

**LONG BEACH TRANSIT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, 12:00 PM**

Michael Clemson, Chair
David H. Sutton, Vice Chair
Colleen Bentley, Secretary/Treasurer
Abigail Mejia, Director
Jeffrey Price, Director
Sumire Gant, Director



Lea Eriksen, City Representative

Kenneth A. McDonald,
President and Chief Executive Officer

**BOARD MEETING VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 ISSUED BY
GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM**

ZOOM MEETING ID: 968 3509 4308 (PASSWORD: 1963)

REGULAR MEETING - NOON

1. Call to Order. (Michael Clemson)

Chair Clemson called the meeting to order at noon.

2. Roll Call. (Jen Flores)

Commissioners Sumire Gant, Abigail Mejia, Colleen Bentley, David Sutton and
Present: Michael Clemson

Commissioners Jeffrey Price

Excused:

3. Employee Recognition. (Jen Flores)

Employees of the Month for June 2021:

Jose Gutierrez, Transit Service Delivery and Planning
Martin Esparza, Maintenance and Infrastructure
Majed Albokaei, Administrative Staff

INFORMATION ITEM

Jen Flores, Acting Board Secretary, present the Employees of the Month for June 2021.

4. Public Comment.

Chair Clemson read a public comment from Frances Emily Dawson Harris, a member of the public.

Ms. Dawson Harris supports the proposed reduced fares. She asked LBT to consider a fare for customers with a disability, similar to the fare charged by LBT's Dial A Lift and Access services.

Ms. Dawson Harris thanked LBT for the suspension of fare collection during the COVID 19 pandemic.

Ms. Dawson Harris suggested Dial A Lift vans with adequate floor space to secure two wheelchairs. She also suggested updates to several of LBT's disability signage on buses currently.

Ms. Dawson Harris asked LBT to consider supporting mandatory ADA Blue Loading Zones for the safety of customers needing extra time to board.

Chair Clemson read a public comment from Lili Ye, a member of the public.

Ms. Ye had concerns regarding the COVID-19 service cuts, lack of evening service and when service is expected to return to normal.

Ms. Ye stated that the LBT imposed curfew is too early and would like the public to be informed of when service will be restored.

5. President and CEO Report. (Kenneth McDonald)

INFORMATION ITEM

Kenneth McDonald, President and CEO, presented his monthly report.

On Friday, May 28, LBT welcomed customers to highlight the return of Aqualink, LBT and the Long Beach Convention and Visitor's Bureau held a press event at the AquaLink dock.

CEO McDonald thanked Chair Clemson and Secretary/Treasurer Bentley for attending the press event.

The service will be free of charge through July 4 to encourage residents and visitors to get reacquainted with their community.

CEO McDonald thanked the Long Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau for their sponsorship

CEO McDonald stated that it was a great pleasure to work with Steve Goodling, President and CEO of the Long Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Steve and his staff are always instrumental in growing the City of Long Beach.

Service began Memorial Day Weekend and will operate Friday, Saturday and Sunday, from 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

AquaBus remains on hiatus for a little while longer.

The AquaLink will operate between Alamitos Bay and the Aquarium of the Pacific Dock.

To remain socially distant, capacity will be limited to 40 customers on a first-come basis.

Masks are required on board all AquaLink boats

Schedules are posted at the dock and online with boats departing every 90 minutes.

CEO McDonald is pleased to bring AquaLink back to our customers.

This is truly a sign that the communities we serve are opening up and Long Beach is welcoming visitors once again.

CEO McDonald stated that the state reopened on June 15, 2021, LBT's Managers and Executive Leadership Team, have held multiple meetings to for the return of fare revenue collection.

Staff has met with Supervisors and front-line employees to understand any major issues with returning to collecting fare revenue.

The Operator barriers that the Board approved in February of this year, and the air-cleaning ion emitters for buses are all part of the preparation for fare revenue collection.

LBT is developing a communication plan for both its employees and customers, to clearly share LBT's next steps.

There is currently no date set to return to fare revenue collection; however, LBT is preparing for it and will establish a date in the near future.

The date will be communicated at least 30 days before actual revenue collection begins.

As part of the state reopening, Governor Newsom extended the provision of Executive Order N-29-20, which allows for local legislative body or state body to hold meetings via teleconference or videoconference.

The provision allows LBT to hold its Board meetings via videoconference and shall remain in place through September 30, 2021, upon which time the provision is set to expire

Director Gant asked about the timeline for return to full service. CEO McDonald answered that will be addressed at the next sign-up, which is expected in August.

Discussion ensued regarding reasoning for delay in returning to full service.

Director Gant asked if LBT has considered raising the entry level wages for bus operators. CEO McDonald answered that LBT began Union negotiations 30-40 days ago.

Director Gant expressed concern regarding people returning to work and having reliable way to get to work. CEO McDonald stated that is was a concern for LBT, and wants to make sure that LBT has a way to deliver promised service.

Discussion ensued regarding challenges surrounding hiring in the industry.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

All matters included on the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Long Beach Transit Board of Directors and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board of Directors or the public so requests, in which event the matter shall be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered as a separate item.

CONSENT CALENDAR (6)

Passed the Consent Calendar

**A motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Bentley,
seconded by Director Gant, to approve Consent Calendar Item
6. The motion carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 3 - Abigail Mejia, Colleen Bentley and Michael Clemson

Abstain: 2 - Sumire Gant and David Sutton

Excused: 1 - Jeffrey Price

6. [21-045TR](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes of the regular session meeting held on May 27, 2021.

REGULAR CALENDAR

7. [21-046TR](#) Monthly Financial Report. (Lisa Patton)

INFORMATION ITEM

Lisa Patton, Executive Director/VP, Finance and Budget, present the staff report.

This TR-Agenda Item was received and filed.

8. [21-048TR](#) Recommendation to authorize the President and CEO to execute an emergency procurement and enter into a contract with Climate Comfort Technologies for the purchase of air-cleaning ion emitters for 250 buses at an initial cost of \$542,579, with a 5% contingency of \$27,129, for a total authorization amount not to exceed \$569,708. (James Scott)

James Scott, Executive Director/VP, Maintenance and Infrastructure, presented the staff report.

Vice Chair Sutton asked if the equipment would be installed and maintained by LBT staff or the vendor. CEO McDonald stated that the equipment will be installed by LBT staff; and staff will be responsible for maintaining or replacing the equipment in the future.

A motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Bentley, seconded by Director Gant, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Sumire Gant, Abigail Mejia, Colleen Bentley, David Sutton and Michael Clemson

Excused: 1 - Jeffrey Price

9. [21-049TR](#) Recommendation to modify the Board of Directors meeting date from July 22, 2021 to July 29, 2021 at noon. (Kenneth McDonald)

CEO McDonald, presented the staff report.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Sutton, seconded by Director Mejia, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Abigail Mejia, Colleen Bentley, David Sutton and Michael Clemson

Abstain: 1 - Sumire Gant

Excused: 1 - Jeffrey Price

10. Board Requests.

CEO McDonald took a moment to acknowledge the outgoing Board Secretary, Ivette Dubois. He expressed his appreciation of the work Ms. Dubois has done over the years in the role. CEO McDonald stated that Ms. Dubois will be sorely missed and has been instrumental in the structure and organization of the way the Board meetings are conducted.

CEO McDonald wished Ms. Dubois well and to thank her for all her work, on behalf of all LBT staff.

Director Gant thanked Ms. Dubois. Director Gant stated that she appreciated Ms. Dubois' professionalism and how she really went the extra mile to make sure we were ready, prepared and able to effectively participate. Thanks, Ms. Dubois and good luck.

Secretary/Treasurer Bentley expressed appreciation to Ms. Dubois. Secretary/Treasurer Bentley stated that Ms. Dubois has been marvelous at keeping us informed and up to date of any changes and so professional. I really appreciate all she did for us and LBT, in general, for all the employees. She was really a wonderful employee and I hate to see her go. Congratulations and thank you, Ms. Dubois.

Chair Clemson stated that Ms. Dubois really helped getting organized and up to speed as Chair. Chair Clemson is very grateful to Ms. Dubois for keeping the meetings organized and moving smoothly.

11. [21-047TR](#) Adjourn. The next regular meeting will be held on July 22, 2021.
(Michael Clemson)

The meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

**A motion was made by Director Gant, seconded by
Secretary/Treasurer Bentley, to approve recommendation.**

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Sumire Gant, Abigail Mejia, Colleen Bentley, David Sutton
and Michael Clemson

Excused: 1 - Jeffrey Price

Note:

Long Beach Transit intends to provide reasonable accommodations with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If special accommodation is desired, please call the Board Secretary's Office 72 hours prior to the meeting at 562.599.8554.

Long Beach Transit is an entity which is separate and distinct from the City of Long Beach.