

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE COMMISSION OF THE
GREATER BAKERSFIELD SEPARATION OF GRADE DISTRICT

Held: May 10, 2021

A regular meeting of the Commission of the Greater Bakersfield Separation of Grade District was held on May 10, 2021, via video and teleconference as authorized by Governor Newsom's Executive Orders issued during the state of emergency as a result of COVID-19.

CALL TO ORDER:)
_____)

President, Mark J. Smith, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and presided thereat.

ROLL CALL:)
_____)

The following Commissioners were present:

Mark J. Smith
Steven M. Ruetters
John Spaulding

Terry A. Murray was absent.

Also present were Jon Stuebbe, Sheila K. Plane and John D. Schuler, District Engineers; and Robert G. Kuhs, District Legal Counsel.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS)
& COMMENTS:)
_____)

Jon Stuebbe attended the Commission meeting as a potential replacement for Commissioner Marchbanks. Jon was raised in and resides in Bakersfield. Jon was previously Dean of the local law school, was employed as a Kern County Superior Court Judge for 20 years and has been retired from the Kern County Superior Court for 8 years.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:)
_____)

1. President, Mark J. Smith discussed potential replacement for Commissioner Marchbanks.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES,)
REGULAR MEETING OF)
MARCH 8, 2021, AND)
ADJOURNED REGULAR)
MEETING OF APRIL 12, 2021:)
_____)

On motion of Commissioner Ruettgers, seconded by Commissioner Spaulding, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the regular meeting of March 8, 2021, and the adjourned regular meeting of April 12, 2021, were approved.

LEGAL COUNSEL'S REPORT:)
_____)

Legal Counsel reported on Social Security Administration CalPERS letter dated March 31, 2021.

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S)
REPORT:)
_____)

Mr. Schuler reported as follows:

1. Project Funding Sources. The County and City are updating the Regional Traffic Impact Fee Program (RTIFP) which was last updated in 2009. Updates are typically done every five years. The County is taking the lead. Mr. Schuler anticipates increasing funding levels for grade separation projects.

Nick Fidler, City Public Works Director, is leaving in two weeks for a new job. Stuart Patteson may be the acting Director.

The County met with Caltrans regarding SR 184 funding. Caltrans has no available funding.

Mr. Schuler is working on a historical prospective of project costs and funding of completed projects over the past 20 years.

2. High Speed Rail Project. The Revised 2020 Draft Business Plan is pending approval. The initial segment will be extended to F Street.
3. Specific Plan Lines.
 - A. Renfro – Jenkins – BNSF. This is an important regional North/South connection. Updated project costs are estimated at \$22-30 million. Mr. Schuler met with Tom Dee of RGF Properties and also received a call from Brian Batey who is interested in the project. Next step will be to develop a funding and coordination strategy with the City.

B. Morning Drive. The County and KernCOG are scheduled to meet with Caltrans regarding possible relinquishment of SR 184 from the State to the County.

C. Kratzmeyer – BNSF. This project has been linked to the KernCOG KARGO study.

4. Morning Drive @ UPRR. Caltrans has no funds available. SR 184 relinquishment is on hold. Need to revise strategy.
5. Baker/Truxtun/Beale @ BNSF & UPRR. No change.
6. Rosedale Highway at Landco. No change.
7. Cherry Ave. & Los Angeles St./Beech Ave. @ BNSF. Highway 99 cannot be widened indefinitely. Project would bypass Highway 99 at Merced, down Cherry Avenue to I-5. Could become a major consideration within 6 months to two years.
8. CPUC Nominations F.Y. 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Nominations are due in the fall of 2021. Mr. Schuler is proceeding with initial data collection from Caltrans, the County and the cities of Bakersfield and Shafter. Due to stolen wiring at Olive Drive, we may not have data for the last year.

FINANCIAL REPORT:)
_____)

The Secretary then presented the Financial Report, as revised, for March thru April 2021, in the form attached as **Exhibit A**. Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Spaulding, seconded by Commissioner Ruettgers, and unanimously carried, the report was approved and ordered filed, vouchers to pay the bills from the District Expense Fund as noted in part A(1) of the report were ordered to be drawn and presented to the County Controller for payment.

AYES: Mark J. Smith
Steven M. Ruettgers
John Spaulding

NOES: None

ABSENT: Terry A. Murray

ABSTAIN: None

BUDGET:)
_____)

Sheila Plane reported that the Commission is scheduled to be dark in June, but the Budget is due August 1, 2021. Mrs. Plane suggested the need for a Special Meeting June 14, 2021.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:)
_____)

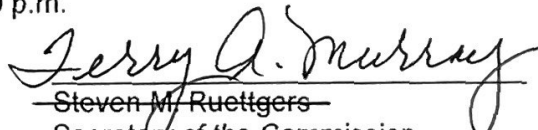
Nothing to report.

CORRESPONDENCE:)
_____)

Correspondence dated March 25, 2021, was received from SDRMA with 2021-2022 Estimated Property/Liability Insurance Quote and Renewal. Sheila reported that estimate is down from 2020-2021. On motion of Commissioner Ruettgers, seconded by Commissioner Spaulding, and unanimously carried, the annual premium shall not exceed \$13,000.

ADJOURNMENT:)
_____)

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was, on motion of Commissioner Ruettgers, seconded by Commissioner Spaulding, and unanimously carried, adjourned at 5:40 p.m. The Commission will next meet at an adjourned regular meeting on Monday, June 14, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.



~~Steven M. Ruettgers~~
Secretary of the Commission

APPROVED: 

Mark J. Smith
President of the Commission

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MONTHLY MEETING MAY 2021

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A(1) DISTRICT EXPENSE FUND:

Mark Smith	Commissioner Expense - March & April 2021	\$	200.00
Steven Ruettgers	Commissioner Expense - March & April 2021	\$	200.00
Terry Murray	Commissioner Expense - March & April 2021	\$	200.00
John Spaulding	Commissioner Expense - March & April 2021	\$	200.00
Kuhs & Parker	Professional Services - February 2021	\$	55.40
Ruettgers & Schuler	Engineering Services - March 1, 2021 thru April 30, 2021	\$	5,821.25
Ruettgers & Schuler	Specific Plan Line - March 1, 2021 thru April 30, 2021	\$	736.25
Daniells Phillips Vaughn & Bock	Financial Services - February & March 2021	\$	1,760.00
		\$	<u>9,172.90</u>

Exhibit A