



# MINUTES

*Board of Directors' Meeting*

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## Call to Order

The September 21, 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 11:16 a.m. at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, Board Room – Conference Room 07-08, 550 South Main Street, Orange, California.

## Roll Call

The Clerk of the Board (COB) conducted an attendance Roll Call and announced there was quorum of the Board of Directors (Board) as follows:

Directors Present: Al Murray, Chairman  
Tim Shaw, OCTA

### ***Via teleconference:***

Dana Reed, Vice Chairman  
Jewel Edson, NCTD  
John Fasana, Metro  
Caylin Frank, SDMTS  
Gregg Hart, SBCAG  
Ellie Haviland, SANDAG  
Bryan MacDonald, Immediate Past Chairman, VCTC  
Jess Talamantes, Metro  
Kyle Gradinger, Caltrans, Ex-Officio  
Tamika Smith, Amtrak, Ex-Officio

Directors Absent: Fred Strong, SLOCOG

Staff Present: Jennifer L. Bergener, Immediate Past Managing Director  
Donna DeMartino, Managing Director  
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 Chairman Murray.

### **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 Director Fasana, seconded by Director Talamantes, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 10-0, to approve the minutes of the LOSSAN Agency Board of Directors meeting of June 15, 2020.

### **3. Amendment to Agreement for Pacific Surfliner Creative Services**

A motion was made by Director Fasana, seconded by Director Talamantes, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 10-0, to authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Agreement No. 1 to Agreement No. L-9-0013 between the Los Angeles – San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency and Pastilla, Inc., to exercise the first option term of the agreement effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022, in the amount of \$500,000, to provide creative services for the Pacific Surfliner marketing program. This will increase the maximum obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$900,000.

### **4. Amendment to Agreement for Pacific Surfliner Videographer and Photographer Services**

A motion was made by Director Fasana, seconded by Director Talamantes, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 10-0, to authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. L-9-0015 between the Los Angeles – San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency and Goal Productions, Inc., to exercise the first option term of the agreement, in the amount of \$600,000, to provide videography and photography services for the Pacific Surfliner marketing program. This will increase the maximum obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$900,000.

**5. 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 Director Fasana, seconded by Director Talamantes, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 10-0, to authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 2 to Cooperative 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 extend the contract term for a period of nine months through June 30, 2021, and increase the total contract value in the amount of \$1,854,000, for a total contract value of up to \$4,254,000.

**6. Amendment to Agreement No. L-0-0006 with the Union Pacific Railroad for the Passenger Rail Service Enhancement and Infrastructure Improvements to Implement Two Additional Passenger Train Pairs**

A motion was made by Director Fasana, seconded by Director Talamantes, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 10-0, to authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 1 to agreement No. L-0-0006 between the Los Angeles – San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency and Union Pacific Railroad to reflect an effective date of December 1, 2019.

**7. Amendment to Cooperative Agreement No. L-8-0013 for the Rail 2 Rail Program with the North County Transit District and National Railroad Passenger Corporation**

A motion was made by Director Fasana, seconded by Director Talamantes, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 10-0, to authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to Cooperative Agreement No. L-8-0013 between the Los Angeles - San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency, the North County Transit District, and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation to extend the term of the agreement for an additional nine months, through June 30, 2021.

## **Regular Calendar**

**8. Update on the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency Business Plan and Operational Budget for Fiscal Years 2020-21 and 2021-22**

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

- Update on the LOSSAN Agency business plan and operating budget, and the impacts by coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
- Estimated revenue, revised operating costs, projections, and cost saving measures.

## 8. (Continued)

A motion was made by Chairman Murray, seconded by Director Shaw, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 10-0, to direct staff to return to the Board of Directors in November 2020 with a revised operating budget consistent with the revenue and expense estimates provided by Amtrak for federal fiscal year 2020-21.

## Discussion Items

### 9. Update on Capital Projects along the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor in San Diego County

Emilia Doerr, Marketing and Communications Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the following:

- Performance Summary;
- Year-Over-Year Performance;
- Future Outlook;
- Marketing & Communications Response and Re-entry Phases;
- Communications Milestones;
- Align Marketing with Service Levels;
- Health and Safety Campaign;
- Bridge Campaign: Reconnecting You; and
- Looking Ahead.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- Applaud the good efforts and rewards of promoting the health and safety campaign.
- Updating in real-time the website with the current schedules and updates.

## **10. Update on Capital Projects Along the North End of the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor**

James D. Campbell, Manager of Programs, provided opening comments and introduced:

- Jeanet Owens, Senior Executive Officer for Project Management and Regional Rail, and Will Ridder, Executive Officer for State/Federal Policy and Programming from Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority;
- Justin Fornelli, Chief of Program Delivery, and Colm McKenna, Senior Railroad Civil Engineer from Metrolink; and
- Adrian Guerrero, General Director for Public Affairs, and Victor Stone, Network Planning & Operations from Union Pacific.

Ms. Owens and Mr. Ridder co-presented a PowerPoint presentation on the following:

- Link Union Station (Link US) Project Video;
- Union Station – The Link to Southern California;
- Los Angeles Union Station Today;
- Regional Rail Network Integration;
- Link US Project Anticipated Benefits;
- Link US Project Overview – Regional Rail to Los Angeles Union Station;
- Link US Project Overview – One Seat Ride Benefits to LOSSAN;
- Link US Project Overview (Phases A & B);
- Link US Phase A (Funded);
- Link US Phase B (Not Funded);
- Phase B – High-Speed Rail Accommodation;
- Link US Funding Plan (Phase A);
- Link US Phase A Project – Area 3 – Run-through Track Structure South of Union Station;
- Link US Phase A Project – Area 4 – Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Yard – Project Elements;
- Link US Project and BNSF Malabar Yard; and
- Link US Construction Manager General Contractor Procurement Timeline.

Mr. Fornelli and Mr. McKenna co-presented a PowerPoint presentation on the following:

- Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) Phase 1;
- SCORE Phase 1 Benefits;
- SCORE Timeline;
- Link US and Rail Yard Rehabilitation and Modernization Project;
- Burbank to Los Angeles Signal Improvements;

## 10. (Continued)

- Burbank Junction Speed Improvements;
- Chatsworth Station Improvements;
- Simi Valley Second Track and Platform; and
- Metrolink Community Contacts.

Mr. Guerrero and Mr. Stone co-presented a PowerPoint presentation on the following:

- LOSSAN Union Pacific 2020 agreement;
- Santa Barbara Subdivision – Projects Overview;
- Engineering Projects;
- Bridge Upgrades;
- Narlon Bridge Location;
- Honda Bridge Location;
- Rail & Ties Renewal;
- Safety Improvements;
- Capacity & Infrastructure Projects;
- Santa Barbara Subdivision north – Control Train Components key sidings;
- Capacity analysis;
- Surfliner Layover Facilities; and
- Questions.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- The Board thanked all the presenters for their efforts, participation, and commented on the collaborative cooperation amongst all of the agencies.
- Run-through capability in San Bernardino, and the Link US project.

## 11. Managing Director's Report

Donna DeMartino, Managing Director (MD), provided comments as follows:

- September is Rail and Safety Month -
  - LOSSAN staff members showed support by wearing red shirts for their online staff meeting.
  - Marketing and Communication staff created a photo collage and added the message "We Wear Red to Support Rail Safety Awareness".

## 11. (Continued)

- CBS News 8 Coverage –
  - The news reporter incorporated information provided by the marketing team and was accompanied on board with the cameraman, and Jay Ellis, Operations Compliance and Safety Manager.
  - Ms. DeMartino, MD added meeting up with the team at the Oceanside station, where the cameraman was feeling so comfortable riding the train that he stated that he was going to go home and tell his mom she should be riding the train as well.
- Amtrak Accounting Error -
  - Ms. DeMartino, MD acknowledge LOSSAN staff Jason Jewel, Finance and Administration Manager, and Nereida Villasenor, Account Analyst Senior, for their good work in identifying an accounting error from Amtrak that resulted in a \$6.2 million credit for LOSSAN.
- COVID-19 Update –
  - Working very closely with California State Transportation, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and Amtrak to identify ways to contain and reduce operating costs.
  - Continue to provide service to the passengers and to the communities who rely on the service.
  - Acknowledged and thanked LOSSAN representatives from Caltrans, Kyle Grading, and Tamika Smith for rolling up their sleeves and working with LOSSAN staff to navigate through these unprecedented times.
  - Thanked all the speakers and the Board for their participation in today's exciting meeting.

## 12. Board Members' Report

- Vice Chairman Reed stated what a great meeting, great presentations, very informative, and thanked staff and participants.
- Director Fasana echoed comments by LOSSAN Directors and the presenting agencies. The information was vital in terms of understanding the opportunities to really improve service on the corridor.
- Director Hart echoed LOSSAN Board colleagues' comments, informative meeting, and appreciated all the collaborative work by the different agencies to demonstrate all the projects that are going forward in the corridor
- Director Havilland reiterated that it was a great meeting, wonderful presentations, learned a lot, and thanked everyone for all their effort.
- Director Talamantes had questions in regards to the availability of Public Service Announcements from either LOSSAN, Metrolink, or Union Pacific that can be shared with Burbank's local television station to educate the public. He also requested an update regarding the two vacancies and requested staff reach out to those two organizations regarding Board participation.

## 12. (Continued)

- Ms. DeMartino responded that staff will work on providing some of the marketing materials to Director Talamantes, and added that staff will follow-up in regards to the two vacancies.
- Director Gradinger shared that from the state's perspective, the pandemic has created revenue and ridership shortfalls, and created a situation where the state has a complicated structural budget issue. He also thanked the LOSSAN team for the outstanding work that they have been doing, and the collaborative effort with Caltrans and the other Joint Powers Authorities to figure out how to continue to fund the operations.
- Director Smith echoed Director Gradinger's comments regarding working collaboratively with Caltrans staff, and thanked Jason Jewel, Finance and Administration Manager.
- Chairman Murray read a letter into the record stating United States Rail Safety Week begins today, and September is Rail Safety Month in California, he also asked the Board for their consensus on adding their names onto the letter.

## 13. Closed Session

There were no Closed Session items scheduled.

## 14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

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

**Monday, November 16, 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:

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Martha M. Ochoa  
LOSSAN Agency  
Clerk of the Board

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Al Murray  
LOSSAN Agency Chairman