



**INYO COUNTY  
LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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



Clint Quilter, Executive Director

**MINUTES**

**INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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

**November 19, 2014**

**9:02 a.m.** Doug Thompson called the meeting to order.

**ITEM NO. 1** Roll Call

**Commissioners Present:**

Bob Kimball  
Doug Thompson  
Jim Ellis  
Laura Smith  
Mark Tillemans  
Matt Kingsley

**Others Present:**

Ryan Dermody, Caltrans  
Dennee Alcala, Caltrans  
Jill Batchelder, ESTA  
Beth Himelhoch, IMAH  
Michael Beauchamp, Caltrans  
Courtney Smith, Inyo County  
Denise Hayden, Inyo County

**ITEM NO. 2:** Public Comment

None

**ACTION ITEMS**

**ITEM NO. 3:** Secretary of the Local Transportation Commission – Request approval of the minutes of the meeting of August 20, 2014.

Motion: moved by Bob Kimball, to approve the minutes, seconded by Matt Kingsley, Commissioner Mark Tillemans abstaining. Motion carried 5-0-1.

**ITEM NO. 4:** Request Commission Approve Resolution No. 2014-17 allocating \$17,394.96 of TEA Exchange funds to the County of Inyo for work related to the environmental component of the See Vee Lane Extension STIP project.

This TEA exchange account came about at the end of the ICETEA exchange. The LTC received \$759,000.00 and can allocate those funds for transportation related projects. In March 2005 the LTC gave some general directions for the uses of the types of projects that these funds would be used for. At the time it was thought that the funds would be used for components of projects where funds could not be identified elsewhere, especially in initiating projects. In the past LTC has allocated TEA Exchange funds to a list of projects and some of these allocations never came forward because the grant wasn't realized. The City of Bishop and the County of Inyo have taken advantage of these funds with the Sabrina Bridge match, the Easter Sierra Institute for Collaborative Education audio tour, the Home Street improvements, Lone Pine Heritage Trout feasibility study, Home Street Rehab, ESTA Bus floating loan, Pine to Park Path, Ed Powers BTA match (never realized). With this project the See Vee Lane project was a project that was originally programed in the 2006 STIP augmentation and the program didn't seem to be a high priority for the County. Finally the environmental got off of the ground and when it got off of the ground the CTC denied the time extension. The County had prepared for a public hearing on the project and was finally moving on the environmental project and the CTC cut off the funding. The County continued to work on the project and as a result of the public meetings was to not proceed with the project but the County did get some resolution with respect to what it was doing with the project and here is part of it that we are asking for you to approve Resolution. Also in front of you is the TEA exchange application, the funds would be for the consultant that held the public meeting, and also for County staff time. The Staff recommends that you approve the Resolution.

Motion: moved by Matt Kingsley to approve the Resolution 2014-17 allocating \$17,394.96 of TEA exchange funds to the County of Inyo; seconded by Laura Smith. Carried 6-0

**ITEM NO. 5:** Request Commission approve Resolution No. 2014-18 amending the Overall Work Program to reflect the carryover of \$1,309.87 from FY 2013-2014 to FY 2014-2015.

A couple of years ago, the guidelines that were published by Caltrans and the Regional Planning handbook were amended where Rural Planning Assistance funds could be carried over for one fiscal year up to 25% of the funds. Of the \$216,000.00 that was allocated in FY 2013-2014, there was \$1,300.00 that was unexpended. There was also an additional \$3,000.00 that was carried over from the previous year. This is a procedural process to make sure that we can use all of the funds available.

Motion: moved by Laura Smith to approve Resolution No. 2014-18 amending the Overall Work Program to reflect the carryover of funds, seconded by Mark Tillemans. Carried 6-0

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**ITEM NO. 6:** Request Commission receive and discuss the fourth quarter invoice of Rural Planning Assistance funds in Fiscal Year 2013-2014.

We provide the quarterly invoices for your Commissions information and basically the 2012-2013 into 2013-2014 the LTC carried over \$53,000.00. In 2012-2013 the LTC was under expending some of its funds. In 2013-2014 the LTC came in just about right so it all balanced out. This also provides information on the three major funding types; the Rural Planning Assistance; the Transportation Development Act; LTF funds, which the LTC takes an administrative percentage and allocates the rest to eligible transit claimants such as ESTA and then also the planning programming and monitoring funds. This is purely an information item that clearly reflects that the expenditures match the funds available from the last year and we hope that will continue into the next year.

Now with the LTC being fully staffed, with the Interim Director we were unable in the past to bill the Rural Planning Assistance funds to cover a portion of the staff time because of the nature of the contract that the County had with him so now we are fully expending funds and that's what we want to do.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**ITEM NO. 7:** ESTA Report – Quarterly Operating Report from July through September 2014.

Jill Batchelder reported during the July through September period they provided 17,000 passenger trips just within Inyo County. The passenger trips were up slightly from this same period last year. When you look at the per route passenger figures we are meeting all of the requirements for the short term transit plan range with the exception of the Lone Pine Dial-A-Ride and Tecopa to Pahrump ride. Tecopa is one of those areas that is difficult to meet those goals. Lone Pine Dial-A-Ride they are

hoping to see the trend move upward. They ran out of senior passes and were in the process of getting additional passes for the seniors in that area, so they are hoping to see the trends moving back upwards again.

Ridership comparison, all of the routes with the exception of the Lone Pine to Bishop, Tecopa and Night Rider were actually trending up compared to the previous quarter.

Revenues, there was over \$106,000.00 received in passenger fares over the quarter and the overall fare box was up close to 24.5%.

**ITEM NO. 8:** Tribal Report - None

**ITEM NO. 9:** Caltrans Report – Caltrans Quarter Project Status Report

Ryan Dermoday, reported that Katy Walton, previous Caltrans employee, her husband Don passed away this past Sunday. Don was also a Caltrans employee. Ryan offered to provide the Walton's address to anyone wishing to send a card.

Ryan indicated that Tom Hallenbeck, former District 9 Director who took a position in Sacramento after spending 17 years in Bishop. The new interim Director is Mike Beauchamp. Mike is a graduate of Michigan State University.

Mike introduced himself and said that he will be in this position until it is permanently filled. He was originally from small town in Michigan and was in Southern California for 31 years. Getting up to Bishop has brought him back to his childhood years, beautiful country and great quality of life. Been with Caltrans over 31 years working mostly in construction and design. He is looking forward to working with the Commission.

Ryan introduced Dennee to deliver the remainder of the Caltrans Report. In the packets are the updates on the current projects. Dennee opened up the discussion to the Commission if there were any questions. She will provide Denise, LTC secretary the project manager's contact information any questions that anyone might have. Those contacts are Cedrick Zemitis (760) 872-5250 and Brian McElwain (760) 872-4361.

Dennee continued with the current road closures which are 120 and 108. Those are subject to close due to the weather conditions and will reopen when the weather clears. These are not winter closures at this time.

Dennee offered a congratulations to Inyo County as well as the City of Bishop for submitting their applications on time for the Sustainable Communities grant and that is for the North Sierra Highway Sustainable Highway plan. Caltrans submitted letters of support for both. They are looking forward to December and January they will be receiving Caltrans reviews on these within the District and in the Headquarters office. There are actually Headquarter Grant Committees what review these and in February they will make their recommendation as to what grants should move forward. In March 2015 they will send out preliminary notification letters to all applicants that applied.

It was brought up at the August meeting that the Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan which is one of their many, many plans with ties into their California Transportation Plan. It was brought up that Hwy 395 and Hwy 14 both have a focus route name given to them which gives them a leg up when they go for funding for projects along the corridors. Caltrans did hear that this classification might be in jeopardy because they are adding more rail in the intercities so they were maybe looking to pull that designation from different areas throughout the state. So, District 9 got busy and put together their gloves on and gave Caltrans good reason not to pull the funding because these are vital routes. Not only the areas that they connect within the State but to the people in the communities on the corridors as well. The last that District 9 has heard is that they are leaving our area alone for now but this is still in a draft stage. If they hear that things are changing then they might come to the Commission and the City of Bishop for letters of support.

In January there will be the first view of the draft of the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITSP). They will be taking from January to April for public comment on this draft. There is a website for project updates and general information: [www.caltrans-itsp2015.org](http://www.caltrans-itsp2015.org). To join the ITSP email list, please send an email to [HQ.System.Planning@dot.ca.gov](mailto:HQ.System.Planning@dot.ca.gov).

**ITEM NO. 10:** City of Bishop Report

Dave Grah,

**ITEM 11:** Executive Director's Report

**ITEM 12:** Reports from all members of the Inyo County LTC

Bob Kimball:

Doug Thompson:

Jim Ellis:

Matt Kingsley:

Laura Smith:

Mark Tillemans:

**ITEM 13`:**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Doug Thompson adjourned the meeting at 9:45 AM

The next LTC meeting is scheduled to be held on December 17, 2014 in Bishop at the Bishop City Council Chambers.

Attest:

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Clint Quilter  
Executive Director

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By Denise Hayden, Secretary