

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

*[March 13, 2025]*

The Board of Directors of the San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority met in regular session at the Alameda City Hall Council Chambers at 2263 Santa Clara Avenue, 3rd Floor, Alameda, CA and via videoconference.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair James Wunderman called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair James Wunderman, Vice Chair Monique Moyer, Director Jessica Alba, Director Jeffery 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 invited City of Alameda City Manager Jennifer Ott to share a few comments and offer her welcome.

Chair Wunderman thanked Ms. Ott for her welcome and the collaborative relationship between SF Bay Ferry and the City of Alameda.

Chair Wunderman said that he met with San Francisco International Airport (SFO) Director Mike Nakornkhet to discuss a ferry terminal that would serve SFO.

**4. REPORTS OF DIRECTORS**

The Directors thanked the City of Alameda for hosting SF Bay Ferry and expressed appreciation for the efforts resulting in increased ridership.

Director Dew commented on things happening in Solano County that challenge connectivity to the ferry.

**5. REPORTS OF STAFF**

Executive Director Seamus Murphy thanked Ms. Ott for her comments and for the partnership with the City of Alameda.

Mr. Murphy introduced new staff member, Digital Communications Specialist Teo Saragi who was most recently with the Greenlining Institute and Equal Rights Advocates.

Mr. Murphy introduced Director of Planning Michael Gougherty to provide an update on the initiatives related to Alameda Ferry Terminal access including parking fees. He acknowledged City of Alameda Transportation Planning Manager Lisa Foster and Land Use and Transportation Planner Brian McGuire for their great working relationship. He stated that the goal was to make certain that the proposed initiatives benefited the service as well as the riders and that staff was

working to draft a Memorandum of Understanding that would be brought to the Board for consideration.

Ms. Foster explained that payment would be made available at pay stations and through mobile payment options. She noted that changing prices based on demand would be no more often than quarterly with at least a public two-week notice.

Director Alba expressed her appreciation for the approach the City of Alameda was taking to manage parking demand.

Mr. Gougherty stated other access considerations would fall under the purview of SF Bay Ferry's Pilot Service Program. He further stated that staff would be working closely with local partners to identify funding opportunities and determine goals and priorities for other access concerns.

Mr. Murphy reported that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) had accepted and approved the alternative control of emissions (ACE) plan and introduced Director of Project Delivery and Engineering Timothy Hanners to talk about the ACE plan and the delivery of MV *Karl*.

Mr. Hanners shared his presentation and the CARB regulation timeline. He introduced Aurora Marine Design Vice President Christian Stark to explain CARB's Commercial Harbor Craft (CHC) Regulation and the zero-emissions program of the ACE plan.

Mr. Stark introduced CARB Staff Air Pollution Specialist Tracy Haynes to talk about CARB's alternative pathway to meet emission reduction requirements. Ms. Haynes congratulated SF Bay Ferry and the leadership for their work in implementing the ACE plan which was the first ACE plan approved under the CHC Regulation noting that the MV *Karl* was the first vessel to meet the most stringent CHC Regulation emission standards for diesel vessels.

Mr. Stark introduced Director of Operations and Customer Experience Thomas Hall to talk about some of the improvements and the passenger experience on MV *Karl*.

Mr. Hanners closed out the presentation with next steps including delivery of the fourth Dorado class vessel, MV *Zalophus*, in fall 2025.

Chair Wunderman congratulated the team for their efforts and expressed his appreciation for the challenge and complexity of the work.

The Directors expressed their appreciation to the project team for the flexible and collaborative approach under challenging circumstances within the regulatory framework.

The project team acknowledged the efforts of Government and Regulatory Affairs Manager Lauren Gularte and the leadership of Mr. Murphy.

Chief Financial Officer Erin McGrath clarified the spend down of the operating revenue.

Mr. Murphy provided written reports and offered to answer questions before inviting Transportation Planner Gabriel Chan to provide the ridership report and share his presentation.

Mr. Hall noted the April schedule changes improved operational efficiency.

The Directors thanked staff for their reports and updates.

## 6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director DelBono made a motion to approve the consent calendar:

- a. Approve Board Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2025
- b. Approve Contract Award to Pacific Power Group, LLC for MV *Peralta* Main Engine Preventative Maintenance Services

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

Director Alba seconded the motion, and the consent calendar carried unanimously.

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

## 7. APPROVE ACTIONS RELATIVE TO RFP 22-017, 400-PASSENGER REEF VESSEL PROCUREMENT

Senior Project Manager Jeffery Powell presented this item recommending the following actions:

1. Subject to satisfactory completion of the FTA-required Buy America pre-award audit, approve contract award to Ice Floe, LLC dba Nichols Brothers Boat Builders (NBBB) for the procurement of two high-speed ferries in an amount of \$59,557,312; and,
2. Authorize a revision to the MV *Intintoli* replacement project budget from \$26,446,700 to \$41,019,000; and
3. Replace the MV *Mare Island* capital project with a new 400-Passenger vessel project with a budget of \$36,334,000; and
4. Authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute an agreement with NBBB and take any other related actions as may be necessary to support this work.

Mr. Powell shared his presentation about the procurement process including information about NBBB and recognized NBBB CEO Gavin Higgins and Vice President Lacey Greene.

Chair Wunderman thanked NBBB for bidding and recognizing the complexity and risk of the job and asked for clarity about how volatility would be managed. Chief Financial Officer Erin McGrath explained the funding plan in response to director questions.

The Directors invited NBBB to respond to questions and thanked them for bidding on the project and for their efforts to control costs and their apprenticeship program.

Mr. Powell acknowledged construction manager, Elliott Bay Design Group Principal Jim Towers.

Director DelBono made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-06 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. MISSION BAY FERRY LANDING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Capital Planning Manager Chad Mason presented this item recommending authorizing the Executive Director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Port of San Francisco for the Mission Bay Ferry Landing Project.

Mr. Mason acknowledged and thanked Port of San Francisco staff – Capital Projects Manager Simon Betsalel, Government Affairs Manager Boris Delepine, and Project Manager Jamie Hurley

for their continued partnership and collaboration in reaching this important milestone and shared his presentation.

Mr. Mason gave an overview of the project history, design, and next steps for project delivery, and Mr. Gougherty spoke about the specifics of the MOU.

Chair Wunderman encouraged local governments to prioritize ferry service in waterfront development from the beginning.

Vice Chair Moyer reminded everyone that the Mission Bay Plan was done in 1997, long before the existence of WETA.

Director Dew suggested that a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) be considered focusing on dredging to streamline permitting and funding efforts.

Chair Wunderman made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-07 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, DeIBono, Dew, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: None.

**9. AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AT 375 BEALE STREET AND RELATED ACTIONS**

Mr. Murphy introduced this item recommending authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a lease with the Bay Area Headquarters Authority for new administrative office space at 375 Beale Street and take related actions to relocate staff to the new leased space and work with the Port of San Francisco to modify or terminate the current lease for administrative office space at Pier 9.

Mr. Murphy stated that approximately a year and a half remained on the Pier 9 lease and that SF Bay Ferry was currently in discussion with the Port of San Francisco to discuss options for termination of the lease.

Director Alba made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-08 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, DeIBono, Dew, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: None.

**10. OAKLAND ALAMEDA WATER SHUTTLE PILOT PROJECT UPDATE**

Mr. Hall introduced this informational item on the Oakland Alameda Water Shuttle Pilot and shared his presentation.

Mr. Hall provided the background of the service, and Mr. Chan shared ridership and service reliability data.

Mr. Hall discussed next steps and invited Mr. McGuire to provide a few comments from the City's perspective.

**11. APRIL 2025 SCHEDULE CHANGE**

Mr. Hall introduced this informational item on the April 2025 schedule change and highlighted a few points noting that most passengers would not see any negative impacts from the schedule change.

**12. UPDATED AND RESTATED SF BAY FERRY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE**

WETA General Counsel Steven Miller of Hanson Bridgett presented this item for Board feedback and consideration. Mr. Miller stated that the Board had the flexibility to provide comments on the draft updated and restated SF Bay Ferry Administrative Code (Code) for further consideration or approve the draft Code.

Mr. Miller shared his presentation about the Code, noting a few outdated provisions and best practices. He noted that the draft Code was mostly a reorganization and update of one of SF Bay Ferry's most important foundational guiding documents.

Chair Wunderman clarified his role in approving Director travel.

The Directors said the increase in Executive Director authority was reasonable and defensible.

Chair Wunderman thanked Mr. Miller for his work and offered to take a motion to approve the Code.

Director Alba made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-09 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.

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

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

With all business concluded, Chair Wunderman adjourned the meeting at 4:03 p.m.

- Board Secretary

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