

# ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT

# **MINUTES**

# **Board of Directors - Regular Meeting**

AC Transit General Offices 1600 Franklin Street, Oakland, California

Closed Session 2:30 PM - 10th Floor Conference Room Regular Meeting 5:00 PM - 2nd Floor Board Room

#### HYBRID MEETING

Phone (669) 900 6833 Webinar ID: 984 8717 5063

Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 5:00 PM Accessible agenda linked here https://bit.ly/4kBlfol.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
DIANE SHAW, PRESIDENT (WARD 5)
MURPHY MCCALLEY, VICE PRESIDENT (WARD 4)
H. E. CHRISTIAN PEEPLES (WARD 1)
JEAN WALSH (WARD 2)
SARAH SYED (WARD 3)
ANTHONY C. SILVA (WARD 6)
JOEL YOUNG (AT-LARGE)

#### **BOARD OFFICERS**

SALVADOR LLAMAS, GENERAL MANAGER/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
AIMEE L. STEELE, GENERAL COUNSEL/CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER
LINDA A. NEMEROFF, BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/DISTRICT SECRETARY

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District Board of Directors held a meeting on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Prior to the start of the meeting, General Counsel Aimee Steele confirmed that Director Walsh was qualified to attend the meeting via teleconference under the Just Cause provisions of AB 2449 due to traveling on District-related business. The General Counsel advised that all votes must be taken by roll call vote.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. for the purpose of Closed Session. All Boardmembers were present. The Board convened in Closed Session to discuss Items 7A-7C as listed on the agenda. Closed Session concluded at 4:40 p.m.

President Shaw called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### 2. ROLL CALL

Present: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

[Written comment received prior to the meeting is attached hereto as Exhibit A.]

**Josette Moss**, Treasurer of ATU Local 192, requested a response regarding an investigation conducted by an external firm on behalf of Human Resources one year ago. ATU is seeking either a written or verbal update on the matter.

## 4. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no modifications to the agenda.

## 5. CONSENT CALENDAR (AND CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT ITEMS)

See Item 5.F. for public comment.

MOTION: PEEPLES/WALSH, to receive and approve items on the Consent Calendar as indicated. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

**5.A.** Consider approving Board of Directors/Board Officers Retreat minutes of April 30, 2025.

Staff Contact:

Linda Nemeroff, Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary

MOTION: PEEPLES/WALSH to approve Board of Directors/Board Officers Retreat minutes of April 30, 2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

**5.B.** Consider approving Board of Directors meeting minutes of May 14, 2025.

**25-048** 

Staff Contact:

Linda A. Nemeroff, Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary

MOTION: PEEPLES/WALSH to approve Board of Directors meeting minutes of May 14, 2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

**5.C.** Consider receiving the FY 2024-25 Third Quarter Travel and Meeting Expense Report for the Board of Directors.

25-270

Staff Contact:

Linda A. Nemeroff, Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary

MOTION: PEEPLES/WALSH to receive the FY 2024-25 Third Quarter Travel and Meeting Expense Report for the Board of Directors. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

**5.D.** Consider receiving the Monthly Report on Investments for February and March.

25-274

Staff Contact:

Chris Andrichak, Chief Financial Officer

MOTION: PEEPLES/SHAW to receive the Monthly Report on Investments for February and March. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

**5.E.** Consider receiving the Quarterly budget update for the period of July 2024 through the end of March 2025 of FY 2024-25.

**25-289** 

Staff Contact:

Chris Andrichak, Chief Financial Officer

MOTION: PEEPLES/WALSH to receive the Quarterly budget update for the period of July 2024 through the end of March 2025 of FY 2024-25. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

**5.F.** Consider receiving an update on the Next Generation Clipper implementation.

25-266

Staff Contact:

Ahsan Baig, Chief Information Officer

Claudia Burgos, Interim Executive Director External Affairs &

Community Relations

#### **Public Comment:**

**Laurel Paget-Seekins** commented on the Tempo line and raised concerns about AC Transit's collaboration with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to expand the number of locations where riders can add funds to their Clipper cards.

**Adina Levin** spoke about the Clipper 2 system and emphasized the importance of making fare payment more accessible for low-income individuals. Levin also expressed agreement with Laurel Paget-Seekins on the need for more locations to load Clipper cards.

**Anthony Campana,** Representing the East Bay Transit Riders Union, voiced opposition to the proposal limiting local transfers to a single use within a two-hour window and suggested allowing multiple transfers within that period, which would not have a negative economic impact.

**Alita Dupree** expressed support for the Clipper 2 system and shared optimism about its potential. Dupree highlighted the value of implementing weekly and monthly fare accumulation options and stated that "transit should be complimentary, not competitive.

MOTION: PEEPLES/WALSH to receive an update on the Next Generation Clipper implementation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

**5.G.** Consider receiving an update on FY 2024-25 Third Quarter Customer Services Metrics.

**25-288** 

## Staff Contact:

Claudia Burgos, Interim Executive Director of External Affairs, Marketing & Communications

MOTION: PEEPLES/WALSH to receive an update on FY 2024-25 Third Quarter Customer Services Metrics. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

### 6. REGULAR CALENDAR

## **External Affairs Items - Chair Peeples**

**6.A.** Consider receiving the Monthly Legislative Report and approving legislative positions, if necessary.

**25-160** 

#### Staff Contact:

Claudia Burgos, Interim Executive Director of External Affairs, Marketing & Communications

[Documents concerning SB 63 submitted by Director Peeples prior to the meeting are incorporated into the file by reference.]

Interim Executive Director of Legislative Affairs, Marketing and Communications Claudia Burgos, presented the staff report and recommended the following legislative positions:

- WATCH position on AB 1337 (Information Practices Act);
- SUPPORT position on SB 79 (transit-oriented housing development); and
- SUPPORT AND SEEK AMENDMENTS position on SB 63 (local revenue measure transportation funding).

Chair Peeples bifurcated the agenda item, taking on AB 1337 and SB 79 first, followed by a separate consideration of SB 63.

### **Public Comment:**

**Laurel Paget-Seekins** expressed concerns about SB 79, particularly regarding equity and the protection of residents living near transit agencies. Paget-Seekins questioned how value would be captured to fund transit projects and how that process might influence upzoning around transit areas.

**Paget-Seekins** also voiced support to change SB 63 from a sales tax to a gross receipts tax, saying that it was more progressive, would raise more revenue and polled better. Paget-Seekins noted that the bill could help address the agency's budget deficit and improve service levels.

**Alita Dupree** spoke in favor of SB 63, expressing hope that the Senate will pass the bill, but emphasized that the biggest challenge may be persuading residents that increased transit funding will benefit everyone, thereby encouraging public support.

MOTION: WALSH/McCALLEY to receive the Monthly Legislative Report and approve staff's recommended legislative positions on AB 1337 (WATCH) and SB 79 (SUPPORT). The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: WALSH, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, SYED, WALSH, SILVA, YOUNG, SHAW

MOTION: SHAW/McCALLEY to approve a SUPPORT AND SEEK AMENDMENTS position on SB 63 and direct staff to present an update to the Board when more detail becomes available. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

## Finance and Audit Items - Chair McCalley

**6.B.** Consider receiving a report on the Proposed FY 2025-26 Operating and Capital Budgets.

Staff Contact:

Chris Andrichak, Chief Financial Officer

Chief Financial Officer Chris Andrichak presented the staff report.

### **Public Comment:**

**Laurel Pageant-Seekins** spoke in opposition to subsidizing the Transbay Terminal, arguing that the contract should be renegotiated. Paget-Seekins referenced a similar analysis conducted for Caltrans and BART as a basis for the concerns. In addition, Paget-Seekins questioned when public outreach regarding the fare increase would begin.

Latrina Meredith, President of ATU Local 192, expressed concern over the reduction of ATU (Amalgamated Transit Union) positions while other employee groups remained unaffected. It was further noted that ATU members typically earn lower wages compared to other staff who were not impacted. Meredith also pointed out that positions left vacant for two to three years are now being filled despite a budget deficit, suggesting those roles could have remained unfilled to preserve lower-wage jobs.

A motion was offered by President Shaw and seconded by Director Young to receive the report on the Proposed FY 2025-26 Operating and Capital Budgets.

Director Walsh made an amended motion to add the following: retain the digital signage program. The motion failed for the lack of a second.

MOTION: SHAW/YOUNG to receive a report on the Proposed FY 2025-26 Operating and Capital Budgets. The main motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

# **Operations Items - Chair Walsh**

**6.C.** Consider rescinding the District's COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

25-293

### Staff Contact:

James Arcellana, Interim Executive Director of Human Resources

There was no presentation of the staff report. Staff was available to address questions from the Board.

### **Public Comment:**

**Connie McFarland,** speaking on behalf of Latrina Meredith, President of ATU Local 192, requested the rehire of employees terminated for refusal to take the vaccine, saying that ATU raised this issue during bargaining and suggested that employees who were in good standing be offered their jobs back.

**Eduardo Sanchez** expressed concerns about the purported dangers of receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

MOTION: SHAW/McCALLEY to rescind the District's COVID-19 vaccine mandate. The motion carried by the following vote:

25-254a

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, WALSH, SILVA, YOUNG

Nayes: PEEPLES

**Abstained: SYED** 

**6.D.** Consider receiving supplemental information to the report presented to the Board on April 9, 2025, regarding the Human Resources Department's ongoing long-term leave challenges and their impact on

Bus Operator availability. [Requested by Directors Walsh and McCalley

- 9/25/24 & 12/11/24]

#### Staff Contact:

James Arcellana, Interim Executive Director of Human Resources

Interim Executive Director of Human Resources James Arcellana presented the staff report.

#### **Public Comment:**

**Connie McFarland,** speaking on behalf of Latrina Meredith, President of ATU Local 192, explained that in 2019, injured workers were being returned to work prematurely, prompting the proposal for a light duty program. By 2024, a modified duty policy was implemented, which enabled roughly half of injured workers to return to work. McFarland emphasized that ATU strongly opposes any changes to their current contract.

MOTION: WALSH/SHAW to receive supplemental information to the report presented to the Board on April 9, 2025, regarding the Human Resources Department's ongoing long-term leave challenges and their impact on Bus Operator availability and report back in 6 months. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, PEEPLES, WALSH, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

## 7. CLOSED SESSION/REPORT OUT

General Counsel Aimee Steele reported out on the following:

MOTION: SHAW/McCALLEY to approve settlement in the amount of \$150,000 in the matter of Pullum v. AC Transit, WCAB Case Nos. ADJ15689507 and ADJ15689522. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: SHAW, McCALLEY, SYED, SILVA, YOUNG

Abstain: PEEPLES, WALSH

# 7.A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

(Government Code Section 54956.9 (a))

Pullum v. AC Transit, WCAB Case Nos. ADJ15689507 and ADJ15689522.

# 7.B. Conference with Labor Negotiators

(Government Code Section 54957.6):

Agency Designated Representative:

- General Manager Salvador Llamas
- Labor and Employee Relations Representative;

Employee Organizations: ATU Local 192, AFSCME Local 3916, IBEW Local 1245,

**Unrepresented Employees** 

# 7.C. Public Employee Performance Evaluation

(Government Code Section 54957)

Title: General Counsel

### 8. AGENDA PLANNING

**8.A.** Review of Agenda Planning Pending List and Agenda Planning Request Forms.

25-015j

Staff Contact:

Linda Nemeroff, Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary

No new items were added to the agenda planning list.

### 9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

**9.A.** General Manager's Report for May 28, 2025.

**25-014e** 

The report was presented for information only.

# 10. BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS

(Government Code Section 54954.2)

Members of the Board commented on meetings, events and conferences attended since the last meeting.

**10.A.** Written reports from Board members on travel to District-related conferences occurring in the last 30 days.

**25-038**j

Staff Contact:

Linda Nemeroff, Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary

[Written reports received from Directors Walsh and Young were provided to the Board and the public prior to the meeting and are incorporated into the record by reference.]

# 11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m. in memory of former elected official and Contra Costa County Board of Supervisor Federal Glover. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for June 11, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Linda A. Nemeroff
Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary

New eComment for Board of Directors

Ro Regan submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: Board of Directors

Item: 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

eComment: Does the Board have a system in place with AC Transit staff to retroactively correct fines for errors in AI bus ticketing system? An exorbitant number of county citizens have been caught outside of the 21 day notice period to challenge tickets and daily accumulated ticketing fees result in excessive financial hardship required to pay upfront, as well as restricting dmv registration renewal of a primary vehicle. As an individual resident within Alameda County, consistently parking in my regular legal parking space outside of a demarcated red bus stop resulted in \$1200 of outstanding fines on a single vehicle for a two week period. Attempts were made to notify AC Transit of the AI error during the 2024 summer trial period, but law enforcement staff handling ticketing had no means for resolution nor connection to the staff developing the program and residents were told it would be corrected as the program implementation progressed. Ticketing administration has rejected contesting letters outside of 21 days and has offered no other option than court proceedings as a next step. Assigning this burden of programming error on residents rather than modifying administrative processes where glaringly significant improvements in AI programming were needed is excessively punitive. It continues to result in undue hardship and burden on residents to pay large sums upfront and negotiate the legal and administrative burden of multiple petitions to contest errors in ticketing and go through a process of small claims court. It would be greatly appreciated if the Board could designate a person of contact within aAC Transit to work with residents to rectify past ticketing financial burdens and have readily accessible process for residents to notify the design team of ongoing errors in Al programming.