

**MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MARIN PUPIL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY**

**MINUTES
May 19, 2021**

Special Note: Meeting was held via Zoom Video Conference.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chris Carson – 8:37 a.m. (Ross Valley), Robert Clark – 8:20 a.m. (Sausalito – Marin City), Corbett Elsen (Tamalpais), Carlos Estrella (Reed), Midge Hoffman (Interim Chief Business Official for Kentfield), Bob Marcucci (San Rafael Elementary & High School Districts), Paula Rigney – 8:24 a.m. (Larkspur – Corte Madera) & Michele Rollins (Mill Valley).

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Carol Slender (Ross)

STAFF PRESENT:

Dennis Petri, Executive Director

GUESTS:

Kristi Dahlstrom – 8:32 a.m., Marin County Office of Education Director of Special Education
Christina Posedel, San Rafael City Schools Accounting Manager

I. CALL TO ORDER (8:17 a.m.):

Chairperson Michele Rollins called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 8:17 a.m. This Board of Directors Meeting was held via Zoom Video Conference.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT: (8:18 a.m.)

There were no public comments.

III. ACTION SESSION

- 1. Review & Possible Action on the Agenda (8:19 a.m.):** – Members approved the Agenda as presented.

(M/Corbett Elsen, S/Carlos Estrella)

Vote by member:

Aye: Clark, Elsen, Estrella, Hoffman, Marcucci for SRES, Marcucci for SRHSD, Rollins
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Carson, Rigney, Slender

Note: Robert Clark (Sausalito – Marin City) joined the meeting as Action Session Item #1 was under review.

- 2. Review & Possible Action on Budget & Bill Back Updates due to April 15, 2021 student counts (8:20 a.m.):** -- Executive Director Petri briefly reviewed updates to the 2020 – 2021 budget & bill back figures. Board members did not have any questions.

(M/Corbett Elsen, S/Bob Marcucci)

Vote by member:

Aye: Clark, Elsen, Estrella, Hoffman, Marcucci for SRES, Marcucci for SRHSD, Rollins
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Carson, Rigney, Slender

IV. CONSENT AGENDA (8:24 a.m.):

CA-1. Acknowledge & Accept the Minutes of April 21, 2021 Board Meeting.

CA-2. Acknowledge & Accept a letter from the Marin County Office of Education approving the MPTA's Second Interim Reporting Period Report.

CA-3. Acknowledge & Accept Financial Documents as follows:

- a. Approve vendor warrants paid for the period of April 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021 in the amount of \$302,358.13.

CA-4. Acknowledge & Accept Potential Reimbursement Information for member school districts as follows:

- a. April 2021 in the amount of \$668.80.
- b. Potential Reimbursement Fund Totals to Date: \$4,887.33.

CA-5. Acknowledge & Accept Monthly Student Count Tally Sheets for April 2021.

CA-6. Acknowledge & Accept Spreadsheets of Students Listed by School of Attendance for April 2021.

Chairperson Rollins introduced the Consent Agenda. There were no questions from the Board of Directors, so Chairperson Rollins asked for a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. After receiving the Motion, the Board approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

(M/Midge Hoffman, S/Corbett Elsen)

Vote by member:

Aye: Clark, Elsen, Estrella, Hoffman, Marcucci for SRES, Marcucci for SRHSD, Rigney, Rollins
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Carson, Slender

Note: Paula Rigney (Larkspur – Corte Madera) joined the meeting as the Consent Agenda was under review.

V. DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS

Note: As we were running a little early and our Time Certain Guest Speaker had not arrived yet, Chairperson Rollins asked to move to Discussion Item #2 at this time:

2. **a. Second review of the proposed 2021 – 2022 Budget & Bill Back figures (8:27 a.m.).** These figures have been adjusted since the initial presentation (emailed) in January 2021 to the Board of Directors. The figures now include changes due to the April 15, 2021 student counts.
 - b.** Proposed Budget (Posting Copy)
 - c.** Proposed budget for 2021 – 2022.
 - d.** Proposed bill back figures for 2021 – 2022.
 - e.** Budget Inspection Dates & Publication Notice.

Executive Director Petri reviewed the proposed 2021 – 2022 Budget & Bill Back figures. Transportation costs were increased by the maximum COLA hike of 3.5% that was negotiated with First Student. Bus routes are based on pre-pandemic levels – 27 school bus routes.

Bill Back figures shifted significantly (from high school districts to elementary districts) due to the lack of high school students attending on-site classes and not requiring transportation.

Note: At the conclusion of Discussion Item #2, we returned to the Time Certain agenda item as our guest speaker – Kristi Dahlstrom arrived at 8:32 a.m.

1. TIME CERTAIN – Scheduled for 8:30 a.m. (Actual time 8:34 to 8:37)

Time Certain – Transportation Issues & Discussion: - This time is set aside for discussion with representative(s) of the Marin County Office of Education. This month Kristi Dahlstrom, Director of Special Education was in attendance.

Kristi presented the following information to the Board of Directors:

- a. Extended School Year (ESY) information and class lists were sent to Dennis and other transportation supervisors on April 16, 2021.
- b. There are a number of school placement changes for the ESY session:
 - 1. Lynwood School class is moving to Hamilton School and will remain there for the 2021-2022 school year.
 - 2. Olive School class is moving to Rancho School for ESY.
 - 3. Classes at Edna Maguire and Strawberry Point Schools are switching campuses for ESY and beyond. There will be 2 classes at Edna Maguire and 1 classroom at Strawberry Point.
 - 4. Several teachers and class groups are switching from Redwood High School to Terra Linda High School and vice-versa for ESY and beyond.
 - 5. A classroom at Vallecito School will re-open in the Fall (it was closed for the 2020-2021 school year).

This discussion ended at 8:37 a.m. The Board thanked Kristi for her attendance and input.

Note: Chris Carson (Ross Valley) joined the meeting as the Time Certain agenda item was under review.

V. **DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS (Continued)**

3. **Executive Director's Report (8:37 a.m.)**

- a. Revised MPTA Meeting Schedule for 2021 - 2022.
- b. Extended School Year (ESY) 2021 Information.
- c. Article: Published in School Bus Fleet April 23, 2021: "First Group Plans to sell First Student, First Transit for \$4.6 Billion".
- d. Article: "Marin Voice" published in the Marin Independent Journal April 26, 2021. "Marin must commit to zero-emission school buses."
- e. Reader's Forum published in the Marin Independent Journal May 3, 2021. "School buses missing from many Marin communities."
- f. Transportation Group Check-In: Report on meeting for school bus and transit operators on school opening guidelines. Meeting held May 11, 2021.

Executive Director Petri provided a quick update on the material presented under this agenda item. Secretary Corbett Elsen asked for meeting invitations to be sent soon to ensure the MPTA meeting dates get on everyone's calendars. Petri promised to send calendar invites by the end of the day.

Pertaining to Item 3f – Transportation Group Check-In: Dr. Lisa Santora (Deputy Public Health Officer, County of Marin, Department of Health and Human Services) announced that new State guidelines for school bus capacity will be issued on June 15, 2021.

4. **Standing Item: Discussion on California Senate Bill 328 concerning school start times for Middle School & High School programs (8:41 a.m.)** – Secretary Corbett Elsen noted that effective 2021-2022, all 3 comprehensive high schools in the Tamalpais High School District will start at 8:30 a.m. per state law.

Fiscal Agent & Treasurer Bob Marcucci stated that no firm decision has been made for middle school programs start times. A decision is expected shortly.

As noted at the last meeting, San Rafael High School and Terra Linda High School will commence classes at 8:30 a.m. in the 2021-2022 school year.

Chairperson Rollins asked to keep this discussion item on the June 9, 2021 agenda as well.

5. **Future agenda items requested by Board members (8:37 a.m.):**

There were no requests for future agenda items from the Board.

6. **Reminder of next meeting date.**
June 9, 2021

VI. CLOSED SESSION (8:44 a.m. to 8:57 a.m.)

VII. OPEN SESSION

1. **Report of Reportable Closed Session Action (8:57 a.m.)**

The Board agreed to offer the Executive Director a 3-year contract. Term is July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2024.

This contract includes a salary increase for the first 2 years of 3.75% per year. The third year's salary and benefits will be negotiated at a later date.

The Executive Director's new contract will be revised accordingly for final action at our June 9, 2021 meeting.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: 8:59 a.m.

Public Records:

In accordance with Government Code section 54957.5 and the Public Records Act, public records that are distributed to a majority of the Board of Directors concerning open session agenda items will be made available upon request by emailing Dennis Petri at dpetri@marinschools.org or by calling (415) 258-8511. Such records distributed during a public meeting will be made available for inspection at the meeting if prepared by the Agency, or after the meeting if prepared by another party.