

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

(February 8, 2018)

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

1. CALL TO ORDER – BOARD CHAIR

Chair Jody Breckenridge called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Chair Breckenridge, Vice Chair James Wunderman, Director Jeffrey DeIBono, and Director Anthony Intintoli were in attendance.

3. REPORT OF BOARD CHAIR

Chair Breckenridge said that she had recently discussed WETA's ferry services with the Governor and indicated that there might be an opportunity for WETA to partner with the State to explore options for fast ferry vessels that leave even smaller environmental footprints than WETA's fleet does presently. She noted that she recently learned of an initiative in British Columbia that would require their ferries, which are different than those operated by WETA, to use liquefied natural gas (LNG) as a primary fuel source.

4. REPORTS OF DIRECTORS

Vice Chair Wunderman reported that as an individual and through his work at the Bay Area Council he is working diligently to assure that RM3 will pass in June. He asked that anyone wanting more information about the campaign or wanting to help in those efforts contact him directly or contact Bay Area Council Policy Director Emily Loper. He said that assuring the measure passes is currently the Bay Area Council's highest priority.

Vice Chair Wunderman reminded Directors about the letter he sent to Executive Director Nina Rannells in January regarding smaller vessel opportunities. He noted that a number of Bay Area Council members had contracted directly with smaller, commercial ferry operators to provide private ferry services for their employees. He said that he believed that WETA vessels are sometimes larger than needed for the level of demand. Vice Chair Wunderman further noted that private service was currently operating in Martinez and he said perhaps WETA could work with that private company to bring more robust service to Martinez soon. He said his letter was intended to initiate a discussion about additional work that WETA may engage in to identify opportunities to utilize smaller fast ferry vessels. Vice Chair Wunderman also noted that changes to external regulatory requirements could help move new projects through the numerous regulatory and permitting processes faster.

Chair Breckenridge noted that she had asked staff to review internal work plans and bring forward an item at a future meeting with a proposed approach to exploring the potential use of small ferries in future services, as Vice Chair Wunderman has requested.

Director Intintoli reported that he and Executive Director Nina Rannells would be meeting the following week with the Solano Transportation Authority and the Solano County Board of Supervisors to discuss how RM3 funding would impact WETA's ferry services.

5. REPORTS OF STAFF

Ms. Rannells shared her written report with Directors and welcomed questions. She noted that a new Director, Nick Josefowitz, had been appointed to the WETA Board by Speaker of the Assembly Anthony Rendon. She said Director Josefowitz has a breadth of transportation experience and serves at several other transportation agencies including BART and as a Commissioner at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. Ms. Rannells added that Director Josefowitz was not able to attend the meeting today, but that he has confirmed his availability to attend future 2018 WETA Board meetings.

Ms. Rannells said that she, Operations Manager Keith Stahnke, and Engineering & Maintenance Administrator Tim Hanners had attended the Passenger Vessel Association conference in Savannah, GA the prior week. Ms. Rannells said that though not a lot of new vessel technology had been presented at the conference, there had been a recent announcement about a grant of EUR \$11 million awarded to support the completion of an all-electric vessel in Norway. Mr. Stahnke said the completion of that project was expected in about four years.

Vice Chair Wunderman said he had recently attended a clean technology conference where he had seen a presentation from Steve Westly of The Westly Group that had given him hope that the battery improvement timeline was considerably shorter than generally understood. He noted that the infrastructure was likely to be the key challenge in moving battery technology forward.

It was agreed that electric battery technology needed further evolution before it could be utilized by WETA. Chair Breckenridge reiterated the importance of identifying and securing a robust partner like the State to help further the agency's efforts to explore greener fast ferry vessel technology for its future fleet and facilities. She also said that in thinking about these new technologies, it is important to keep focus on the larger environmental picture including the fact that right now, while getting better, the production and the disposal of electric batteries pollutes our environment. Chair Breckenridge further noted that while it would likely be possible to build infrastructure to support electric vessels at WETA facilities in Vallejo, it would likely be impossible to do so on the San Francisco waterfront in the near term.

Director Intintoli asked if LNG was a viable option for WETA vessels. Mr. Stahnke noted that LNG challenges included fire hazards and vessel size requirements. He explained that the best option to support LNG fuel for ferries at this time was determined to be an onboard fuel truck to fuel the vessel, with a new truck swapping out the depleted one as needed. Mr. Stahnke explained that this was not an option for WETA vessels because of their size and configuration as passenger only ferries. He said that fire management systems and shoreside infrastructure were also evolving technologies.

Chair Breckenridge asked whether Solano, Contra Costa and Alameda counties were participating in the emergency response tabletop exercises since evacuees could possibly be transported in and out of these counties by WETA after a disaster or emergency event. She added that it will be important for these other counties to be aware and prepared for possible engagement with WETA during emergency response efforts. Program Manager/Analyst Lauren Gularte said these counties were not yet participating but were being invited to all exercises. Chair Breckenridge asked that proactive engagement with these other counties commence to assure WETA's emergency response training is as thorough as possible and includes all of its partner counties in the region.

Director Intintoli asked if the environmental regulations were being lessened by the current White House Administration and Chair Breckenridge said there was presently a focus on NEPA processes with an

objective to collapse permitting processes so they could be completed concurrently instead of in a linear fashion as has been done in the past. She said the State was also working to reduce permitting delays and burdens to eliminate redundancy and better streamline and support new infrastructure projects. Ms. Rannells reminded Directors that she had met with federal representatives early in 2017 to discuss some of the challenges WETA projects had faced in permitting and regulatory processes.

Vice Chair Wunderman said that WETA can be an advocate for both the environment and for regulatory change that ultimately will benefit the environment, such as speeding up positive infrastructure changes that will reduce traffic.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director DelBono made a motion to approve the consent calendar which included:

- a. Board Meeting Minutes – January 18, 2018
- b. Authorize Release of a Request for Proposals for Independent Year End Audit Services
- c. Authorize Release of a Request for Proposals for MV *Scorpio* Quarter-Life Refurbishment Project

Director Intintoli seconded the motion and the consent calendar carried unanimously.

Yeas: Breckenridge, DelBono, Intintoli, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: Josefowitz.

7. APPROVE CONTRACT AWARD FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES TO EATON & ASSOCIATES

Administration and Business Services Manager Melanie Jann presented this item to approve contract award for information technology services to Eaton & Associates. Vice Chair Wunderman asked if there was any likelihood that Eaton & Associates will recommend that WETA overhaul its current system during the contract period.

Public Comment

President of Eaton & Associates John Eaton said that WETA currently has a hybrid cloud and server solution system which Eaton & Associates can maintain or overhaul. He said Eaton & Associates keeps up with new technology and works with its partners to assure their infrastructure decisions best meet their needs. He said they create an annual roadmap to look at an organization's present system and plan for its path to the future. When asked about cybersecurity by Chair Breckenridge, Mr. Eaton said he believed that in the last year or two, the WETA system had been upgraded to a corporate level, state of the art firewall system to assure its servers are secure from external threats. He said he also believed that all WETA user devices have malware, antivirus and automatic cache systems to protect them. He added that security can sometimes be tightened to the point of frustrating end users which was not WETA's objective.

Director Intintoli made a motion to approve the item.

Director DelBono seconded the motion and the item carried unanimously.

Yeas: Breckenridge, DelBono, Intintoli, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: Josefowitz.

8. APPROVE RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL MEASURE 3 BRIDGE TOLL BALLOT MEASURE

Ms. Rannells presented this item to approve a resolution of support for the Regional Measure 3 bridge toll ballot measure to be placed before the voters in the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties at the June 5, 2018 statewide election.

Madeline Chun of Hanson Bridgett LLP reminded Directors that while the WETA Board can approve this resolution to publicly support RM3 formally, no public funds are to be utilized to campaign for RM3. Ms. Chun clarified that Directors and staff can communicate their own personal feelings about, and support for, the measure in their personal capacities. She further confirmed that Directors can also say they serve on the WETA Board when discussing support for the measure.

Chair Breckenridge noted that the new MV *Argo* was scheduled to be delivered and added to WETA's fleet in the next few months. She suggested that Directors leverage that positive event opportunity to educate the press and the public about WETA's current funding challenges in addition to the enhancements to current commuter service and emergency response preparedness that the MV *Argo* will provide.

Director DelBono suggested that Directors be invited by staff to speak at gatherings such as disaster council and other emergency response meetings to discuss RM3 and share the potential benefits of the measure on WETA's emergency response capabilities.

Director Intintoli made a motion to approve the item.

Vice Chair Wunderman seconded the motion and the item carried unanimously.

Yeas: Breckenridge, DelBono, Intintoli, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: Josefowitz.

9. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No additional public comments were shared.

All business having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

- Board Secretary

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