Coast Rail Coordinating Council.
- The design and construction of Phase 1 San Diego County Maintenance and Layover Facility will support service expansion and enhancement goals.
- North County Transit District is working with stakeholders to fund a program of projects that will support passenger service extensions.

A motion was made by Immediate Past Chairman MacDonald, seconded by Director Strong, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 11-0, to authorize the Managing Director to accept \$38.7 million in 2020 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program grant funds and to negotiate and execute all necessary agreements with the California Department of Transportation and California State Transportation Agency.

Discussion Items

10. COVID-19 Impacts on Ridership and Revenues and the CARES Act

Donna DeMartino, Managing Director (MD), provided opening comments and introduced Roger M. Lopez, Manager of Planning and Analysis and Jason Jewel, Finance and Administration Manager, who provided a PowerPoint presentation on the following:

- Daily Ridership Trend;
- Good News – Supporting our Communities;
- Good News – Endpoint On-Time Performance Improvements;
- Looking Ahead;
- Amtrak Operating Costs;
- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Funding;
- Summary; and
- Questions.

10. (Continued)

A discussion ensued regarding:

- Chairman Murray thanked staff for all their outstanding work to support the LOSSAN Corridor, and the 50,000 meals donated to the communities hardest hit by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

11. COVID-19 Impacts on Marketing and Communications

Donna DeMartino/Emilia Doerr

Donna DeMartino, (MD), provided opening comments and introduced Emilia Doerr, Marketing & Communications Officer, who provided an overview of the item as follows:

- Performance Summary;
- March Ridership Decline Due to Travel Restrictions & Service Reductions;
- Year-Over-Year Performance;
- Novel Coronavirus Response;
- PacificSurfliner.com;
- Passenger Communications;
- Essential Service Campaign;
- Information Broadcast Spots;
- Community Partnerships;
- Public Relations;
- Social Media Virtual Experiences;
- Branded Backgrounds for Video Calls; and
- Looking Agenda.

12. Managing Director's Report

Mrs. DeMartino, MD, provided comments as follows:

- CalSTA received 45 applications for the 2020 TIRCP Funding, 17 received funding, LOSSAN Agency received the fifth largest grant awarded.
- Update regarding the "Work from Home" Program.
- Plan to resume service to San Luis Obispo on June 1st. Services were suspended when the shelter-in-place were enacted.
- Provided an update on the 100-day plan and the required modifications to the plan, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Acknowledged and thanked the LOSSAN Agency team for their knowledge, critical thinking, analytic skills, quality of their work product, and commitment.
- Acknowledged Jennifer L. Bergener, Immediate Past, MD, for her support in helping navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic.

12. (Continued)

- Discussion was held regarding social distancing requirements, enforcing distancing, and addressing safety concerns.
- Amtrak enhancing cleaning protocols.
- Requiring riders to wear a mask onboard the train.
- Moving forward, only selling no more than 50 percent capacity to maintain social distancing.
- Provide disinfecting wipes to riders, and Amtrak is also providing masks to individuals boarding without a mask.

Director Strong complimented Ms. DeMartino for her work.

Ex-Officio Member Smith thanked Ms. DeMartino on behalf of Amtrak.

13. Board Members' Report

- Vice Chairman Reed concurred with all the comments provided by the Board.
- Immediate Past Chairman MacDonald complimented the staff and Board Members for all their efforts.
- Director Talamantes stated he is looking forward to meeting with Ms. DeMartino and thanked staff for their presentations.
- Director Edson echoed the positive comments from the Board, and thanked Jennifer L. Bergener, Immediate Past MD for her leadership.
- Director Haviland stated the San Diego Association of Governments is working on short-term and long-term solutions for railroad operations through the City of Del Mar. Looking to secure \$100 million for stabilization efforts, started construction on the Phase 4, and grant applications pending for federal funds for Phase 5. Starting a preliminary engineering study for long-term realignment, studying potential tunnel alternatives, and concluded with a request to add a future agenda item for Board discussion on the topic, and consideration of support from the Board.
- Director Edson expressed her support for Director Haviland's request.
- Director Strong expressed his support for Director Haviland's request and added that he has been in contact with the owners of freight rails and they should be included in the conversation.
- Chairman Murray thanked the Board for their participation and comments during these challenging times, as well as thanked Ms. DeMartino and staff for their efforts and communication.



MINUTES

Board of Directors' Meeting

14. Closed Session

There was no Closed Session scheduled.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Board will be held:

Monday, June 15, 2020

11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters

Board Room - Conference Room 07-08

550 South Main Street

Orange, California

ATTEST:

Martha M. Ochoa
LOSSAN Agency
Clerk of the Board

Al Murray
LOSSAN Agency Chairman