

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

Held:

September 12, 2022

A regular meeting of the Commission of the Greater Bakersfield Separation of Grade District was held on September 12, 2022, 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	Present
Steven M. Ruetters	Present
John Spaulding	Absent
Jon Stuebbe	Present

Also present were Sheila K. Plane and John D. Schuler, District Engineers; and Robert G. Kuhs, District Legal Counsel; as guests were Craig Pope and Jeevan Muhar.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS)
& COMMENTS:)
_____)

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES,)
REGULAR MEETINGS OF)
JULY 25, 2022)
_____)

On motion of Commissioner Ruettgens, seconded by Commissioner Stuebbe, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the regular meeting of July 25, 2022, were approved.

LEGAL COUNSEL'S REPORT:)
_____)

None.

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S)
REPORT:)
_____)

1. Project Funding Sources: Mr. Schuler updated the Commission on the status of the federal CRISI and Rail Crossing Elimination funding programs, with guidelines and submittal deadlines in October and December being defined.
2. Project Funding Strategies: Mr. Schuler met with Gregg Strakaluse, the City of Bakersfield's Public Works Director, and Anthony Valdez, the Assistant City Manager re: Alternative Analysis (AA) for E. Truxtun/BNSF and funding for both Rosedale Highway/Landco and E. Truxtun/BNSF.
3. HSR: The HSR is moving forward with the Shafter to Bakersfield leg. The design consultant is proceeding and geotechnical investigations is underway.
4. Specific Lines:
 - Renfro: Ongoing coordination activities and interest with adjacent landowners. Schuler discussed potential federal funding with City.
 - Kratzmeyer/BNSF – no change.
5. Morning Drive @ UPRR: Caltrans has agreed to prepare a funding application for the federal Rail Crossing Elimination program. Mr. Schuler has provided Caltrans staff with the latest project information and preliminary plans received from the HSR program for the Morning Drive grade separation. Mr. Schuler will follow-up with Caltrans on status and submittal.
6. Baker Street: - Mr. Schuler will obtain a proposal from Ty Lin, on behalf of the City, for an Alternatives Analysis (AA), leading to a federal funding application for the project approval and environmental document phase.

7. Rosedale Highway/Landco - SJVR: Mr. Schuler reports that the project approval documents prepared for the Rosedale Highway widening project under the TRIP program cover a grade separation at Landco as the final phase. Therefore, these documents could be used as the basis for a federal funding application. This opportunity was discussed with the City (Gregg Strakaluse and Anthony Valdez), who are supportive of the project, but want the County or Caltrans to take the lead. Mr. Schuler will follow-up with Mr. Lux (County Public Works Director) and Caltrans re: who will take the lead role.
8. Cherry Avenue: This project continues to be high on the City of Shafter's radar as an element of potential West Bypass. Shafter will be looking to Wonderful for matching funds.

FINANCIAL REPORT: _____)
_____)

The Secretary then presented the Financial Report for July 2022, in the form attached as **Exhibit A**. Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Stuebbe, seconded by Commissioner Ruetters, 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. Ruetters
Jon Stuebbe

Noes: None
Absent: John Spaulding
Abstain: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: _____)
_____)

Deferred until next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: _____)
_____)

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Stuebbe, seconded by Commissioner Ruetters, and unanimously carried, the correspondence was approved and ordered filed.

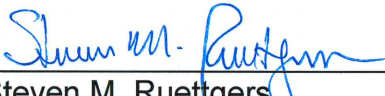
1. Request for proposal letters to accounting firms for preparation of annual audit and related services. Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Stuebbe, seconded by Commissioner Ruetters, and unanimously carried,

the request to retain Daniels Phillips Vaughan & Bock as Auditor was approved and filed.

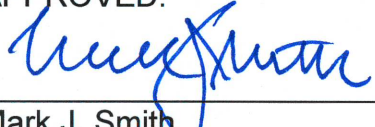
2. Notification letter to Clerk of the Board of Supervisors regarding Commissioner Vacancies dated August 5, 2022, received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT: _____)
_____)

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was, on motion of Commissioner Ruetters, seconded by Commissioner Stuebbe, and unanimously carried, adjourned at 5:43 p.m. The Commission will next meet on Monday, November 14, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.



Steven M. Ruetters
Vice President of the Commission

APPROVED:


Mark J. Smith
President of the Commission

Exhibit A

MONTHLY MEETING SEPTEMBER 2022

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

DISTRICT EXPENSE FUND:

LeBeau Thelen, LLP	Legal Services - July 2022	\$ 1,083.00
LeBeau Thelen, LLP	Legal Services - August 2022	\$ 57.00
Ruettgers & Schuler	Engineering Services - July & August 2022	<u>\$ 16,090.00</u>
		<u>\$ 17,230.00</u>