

AMADOR TRANSIT (AT) MINUTES
February 6, 2025 – 9:02 a.m.
ACTC Board Room-117 Valley View Way Sutter Creek, CA 95685

The Amador Transit Board of Directors met on the above date, and the following proceedings were had, to wit:

Present on Roll Call:

Patrick Crew-Board of Supervisors, Chairman
Dan Riordan-City of Sutter Creek, Vice Chairman
Sandy Staples-City of Amador City
John Plasse-Citizen at Large
Brian Oneto, Board of Supervisors, Alternate

Absent:

Plymouth Representative

Also Present:

Patricia Maggie Amarant, AT General Manager
John Gedney, ACTC Executive Director
Felicia Bridges, ACTC Transportation Planner/Recording Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA:

Motion: It was moved by Director Plasse, seconded by Director Staples, and carried to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Crew, Oneto, Plasse, Riordan, Staples
Noes: None
Absent: Plymouth Representative

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: Sean Reagan-Jackson Gate Hospitality and RTR Investments stated he is working through the process to open a 96-room hotel (46 room long-term stay and 50 rooms of LaQuinta), a carwash, and retail center to support the hotel. He continued they anticipate opening on July 4th, and noted they would like to encourage increased tourism to Amador County for the various activities available including wineries and the ski resort in Kirkwood. He added he would like to include a bus stop at the hotel, in addition to working with AT to develop transit services to run shuttles to Kirkwood resort. He asked to have a follow-up conversation with AT regarding potential options available.

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1-7):

Board Minutes, January 2025: Director Plasse noted minor corrections to be submitted to Ms. Bridges.

Ridership Analysis, December 2024: Director Oneto commented he sees the ridership has increased substantially, but wondered if that reflects the Dial-A-Ride (DAR) services more than anything. Ms. Amarant replied yes, DAR has increased with the expansion to Plymouth and Ione, but added the Upcountry route has also increased. She noted being able to utilize DAR through different zones across the county has created more access for riders.

Ridership Analysis, Amador-Sacramento Express, December 2024: Director Oneto stated he understands that this routes' costs are covered under the Sacramento contract, but noted it does not seem to be the best use of funds with the minimal ridership displayed. He then asked for clarification regarding

the ridership data provided in the chart, specifically if the 1.8 under line item: *Average Pass/Day- Month of December 2024* is considered “a there and back trip”. Ms. Amarant replied yes. Director Plasse asked for further clarification regarding that data, noting he asked a similar question last month and at that time the clarification was “that each time someone boards the bus it counts as a trip, so when we are measuring passengers that actually means trip”. Ms. Amarant explained the process of gathering individual trip categories and how they have to be logged for grant purposes. Director Plasse asked if these reports can all be consistent and be referred to as “trips” rather than passengers. Ms. Amarant replied yes, she noted will update the forms provided to the board. Director Oneto commented that route carries approximately 2 trips per day and with that, does not seem to be the best way to spend tax payer dollars.

Vice Chairman Riordan further clarified Director Oneto’s comment as ‘does it make sense for this board to continue to bless that route on a daily basis, and is it really serving the county’s best interest’. He added that is a fair question. Mr. Gedney stated ACTC is currently working on a Short-Range Transit Development Plan update with Moore & Associates consulting firm, and noted staff will forward these concerns to the consultant team to add to the study.

Motion: It was moved by Vice Chairman Riordan, seconded by Director Oneto, and carried to approve the Consent Agenda.

Ayes: Crew, Oneto, Plasse, Riordan, Staples

Noes: None

Absent: Plymouth Representative

#8. AT General Manager Report (Informational Only):

Fixed route ridership stat information FY 24/25: Ms. Amarant reviewed her staff report and attachments.

Director Plasse asked if the month and day passes are included in the fare calculations, and if so, are they counted the day they are purchased. Ms. Amarant replied yes, they are included when they are purchased, generally on a monthly basis. Director Plasse stated if we see a spike in the fares received in the first part of the month it could be attributed to the purchase of monthly passes. Ms. Amarant replied yes.

Vice Chairman asked if those fares are attached to specific routes. Ms. Amarant replied no.

Director Plasse asked why, on page 2 of the attachments under column AQ-Dial-A-Ride revenue, the amount received almost tripled from July to August. Ms. Amarant stated it may be because it was a busier month and as DAR is under a zone fee structure there is a larger fee paid by rider. Vice Chairman Riordan asked for Ms. Amarant to go back and review that data to ensure the accuracy.

Director Plasse asked for the data sheets provided to match what is included in the performance summary i.e.- cost per trip, cost per service mile, and cost per service hour. He added these sheets should be provided in the same format as the performance summary and will assist the board to better evaluate the viability of the fixed route system. He asked for that updated data to come back next month for further review.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

#9. Resolution #25-01: Review, approve, and authorize General Manager to implement increase in shuttle fares: Ms. Amarant reviewed her staff report.

Director Plasse stated the data to be provided next month related to the fixed route should be reviewed prior to determining a fare increase. He then asked what the difference is between a general fare and

reduced fare. Ms. Amarant replied the reduced fare is for individuals with disabilities and seniors and General Fare applies to the general public.

Chairman Crew asked if Ms. Amarant completed a forecast of what the expected revenue would be by implementing this increase. Ms. Amarant stated based on the current trips of the shuttles it would bring it up without substantially affecting ridership. Vice Chairman Riordan asked her to bring back the forecast data for this potential increase next month and to include the specific route information used for the fare comparison of other agencies.

Directors agreed to table this item until next month.

#10. Approve Monthly Claims List: Vice Chairman Riordan asked if AT is continuing to work with Cathy Castillo CPA for the annual audit. Ms. Amarant replied yes, AT has a three-year contract that is up in 2026. He then confirmed ACTC has gone with a different CPA for this year's audit. Mr. Gedney replied yes.

Motion: It was moved by Vice Chairman Riordan, seconded by Director Plasse, and carried to approve the claims list.

Ayes: Crew, Oneto, Plasse, Riordan, Staples
 Noes: None
 Absent: Plymouth Representative

#12. Future Agenda Items:

- Revised ridership of fixed routes for current fiscal year.
- Fixed route fare increase with forecasting data

Closed Session: At 10:02 a.m. Chairman Crew called for a Closed Session as noticed: Conference - Pending or Potential Litigation-Pursuant to Government Code Section §54956.9 Presenter: Patricia Maggie Amarant, General Manager. At 10:10 a.m. the Chairman adjourned the closed session of AT and reported an update was provided.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:11 a.m. the Vice Chairman adjourned the regular meeting to Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at 117 Valley View Way, Sutter Creek, CA 95685.

ATTEST: _____
 Patrick Crew, Chairman
 Amador Transit

 Recording Clerk

Note: Copies of referenced documents are available at the AT and ACTC offices.