

**Approved MEETING MINUTES  
OF THE BUTTE COUNTY  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
December 8, 2022**

The following minutes are a summary of actions taken by the Board of Directors. A digital recording of the actual meeting is available at BCAG's office located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico, CA.

Board Member Jones called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the BCAG Board Room, 326 Huss Drive, Suite 100, Chico, CA.

**MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON**

Kasey Reynolds (9:03 am)	Vice Mayor	City of Chico
Tami Ritter	Supervisor	District 3
Doug Teeter	Supervisor	District 5
Bill Connelly	Supervisor	District 1
Tod Kimmelshue	Supervisor	District 4
Jody Jones	Councilmember	Town of Paradise
Chuck Nuchols	Councilmember	City of Biggs
J Angel Calderon	Councilmember	City of Gridley

**MEMBERS PRESENT REMOTELY**

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Debra Lucero	Supervisor	District 2
Chuck Reynolds	Mayor	City of Oroville

**STAFF PRESENT**

Jon Clark	Executive Director
Andy Newsum	Deputy Director
Cheryl Massae	Human Resources Director
Ivan Garcia	Programming Director
Victoria Proctor	Assistant Planner
Amy White	Assistant Planner
Chris Devine	Planning Director
Brian Lasagna	Regional Analyst

**OTHERS PRESENT**

John Stonebraker  
Adekemi Ademyeno

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Roll Call**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

3. Approval of Minutes from the October 27, 2022 BCAG Board of Directors Meeting
4. Approval of Resolution 2022/23-06 Accepting Full Allocation of Regional Early Action Planning Grant

On motion by Board Member Kimmelshue and seconded by Board Member Teeter, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

### **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

#### **5: Public Hearing to Receive Testimony on Unmet Transit Needs for the Butte Regional Transit System.**

Staff requested a public hearing regarding Unmet Transit Needs (UTN) in Butte County. There is an outreach period of 30 days that allows the public to provide input in person or via mail, email, phone, as well as an online comment form on the B-Line web page. The 30-day period began on October 27, 2022 and was promoted in local newspapers, on social media, on all our fixed route and paratransit buses, and via targeted email to our contact lists for transit and social services interests.

Staff informed the Board that the purpose of this process is to ensure all unmet transit needs, that are reasonable to meet, are met before funds are expended for non-transit uses. All testimony that is obtained is analyzed to determine if there are any transit needs that meet the adopted definitions of “Unmet Transit Needs” and “Reasonable to Meet”. This analysis report, called the Transit Needs Assessment, is reviewed by the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC), which provides a recommendation for Unmet Transit Needs Findings to the BCAG Board of Directors.

Staff requested the Board open the public hearing to obtain testimony on any unmet transit needs. There was public comment regarding receiving services in Sterling City, and from Magalia to Oroville.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**6: Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Program Update**

Staff updated the Board on the progress of the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Program. The NEMT, Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Program, was completed by BCAG in FY 2021/22 with the help of consultants at AMMA.

The Needs and Alternatives Report, AMMA's final assessment, identified two potential starting points for Non-Emergency Medical services. Those being, 1.) Expanding paratransit services within North and South Butte County, and 2.) A mileage reimbursement program for volunteer drivers for residents outside the existing B-Line service area.

BCAG staff believes a scaled approach to offering Non-Emergency Medical Transportation is necessary to gauge need, efficiency, and available funding levels. This service would offer access to those who are currently within the B-Line Paratransit core ADA zone, who are eligible for Dial-A-Ride or ADA Paratransit, and who have medical appointments outside their home community.

Service would start in northern Butte County connecting Magalia, Paradise, and Chico: and one in Southern Butte County connecting Biggs, Gridley, Palermo, Thermalito, and Oroville.

Staff is currently investigating what technological services are available to fully support all areas of operations for these services.

This item was presented for information purposes.

**7: Butte Regional Transit (B-Line) Quarter 2022/23 Report**

Staff presented the Board with key financial and statistical results for Butte Regional Transit (B-Line) for the first quarter of fiscal year 2022/23.

The Board was presented with a table summarizing key financial and operational results for Butte Regional Transit. The financial data compares first quarter results to the annual budget and to the prior year. Operational data represents a performance-based assessment in comparison to the same quarter of the prior fiscal year.

The comparison presented to the Board are to the previous fiscal year, which saw dramatic increases in ridership as we recovered from the height of COVID-19 pandemic in fiscal year 2020/21. Fiscal year 2021/22 saw increase in ridership as the county moved away from shelter in place. The system as a whole, however, is still well below pre-pandemic ridership levels.

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The paratransit modes are showing far less fluctuations than the fixed route modes. It is unknown what level of additional recovery we can expect from these modes of transit in the coming year.

This item was presented for information purposes.

**ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

**8: Members of the public may present items to the BCAG Board of Directors, but no action will be taken other than placement on a future agenda.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items to discuss, the BCAG Board meeting adjourned at 9:26 AM.

**Attest:**

*Jon Clark, Executive Director*

*Ashley Carriere, Board Clerk*

*Butte County Association of Governments*