

**San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Board Meeting
Minutes of June 27, 2014**

Attendees: Pedrozzo (Chair/MCAG), Blalock (Alameda Co.-CCTA), Chiesa (STANCOG), Cohn (Sac RT), Ishida (Tulare COG), Johnson (SJRRC), Perea (Fresno COG), Tatzin (CCTA), Verboon (Kings CAG)

1. Call to Order: The Board Meeting began at 2:00 PM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Public Comments: Assemblymember Dickinson welcomed everyone and spoke of the value of the new Cap & Trade program (C&TP). Mr. Jeff Morales, Exec Director of the CA HSRA complemented the Board and Staff on their engagement and coordination with the Authority noting that the 2012 Business Plan is structured to integrate regional rail into future HSR; he also noted the C&TP was “a game changer”. Mr. Taylor Wolfork from Assemblymember Galgianni’s office spoke to the progress of the SJRR program. Ms. Kate Meece, Director of the Local Government Commission spoke of the support for the Sustainable Communities Initiative and the linkage to the SJRR progress. Ms. Fran Halbakken of the City of Sacramento discussed the Sacramento Intermodal Transfer Facility (SITF) relationship and planning efforts underway. Mr. Nate Knott of Stockton, CA spoke of the support for rail improvements in the Central Valley. Mr. David Chambers, Director of Rail Advocacy spoke of the concern of the poor rail connection now at the SITF. Mr. Peter Engle of the CCTA voiced his support for the efforts of the SJJPA. And, Mr. Tim Smith of the Teamsters also voiced his support for the SJJPA’s efforts.

3a. Previous Meeting Minutes were approved by the Board without change.

3b. Next SJJPA Meeting scheduled for September 26, 2014 in the City of Hanford.

4. CA State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) gave a presentation by Mr. Chad Edison (Deputy Director). He noted that the San Joaquins are on the threshold of expanding rail and ridership building upon carrying 22% of the rail passengers in the state presently. He also voiced his support and commitment to work with the SJJPA during the transition from Caltrans to the SJJPA Board control. He noted that SB862 requires his agency to develop guidelines on intercity services and projects “with co-benefits and collaboration and the goal for 25% of the improvements to serve disadvantaged communities”.

5. SacRT Board Member Cohn welcomed everyone and introduced General Manager Wiley. Mr. Wiley welcomed everyone and provided an overview of the San Joaquin Rail-related activities in the region including the efforts for the SITF and the Green Line, assessing new stations in Elk Grove and 65th Street, the Streetcar project and also noted that RT’s Blue Line Extension was proceeding “under budget and ahead of schedule” as an example of the region’s commitment to effective transit improvements with the goal using a combination of local and non-local resources for key transportation components to improve the regional inter-connectedness of the region.

6. Summary of Public Outreach and Revisions to the Draft Business Plan: Mr. Dan Leavitt of the SJRRA provided an overview of the Business Plan efforts. He noted that multiple community meetings, a website and press releases had been used to generate community interest in the (draft) Business Plan for the SJRR. He reviewed the changes to the plan that resulted from the comments received and these were focused on edits along with suggestions for various improvements: 1) Extend the San Joaquins to Oakland Coliseum stop; 2) Add more information on resource needs for improvements; 3) Add new early AM service in the corridor to/from Sacramento; 4) Begin “mid-corridor starts” in Fresno in the AM; and 5) Repeal the Perata Law that prohibits the intercity bus connections from carrying non-passenger rail riders when even there is no available alternate public or private service. Mr. Leavitt noted that these comments will be recorded and responded to over the future and noted that on-going SJRR and Altamont Commuter Rail (ACE) coordination would continue and will include assessing the feasibility of joint use of rails for both services.

Mr. Michael Barnbaum spoke in favor of enhancing the non-English speaking materials and promotions including developing a Spanish version of the schedule.

Mr. Leavitt concluded by noting that other key edits to the Business Plan will include planning for 90 MPH service upgrades, identifying at-grade improvements for safety and gave a short presentation on “wayside horns” to reduce the community noise impacts of the trains and provided an example in Escalon where such a strategy has been successfully employed and it “focuses the horns where needed, not city-wide” as in other communities.

7. San Joaquin Business Plan was Approved by the SJRJPA. Board Member Chiesa noted the on-time performance of the service and need to partner with freight railroads and focus on the items Mr. Leavitt raised (above). Board Member Perea asked if there was any discussion regarding a future maintenance facility and Mr. Leavitt noted that this was in the plans for future assessment. Board Member Cohn noted that this Business Plan adoption was a “landmark moment” similar to the Capitol Corridor adoption years back. Board Member Blaylock asked if there were significant differences between this Business Plan and the Capitol Corridor Business Plan – and Mr. Leavitt responded that the Capitol Corridor Plan served as a model for developing this Plan. The Business Plan was approved 9-0.

8. San Joaquin Rolling Stock Update and Service Performance – Mr. Brian Schmidt of the SJRRA provided an update on the rolling stock. He noted that the 2nd Comet Car (older re-furbished cars requiring steps and a manual lift for mobility impaired riders) had been delivered and deployed – and then removed and replaced with newer bi-level cars following discussions with CalSTA management and them honoring earlier commitments. He noted that when a 7th trip is added, there is insufficient fleet for the service at this time.

Mr. Schmidt noted that the on-time performance was at 77% for year-to-date (YTD) and at 73% for the month of June (so far); on-time performance is adversely impacted by the significant miles of single-track and more frequent incidents between freight trains and autos occurring. He noted that ridership was down 0.4% for the San Joaquins compared to

last year and is down approximately 4% for the Capitol Corridor and 0.9% for the Surfliner YTD. Revenues are down 0.3% YTD compared to last fiscal year.

9. CA Intercity Passenger Rail Leadership Coalition – Mr. Leavitt noted that the CA State Senate Select Committee for Passenger Rail is established and is chaired by State Senator Jackson (Santa Barbara) and the Assembly Select Committee has been established and is chaired by Assemblyman Gray (Central Valley). The focus has been on Cap & Trade that will provide a stable and ongoing funding source for intercity rail and that some of the projects may also be eligible for Sustainable Communities funding (e.g., Station improvements and redevelopment) and Low Carbon funding (replacement train locomotives) in the future.

10. Update on Interagency Transfer Agreement and Schedule – Ms. Stacey Mortensen, Executive Director of the SJRRA provided an update on the Interagency Transfer Agreement (ITA) and schedule. She noted that the ITA itself will be “60 to 80 pages in the body with hundreds of pages” in six Appendices detailing all aspects of the service agreement. Discussions are on-going with CalSTA, the Division of Rail and the LOSSAN staff who are also working on an ITA. The draft ITA is targeted for release in September 2014 and “Performance Standards” will be released on or about June 30, 2014 as a first step. The ITA must be completed and agreed to by all parties by the end of 2014 per the legislation providing for the transfer of the San Joaquins from state control to the SJJPA.

11. Announcements – Ms. Mortensen noted that the draft California Freight Mobility Plan will be released by CalSTA in July 2014.

12. Board Member Comments – Member Perea stated his appreciation of the CalSTA staff and management with regards to their level of cooperation in working with the SJJPA and staff. Chair Pedrozo and Member Verboon (separately) thanked staff, the City of Sacramento, Member Cohn and Sacramento RT for the great meeting.

Next SJJPA Meeting scheduled for September 26, 2014 in the City of Hanford was noted again.

The SJJPA Board meeting adjourned at approximately 3:45 PM.