

ADVANCED TRANSIT VEHICLE CONSORTIUM

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Santa Fe Ave., MS 63-4-1,
Los Angeles, CA 90012

June 22, 2016

10:00 am

MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting ATVC Board of Directors

LACMTA Headquarters
One Gateway Plaza
3rd Floor Board Room

Called to Order at 10:08 a.m.

Directors/Alternates Present:

Dave Perry
Borja Leon
Ara Najarian

Officers

John Drayton, Executive Vice President
Donna Mills, Chief Financial Officer
Michele Jackson, Board Secretary

1) APPROVED minutes of Board Meeting held November 5, 2015.

BB	BL	JF (Chair)	DP	AN
A	Y	A	Y	Y

2) RECEIVED ATVC President's Report

Director Leon asked for an interim report regarding how they plan on addressing Metro Directors Garcetti, Solis, Fasana and Dupont-Walker's Motion requesting an initial outline for a comprehensive plan to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions by gradually transitioning to a zero-emission bus fleet. He also asked that the ATVC Board meet to get a preview of staff's response before it goes to the Board in October.

Director Najarian requested additional information on: the state of technology, batteries/weight, charging time, range and hydrogen fuel cells.

John Drayton advised that a new RFP will be going out in the next 30 days and the Mayor's Motion is taken into account in the new solicitation.

BB	BL	JF (Chair)	DP	AN
A	P	A	P	P

3) APPROVED appointment of Dave Perry as alternate for Supervisor Michael Antonovich as ATVC BOD member.

BB	BL	JF (Chair)	DP	AN
A	Y	A	Y	Y

BB = Ben Benoit (Parker Alternate)	BL = Borja Leon (Garcetti Alternate)	JF = John Fasana	DP = Dave Perry (Antonovich Alternate)	AN = Ara Najarian
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LEGEND: Y = YES, N = NO, C = CONFLICT, ABS = ABSTAIN, A = ABSENT, P = PRESENT

4) APPROVED appointment of James T. Gallagher as President of ATVC

BB	BL	JF (Chair)	DP	AN
A	Y	A	Y	Y

5) RECEIVED AND FILED – Update on \$4.275 million FTA LoNo Grant Funding Award

The 60 foot battery/electric New Flyer buses and charging stations will be delivered in fall 2017 to commence operation in December 2017. The charging stations will be at North Hollywood and Chatsworth stations. These will be standard Siemens charging stations in common use in Europe. The buses will take approximately 5 minutes to charge for an hour of operation.

Director Najarian asked if there could be a solar component. Staff said they are not there yet.

BB	BL	JF (Chair)	DP	AN
A	Y	A	Y	Y

6) AUTHORIZED the CEO to Accept a Contract Agreement with BYD to buy back 40' battery electric buses and to purchase 60' battery electric buses

BYD approached Metro to buy back the 40' battery electric buses. They have stood by their vehicles the entire time. Steve Sherman explained the BYD buyback offer includes a \$3 million credit. Staff is currently negotiating a new contract for five 60 foot artics for use on the Orange Line. These have more battery capacity, longer range and more uphill climbing power.

Director Leon asked about it being an unsolicited proposal. Staff explained that it went through the Office of Extraordinary Innovation for consideration and was then sent back to ATVC for action.

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Director Perry acknowledged BYD's efforts, on behalf of Supervisor Antonovich.

BB	BL	JF (Chair)	DP	AN
A	Y	A	Y	Y

7) RECEIVED AND FILED - Status Updates on ATVC Activities

a) Update – Conversion of ISE Hybrid Electric Buses to CNG

ISE went out of business and Metro cannot get parts for the Hybrid Electric Buses. This conversion is no longer recommended because there is no good reason to retrofit a 2016 factory for a 2008 bus so we are changing direction for these buses. We are now recommending proposals to repower the buses to CNG for less than half the cost of the battery electric system.

b) Update on Bus Fleet Emission Modeling (Environ)

Dr. Julia Lester, Randle Environmental, analyzed emission and cost modeling for turning over the Metro bus fleet to zero emission buses. We looked at options for low nox with renewable natural gas which lessens emissions by about 90%. This option costs \$1-3 billion less than zero emissions.

Mr. Drayton said we are pursuing zero emissions where fiscally and operationally feasible. In those cases where zero emissions is not feasible, this is the perfect technology in the meantime.

Director Najarian requested an explanation of renewable natural gas – land fill gas, manure gas capture from lagoons, digester gas from sewage treatment plants.

Metro is working on a contract for one of these technologies.

Director Najarian commented that renewable natural gas is not of the same quality as fossilized gas.

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Dr. Lester said that gas companies have a tariff for what can actually be in the pipeline and BTU value is lower for renewable natural gas.

Mr. Drayton responded that all gas coming into our system has to meet minimum operational levels for our engines. We don't anticipate any problems.

Director Leon asked what the approach is for getting to zero emissions.

Mr. Drayton answered that the initial order is for 300 vehicles. The contract is flexible regarding the propulsion system. We will come back to the Board with recommendations based on our budget. It was asked what percentage will be zero emissions with the answer that the Board will decide what to buy with the money available.

Director Leon asked for the timeline.

The most pressing matter is to get the 40 foot buses here to replace those with expiring tanks. They will be returning in 60 days with recommendations for 60 foot and zero emission vehicles.

Director Leon requested a standing item for future agendas regarding bus purchase plans including approach.

Director Najarian commented that we need to get the Communications Department up to speed about the use of renewable natural gas.

Mr. Drayton said that one of our problems is to look for new technology. New legislation now allows us to use up to 80 foot buses on the Orange Line. He wants to look at limited demonstration testing.

BB	BL	JF (Chair)	DP	AN
A	Y	A	Y	Y

8) PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

9) Items not on the posted agenda – None.

10) ADJOURNED at 10:43 a.m.

Prepared by: Collette Langston, Board Specialist


Michele Jackson, Board Secretary