

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA WATER EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**  
**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

*[November 14, 2024]*

The Board of Directors of the San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority met in regular session at Port of San Francisco at Pier 1, San Francisco, CA and via videoconference.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair James Wunderman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Chair James Wunderman, Vice Chair Monique Moyer, Director Jessica Alba, Director Jeffrey DelBono, and Director Pippin Dew were in attendance.

Chair Wunderman led the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed directors, staff, and meeting guests and noted that the meeting was being conducted in person and by videoconference and was being recorded. He advised guests about offering public comment and how guests could sign up to speak throughout the meeting.

**3. REPORT OF BOARD CHAIR**

Chair Wunderman congratulated staff on the receipt of two discretionary grant awards that will provide investment in future decarbonization and expansion of the system.

Chair Wunderman said that the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean Ports Program is providing \$55 million of funding to complete the construction of a new ferry terminal at Mission Bay, purchase of an additional 400-passenger electric battery-electric vessel, and support of regional workforce development programs and that the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) awarded \$12.5 million of funding to support the electrification and construction of charging infrastructure at the Harbor Bay Ferry Terminal.

**4. REPORTS OF DIRECTORS**

Director Dew reported that the first cohort from the Working Waterfront Coalition (Coalition) will have a 100 percent graduation and believes that almost all have already received job offers. She thanked Executive Director Seamus Murphy for supporting the efforts and providing contacts for recipients of workforce development grants for justice-involved youth.

The Directors congratulated and thanked the staff and team for their vision and plans to bring forward the grant proposals and looked forward to celebrating final delivery.

**5. REPORTS OF STAFF**

Mr. Murphy introduced new staff Budget Analyst Hector Lopez who has six years of grant compliance and financial analysis.

Mr. Murphy reported that he had attended the Interferry 2024 Conference focusing on safety, security, and sustainability held in Marrakech, Morocco as a member of the Interferry Board of Directors. He said that highlights were global trends in decarbonization and electrification.

Mr. Murphy emphasized the rising costs of capital projects due to inflation, supply chain issues, and project delays due to a lack of skilled labor.

Chief Financial Officer Erin McGrath provided a summary of the grants secured and said that there is significant funding for electrification efforts.

Mr. Murphy thanked SF Port Staff for their collaboration on the EPA grant application.

Mr. Murphy shared a picture of the MV *Karl*, the first vessel to include diesel particulate filter (DPF) technology and said that the vessel was going through sea trials at Dakota Creek and is expected to join the SF Bay Ferry fleet by early next year.

Director of Operations and Customer Experience Thomas Hall provided an update on two exercises participated and conducted in October 1) the transportation of disaster service workers as part of San Francisco Fleet Week Exercise and 2) a staff emergency operations functional exercise conducted to test emergency response capabilities which included a hybrid activation of a virtual Emergency Operations Center (EOC) via Microsoft Teams. He acknowledged Operations Administrator Kevin Donnelly for planning the exercise and keeping the training going allowing Emergency Response and Safety Analyst Cameron Bochman to observe.

Public Information and Marketing Manager Alexis Matsui shared her presentation on the website redesign project and some of the major highlights which include live interactive maps and a trip planner prioritizing any ferry in the next half hour, user-friendly navigation, vessel fleet, and a single website under [sanfranciscobayferry.com](http://sanfranciscobayferry.com) with language and accessibility tools expected to go live on Monday.

Mr. Murphy provided five written reports and invited Director of Project Delivery and Engineering Timothy Hanners provided an update on the recent vessel issues, service disruptions, maintenance program, and engineering and operational changes to prevent future issues, and the safety and notification procedures. He said that any issues are brought to the attention of Mr. Murphy, Mr. Hall, and himself to ensure a coordinated response.

Mr. Hanners invited Mr. Hall to talk about some of the things SF Bay Ferry is doing to minimize the effect on passengers. Mr. Hall stated that safety is a top priority and that SF Bay Ferry worked with Blue & Gold Fleet (Bue & Gold) to use Blue & Gold's MV *Bay Monarch* to minimize disruptions and cancellations.

The Directors asked to be kept informed about the service disruptions.

Transportation Planner Gabriel Chan reported that SF Bay Ferry had over 262,000 boardings in October – 14 percent higher than budgeted projections.

Mr. Murphy asked Chief Capital Program Officer Gary Griggs to present the first quarterly review of the capital program. Mr. Griggs shared his presentation on the status of the capital program which consists of the maintenance, rehabilitation, and expansion of the SF Bay Ferry system including conversion to zero-emissions operations. He discussed the accomplishments, key performance indicators for managing and delivering the program, challenges, and look ahead of future activity.

Mr. Murphy concluded the Executive Director's report and offered to answer questions.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

## **6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Director DelBono made a motion to approve the consent calendar:

- a. Approve Board Meeting Minutes – October 10, 2024
- b. Approve Board of Directors Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2025
- c. Authorize Correction to Second Amendment to Agreement with RIM Architects, LLP for Services Related to Office Reconfiguration Projects
- d. Authorize Participation in MTC's Interagency Transfer Pilot Program
- e. Item 6e – pulled from Consent Calendar
- f. Item 6f – pulled from Consent Calendar
- g. Item 6g – pulled from Consent Calendar
- h. Item 6h – pulled from Consent Calendar

Chair Wunderman requested pulling Item 6e – 6g from the Consent Calendar for comment and questions.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.  
Director Dew seconded the motion, and the consent calendar carried unanimously.

Yeas: Alba, DelBono, Dew, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: None.

- e. Authorize Contract Award to Anchor QEA for Oakland and Harbor Bay Ferry Terminal Modernization Projects, Environmental Review and Permitting Services

Chair Wunderman asked why price was not included as a criterion for awarding this contract. Attorney Steven Miller of Hanson Bridgett LLP explained that contracts for architect and engineering services must be awarded based on criteria that include qualifications and not price under both federal and state law unlike other types of contracts. He added that negotiation for a fair and reasonable price was allowed and standard practice after scoring proposals.

Director Alba made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-47 approving this item.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

Director Dew seconded the motion, and the item passed unanimously.

Yeas: Alba, DelBono, Dew, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: None

- f. Award Contract for MV Pyxis and MV Vela Repairs and Drydock to Bay Ship & Yacht Co.

Senior Project Manager Jeffery Powell clarified questions about the item.

Director DelBono made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-48 approving this item.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

Director Dew seconded the motion, and the item passed unanimously.

Yeas: Alba, DelBono, Dew, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: None

- g. Award Contract for Gemini Class Mid-life Refurbishment to Bay Ship & Yacht Co.

Mr. Powell provided a summary of the scope of work and that the methodology for the award was the best value approach, including price as a criterion unlike the architect and engineering award previously discussed.

Government and Regulatory Affairs Specialist addressed questions about Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and Small Business Enterprise (SBE) goals. The Directors requested more explanation and reporting about the goals in future.

Director Dew made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-49 approving this item.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

Director Alba seconded the motion, and the item passed unanimously.

Yeas: Alba, DelBono, Dew, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: None

- h. Approve Sole Source Contract Award to Northern Lights Power & Energy Inc. for Main Engine Preventative Maintenance Services

Mr. Powell provided an explanation of the sole source reasoning and information on the services.

Mr. Hanners said that WETA has had discussions with vendors about providing these services with local support in the Bay Area.

Director DelBono made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-50 approving this item.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

Director Alba seconded the motion, and the item passed unanimously.

Yeas: Alba, DelBono, Dew, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: None

## **7. ADOPT WETA TERMINAL ACCESS GUIDELINES**

Mr. Chan presented this item recommending adopting WETA Terminal Access Guidelines. He provided a summary of the major changes incorporated into the guidelines from Director comments.

Director Alba made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-51 approving this item.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

Director Dew seconded the motion, and the item passed unanimously.

Yeas: Alba, DelBono, Dew, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: None.

## **8. NON-RIDER RESEARCH AND MARKETING UPDATE**

Mr. Hall introduced this item and Corey, Canapary & Galanis Executive Vice President Jon Canapary to present the non-rider research and marketing update. He shared the research and marketing presentation for the group. Mr. Canapary emphasized that top, very positive considerations for using the ferry included environmental, traffic, and reliability.

Mr. Hall invited Ms. Matsui to talk about the listening session that focused on ridership of the Black and Latino community, MacKenzie Communications, Inc. Executive Vice President Daniel Hutson to present an overview of the brand awareness campaign and performance metrics, and D&A Communications Senior Communications Manager Melanie Brand and Alyson Ramirez to introduce the low-propensity rider marketing and outreach campaign and strategic approach.

Mr. Hall closed out the item about next steps with final comments from Mr. Murphy.

The Directors provided some feedback and thanked the marketing team for their work and efforts.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Port of Redwood City (Port) Commission Vice Chair Nancy Radcliffe introduced herself as the new representative for the Port after the retirement of Lorianna Kastrop.

**10. RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION**

- a. Public Employee Performance Evaluation; Conference with Labor Negotiator  
Pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957(b)(1) and 54957.6  
Title: Executive Director  
Agency Designated Representative: Jim Wunderman

Chair Wunderman recessed the meeting at 3:43 p.m., and the Directors met in closed session.

**11. REPORT OF ACTIVITY IN CLOSED SESSION**

Upon returning to open session at 4:41 p.m., Chair Wunderman reported that the Directors had discussed Mr. Murphy's employment and performance. Based upon the positive comments received, Chair Wunderman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-52 amending the Executive Director employment agreement for Mr. Murphy increasing the base salary by 5 percent to a new annual amount of \$338,441.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

Vice Chair Moyer seconded the motion, and the item passed unanimously.

Yeas: Alba, DelBono, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: Dew.

With all business concluded, Chair Wunderman adjourned the meeting at 4:44 p.m.

- Board Secretary

\*\*\*END\*\*\*