

FINAL

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF
ECO-RAPID TRANSIT/ORANGELINE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
March 23, 2023
Teleconference Meeting via Zoom or by Phone**

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM Pacific Standard Time. A quorum (7 voting members out of 12 filled seats) was reached; thus, action items were taken by the Board.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Macias (Huntington Park) led the assembly in the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Voting Board of Directors were present (listed by agency and position on the Board):

1. City of Cudahy – Hon. Jose R. Gonzalez, Vice Chair
2. County of Los Angeles Supervisor Hahn’s Office – Luke Klipp, Director
3. City of Bell Gardens – Hon. Alejandra Cortez, Director
4. City of Huntington Park – Hon. Karina Macias, Director
5. City of Maywood - Ms. Angelina Martinez, Director
6. City of Paramount – Hon. Isabel Aguayo, Treasurer
7. City of South Gate – Hon. Maria Davila, Director

Eco-Rapid Transit Staff:

8. Eric Shen, Executive Director
9. Thais Alves, Deputy General Counsel
10. Kathryn Morrison, Administrative Services Manager

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No written public comments were received prior to the meeting. Vice Chair Gonzalez opened the meeting to public comments via Zoom.

Kaaren-Lyn Graves, Project Director at the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, offered their thanks to Executive Director Shen and Administrative Services Manager Kathryn Morrison of Eco-Rapid Transit for meeting with them.

No further comments were received.

ITEM 5 – CONSENT CALENDAR

No written public comments were received prior to the meeting. No additional public comments were received during the meeting.

- a) **Approval of Minutes of February 8, 2023**
- b) **Teleconferencing Legislation: AB 361 and Resolution 2023-03 of the EcoRapid Transit Authority Board of Directors Authorizing Remote Teleconferencing Meetings of the Eco-Rapid Transit Board of Directors Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) for the Continuance of Virtual Meetings and Teleconference as the County of Los Angeles is Under Certain Emergency Orders and Still Promotes Social Distancing and the Use of Face Mask**

MOTION: Board Director Macias (Huntington Park) moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Davila (South Gate) seconded the motion. The item was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

ITEM 6 – TREASURER’S REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 2023, WARRANT REGISTER DATED FEBRUARY 8, 2023

Recommended Action: Approve Treasurer’s Report and Warrant Register, defer all other payments pending available funding.

No written public comments were received prior to the meeting. No additional public comments were received during the meeting.

Executive Director Shen proceeded with a report and recommendation. Staff recommended to the Board to approve Treasurer’s Report and Warrant Register and to defer payments pending available funding. Funds were insufficient to pay December 2022 employee salaries, January invoices, and February invoices. Advanced membership payments were received from Cerritos, South Gate, Hollywood-Burbank Airport Authority, and Bell. Staff to issue payments for January invoices and salaries with Board approval. The combined Warrant Register for February and March 2023 to be presented for approval on April 12, 2023. Future invoices expected to be paid timely by the end of April.

Vice Chair Gonzalez opened the meeting to comments and questions. Director Klipp (LA County) inquired for clarification on that payment deferment was included in the motion. Executive Director Shen confirmed its inclusion in the action.

MOTION: Board Director Davila (South Gate) moved to approve the Item. Director Klipp (LA County) seconded the motion. The item was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

ITEM 7 – REPORT ON THE KONICA COPIER ISSUE

Recommended Action: Review findings and direct staff to take appropriate action.

No written public comments were received prior to the meeting. No additional public comments were received during the meeting.

Executive Director Shen proceeded with a report and recommendation. He provided that under the advice of General Counsel, the Authority has no legal obligation to continue paying the remaining monthly payments through August 2023 nor to inherent the machine. The Board may consider directing staff to continue monthly payments through the lease term and additional late penalties or closing costs. Costs to be added to budget deficit and paid through increased membership fees.

Deputy General Counsel Thais Alves provided further clarification on the Item. They found through past documents that ERT does not have a legal contract with Konica or Mr. Kodama for payment of the copier. The Board has historically paid for monthly invoices and not the lease for the machine. The Board may decide to pay for the remaining lease term, though the lease agreement has not been reviewed.

Director Davila (South Gate) inquired on if the machine is in use and the monthly cost of the machine. Executive Director Shen confirmed that it is not in use and provided that the monthly cost is approximately \$429. He also provided that under advice from General Counsel, monthly payments concluded December 2022. Director Davila recommended to stop payment given the budget deficit.

Director Macias (Huntington Park) also recommended to end monthly payments.

Director Martinez (Maywood) commented via chat for the funds to be used in a more efficient manner and expressed appreciation for the Board's work.

Director Davila (South Gate) asked for clarification on the recommendation. Executive Director Shen provided that there is no direct recommendation, but rather to direct staff to uphold staff position to discontinue payments starting January 2023.

MOTION: Board Director Davila (South Gate) moved to approve the motion. Director Macias (Huntington Park) seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

ITEM 8 – NEW LOGO IDEAS

Recommended Action: Review and draft logos and select a preferred design.

No written public comments were received prior to the meeting. No additional public comments were received during the meeting.

Executive Director Shen proceeded with a report and recommendation. He presented 5 new logo design ideas as a part of modernization and rebranding efforts. He noted that the logo should work in black and white tones, work in multiple sizes, and be simple, unique, and memorable.

Vice Chair Gonzalez opened the meeting to comments and questions. Director Klipp (LA County) commented on their excitement for LA County's involvement in the West Santa Ana Branch Project and noted their preference towards to the 5th design concept given the revision of the letter A.

Director Davila (South Gate) expressed her preference towards the 1st and 3rd design concepts. She also recommended that the design concepts be presented again to the entire Board.

Executive Director Shen directed the Board to further contemplate the presented designs with consideration of designer costs.

Vice Chair Gonzalez expressed that the designs should be presented again to the entire Board in the April 12th meeting and expressed thanks to the design team.

MOTION: The Item was deferred to the April 12, 2023 meeting.

ITEM 9 – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S VERBAL REPORT

Executive Director Shen presented the new web page for Eco-Rapid Transit as a part of the modernization efforts. Web content improvement, language translations, and photo and video improvements to be continued. He also apologized for the cancelling of the March 8th meeting due to technical difficulties but reassured the Board on the April 12th meeting. He welcomed feedback from the Board and presented the location of Board meeting Agendas and Meeting Minutes.

He acknowledged the Cities of Cerritos, South Gate, Bell, and the Airport Authority for responding to the advancement of membership dues. He also thanked the City of Paramount for considering the request of advanced payment at its March 28, 2023 Council meeting.

ITEM 10 – VICE CHAIR’S COMMENTS

Vice Chair Gonzalez welcomed Luke Klipp and Viviana Gomez from Supervisor Hahn’s Office to the Board of Directors. He also thanked Supervisor Hahn on her support towards rebranding the West Santa Ana Branch Project and the 3% local contribution to the implementation of the Project.

ITEM 11 – ANNOUNCEMENTS/BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Director Macias (Huntington Park) welcomed Mr. Klipp to the Board and expressed her appreciation towards the modernization efforts. She also acknowledged the work being done at Supervisor Hahn’s office in advocacy of the southeast section of the Corridor.

Next meeting to be held on April 12th, 2023. It will be a hybrid format at the Gateway City Council of Government Clearwater building.

ITEM 12 - ADJOURNMENT


The Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm Pacific Daylight Time.

Attest:

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Secretary

Approved:

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Chair