

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

Held: **January 16, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Commission of the Greater Bakersfield Separation of Grade District was held on January 16, 2023, at 1800 30th Street, Suite 260, Bakersfield, California. This meeting was a continuation from a regular meeting that was scheduled for January 9, 2023 at which no business was conducted.

CALL TO ORDER: _____)
_____)

Vice President, Steven M. Ruettgers, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and presided thereat.

ROLL CALL: _____)
_____)

The following Commissioners were present:

Steven M. Ruettgers	Present
Craig M. Pope	Present
Jake Wood	Present

Also present were Sheila K. Plane and John D. Schuler, District Engineers; Bernard LeBeau III, appearing on behalf of Robert Kuhs, District Legal Counsel; and former District President Mark J. Smith, attending as a member of the public.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS _____)
& COMMENTS: _____)
_____)

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES,)
REGULAR MEETINGS OF)
November 14, 2022 and)
January 9, 2023)
_____)

On motion of Commissioner Pope, seconded by Commissioner Wood, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the regular meeting of November 14, 2022 and January 9, 2023, were approved.

LEGAL COUNSEL'S REPORT:)
_____)

None.

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S)
REPORT:)
_____)

1. Project Funding Sources: Mr. Schuler reported no change in the status of federal or state funding. Federal funding is \$1 billion annually, no change with the State.
2. Project Funding Strategies and TY Lin Coordination: Mr. Schuler met with Caltrans, County, KernCOG and the City of Bakersfield concerning strategy for Morning Drive and Rosedale/Landco. It was hoped that Caltrans could take the lead on the project, but the engineer originally assigned to it has since been reassigned, making progress in 2023 questionable. Mr. Pope recommended that the District would likely need to take more of a lead on projects due to local government staffing issues.
3. HSR: No change.
4. Specific Lines:
 - Renfro: no change.
 - Kratzmeyer/BNSF: Mr. Schuler plans to restart discussions with COB for SP line.
5. Morning Drive @ UPRR: The Caltrans engineer who was assigned to the project has been moved, which makes the 2023 application questionable. The District, County, and COB had wanted Cal Trans to take the lead.
6. Baker Street: - COB contract for alternative analysis with TY Lin is in process. Mr. Schuler is working to set up meetings with councilman Gonzales and the Hub for input on alternatives.
7. Rosedale Highway/Landco - SJVR: No change.

8. Cherry Avenue: This project continues to be high on the City of Shafter's radar as an element of potential West Bypass SR-99 to 35.

FINANCIAL REPORT:)
_____)

The Secretary then presented the Financial Report for January 16, 2023, in the form attached as **Exhibit A**. Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Pope, seconded by Commissioner Jake Wood, and unanimously carried, the report was approved and ordered filed.

Ayes:	Steven M. Ruetters
	Craig M. Pope
	Jake Wood
Noes:	None
Absent:	Jeremy Tobias
Abstain:	None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:)
_____)

Deferred until next meeting when the District expects to have a full complement of Commissioners and the President will make new assignments.

CORRESPONDENCE:)
_____)

Following discussion, the following correspondence was received and filed.

1. Letter from State Controller dated 11/1/22 re 2021-2022 Special District's Financial Transactions Report
2. Letter from US Department of Commerce, Census Bureau re: 2022 Census of Governments received 11/22/22
3. Letter from Daniels Philips Vaughan & Bock CPAs and Advisors dated 12/6/22 re: Scope and timing of 2021-2022 financial audit
4. Request from Kern County dated 12/7/22 re annual Statement of Fact by Public Agency (due March 31, 2023)
5. Letter from Special District Risk Management Authority dated 12/15/22 re: Submittal of Report on Internal Controls

OTHER BUSINESS:)
_____)

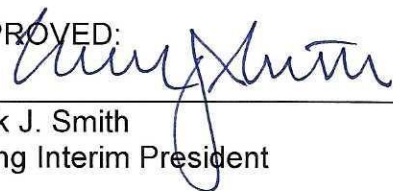
Commissioner Craig M. Pope announced that he will need to resign as a Commissioner as he will soon be moving to South Carolina. This will be his last meeting as a Commissioner.

ADJOURNMENT:)
_____)

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was, on motion of Commissioner Craig Pope, seconded by Commissioner Jake Wood, and unanimously carried, adjourned at 5:21 p.m. The Commission will next meet on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.



Jeremy Tobias, Acting Interim
Assistant Secretary of the Commission

APPROVED: 

Mark J. Smith
Acting Interim President