



**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
OF THE BUTTE COUNTY
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
DECEMBER 7, 2023**

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 Reynolds 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

Tami Ritter	Supervisor	District 3
Doug Teeter	Supervisor	District 5
David Pittman	Mayor	City of Oroville
Kasey Reynolds	Vice Mayor	City of Chico
Peter Durfee	Supervisor	District 2
J Angel Calderon	Councilmember	City of Gridley
Chuck Nuchols	Councilmember	City of Biggs
Ton Lassonde	Alternate-Non-Voting	Town of Paradise

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bill Connelly	Supervisor	District 1
Tod Kimmelshue	Supervisor	District 4
Rose Tryon	Vice Mayor	Town of Paradise

STAFF PRESENT

Jon Clark	Executive Director
Andy Newsum	Deputy Director
Cheryl Massae	Human Resources Director
Amy White	Assistant Planner
Ashley Carriere	Administrative Assistant
Sara Cain	Transit Manager
Ivan Garcia	Programming Director
Chris Devine	Planning Director
Victoria Proctor	Associate Planner
Mike Garzoli	Facilities Maintenance Manager
Julie Quinn	Chief Fiscal Officer

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OTHERS PRESENT

Michael Hanebutt

Bill Smith

Lance Atencio

Gabriela Montes

Jim Peplow

Mary Clark

Kendra Clark

SJRRC/SJJPA

Transdev

Transdev

Transdev

Retired, BCAG

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

CONSENT AGENDA

3. Approval of Minutes from the October 26, 2023 BCAG Board of Directors Meeting

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

ITEMS FOR ACTION

4: 2024 Unmet Transit Needs Process Butte Regional Transit-Public Hearing

As the administrator of Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds for Butte County, BCAG is required to perform the annual Unmet Transit Needs process. This process requires at least one public hearing.

Butte County's Unmet Transit Needs process involves a thirty-day outreach period that allows the public to provide input in person or via e-mail, phone, mail, or an online comment form.

BCAG held a public hearing before the BCAG Board of Directors as the outreach period was completed. This hearing allowed for testimony on perceived unmet transit needs, that may have been reasonable to meet.

The thirty-day outreach period began on October 26, 2023. The outreach period and final public hearing was promoted in local newspapers, on social media, on all our fixed route and paratransit buses, and via targeted e-mail.

Staff requested the Board open the public hearing to obtain testimony on any unmet transit needs. The Board Vice Chair opened the public hearing and there was no public comment. The public hearing was closed.

5: Approval of 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) for Butte County

BCAG was required to prepare and adopt a Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) by December 15, 2023.

The Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) is in place to identify programming recommendations for the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

BCAG staff requested project nominations from member jurisdictions for consideration in the 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) with a funding target of \$8.4 million. Staff received eight project submittals totaling over \$20 million and have reviewed each of the projects.

Staff presented the Board with tables identifying the 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) recommendations.

The projects recommended for programming meet the requirements identified in the 2024 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) guidelines and are in alignment with the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) adopted by California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) in July 2021 and consistent with BCAG'S Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)/Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS).

Staff requested the Board open the public hearing to solicit final comments. The Board Vice Chair opened the public hearing and there was no public comment. The public hearing was closed. There were no public comments.

On motion by Board Member Ritter and seconded by Board Member Durfee, approval of 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) for Butte County was unanimously approved.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6: Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program Update

BCAG staff informed the Board that BCAG is able to program new Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) Projects for programming consideration.

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The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) created the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) to provide federal funding to projects that decrease transportation emissions.

Caltrans indicated that their Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds will be programmed through the State Highways Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) on projects that convert existing lanes to priced managed lanes.

Staff recommended the Carbon Reduction Program (DRP) fund be used to fund City of Chico's Downtown Complete Streets projects and the Biggs, County and Oroville projects be funded with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program funds. BCAG staff requested an extension on the call-for-projects until December 31, 2023, to enable local jurisdictions to update and/or modify their request for funding.

7: North Valley Passenger Rail Strategic Plan Update

BCAG received \$500,000 in grant funding from Caltrans in 2021 to study expanding passenger rail service northward from Sacramento area to Butte County and study is nearing completion.

Staff informed the Board that the first draft of the North Valley Passenger Rail Strategic Plan document has been completed and is under review by the Project Development Team.

The Project Development Team had until mid-December 2023 to submit comments after which a second draft document will be prepared. The second draft version of the plan was available for review through January 2024, and a final version will be completed and presented to the BCAG Board at the February 2024 meeting.

A community workshop was scheduled for Wednesday, December 13th at 5:00 P.M. The main purpose of the workshop was to provide community members with an overview of the draft strategic plan, answer questions, and receive any early feedback or comments.

8: Butte Regional Transit First Quarter 2023/24 Report

Staff presented key financial and statistical results for Butte Regional Transit for the first quarter of 2023/24.

BCAG Staff has been engaging in ongoing outreach throughout the region in an effort to promote B-Line's services and technologies that are in place.

Several operational changes have been made to meet rider needs. Such as the Fare structure being simplified as recommended from the recent B-Line Routing Study.

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Staff informed the Board regarding route changes that better align service with the new location of the Jesus Center, the fairgrounds, and the new development taking place along that road.

A graph was presented to show the breakdown of ridership for four different areas in the past two fiscal years.

Rural Fixed Route fares are 11.04% of operating costs for the quarter. Ridership for the quarter was up 1.2% from the prior year.

Urban Fixed Route fares are 10.72% for the quarter compared to operating costs. Ridership is up 32.8% compared to the prior year quarter.

Rural Paratransit fares are 7.03% for the quarter compared to operating costs. Ridership is up 13.2%.

Urban Paratransit fares are 9.4% of operating costs. Ridership is up 7.8% for the quarter.

Overall, there were two preventable accidents in the quarter.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

9: 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.

There were no items from the floor.

CLOSED SESSION

The BCAG Board went into Closed Session for the Executive Director Public Employee Contract. The Executive Director Public Employee contract was accepted and approved for Andy Newsum. (Government Code 54957)

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, the BCAG Board meeting adjourned at 9:56 AM.

A presentation was given in honor of Jon Clark, his retirement and for his accomplishments after having established BCAG and serving as the BCAG Executive Director for nearly 31 years.

Attest:

Jon Clark, Executive Director

Ashley Carriere, Board Clerk

Butte County Association of Governments