

EASTON, REDDING, REGION 9 BOARDS OF EDUCATION
Transportation Committee Special Meeting
February 15, 2018
Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Committee members: Coppinger, Denny, Parkin and Hicks

Administration: Reiss and Ponzio

Public: Jeff Parker

Mr. Coppinger called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

MOTION: move to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2017 ER9 Joint Boards of Education Transportation Committee Special meeting. Motioned by Denny; Seconded by Hicks. Coppinger approved. Hicks and Parkin abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Parker stated that that we learned a few things from the last bus contract extension; that we should make all yearly costs relatively even during life of contract. In addition, Mr. Parker believes we should not roll the dice and leave the costs of storing our busses up to the bus company and the landlord of the property. Since Easton has offered to provide the land and the labor to construct a depot, the Transportation Committee should take advantage of that offer.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT:

Mr. Hicks stated that in the past, the location of a depot has been between DATTCO and the Service Provider (landlord of the property). Ms. Denny and Mr. Parkin agreed with Mr. Hicks. Mr. Coppinger stated he believes that if the Town of Easton wishes to create a bus depot, then they should approach the winning bidder for the Bus contract with a proposal but that the Central office should not be burdened with additional management responsibilities for a bus depot. Ms. Denny echoed Mr. Coppinger's comments and added that she thought the discussions focused on the Bus depot were a town decision. Mr. Coppinger echoed other board member comments, and noted that there are still no representatives of the Bus depot proposal at this meeting to update us on the status.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON
Ms. Denny nominated Mr. Hicks for the Chairperson position. Mr. Coppinger seconded the motion.

MOTION: move to nominate Mr. Hicks as the Chairperson of the ER9 Transportation Committee. Motioned by Denny; Seconded by Hicks. Motion passed. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: CONDITION OF BUSES
Mrs. Ponzio stated that the current busses are in good/fair condition. Some busses have already had engines replaced and many would soon require the same.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: DATTCO PERFORMANCE
DATTCO has generally been compliant with requirements and when they were not, there have been performance penalties imposed.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: RFP TIMELINE AND DRAFT OF TEXT
Mr. Reiss handed out the timeline and proposed RFP for review. Many discussions ensued. Some of the issues discussed: which companies would be invited to bid, methods for posting any notice, fuel types, size of the fleet required, size of individual busses, manufacturer of busses, safety issues and requirements.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: move to adjourn the meeting. Motioned by Coppinger; Seconded by Parkin. Motion passed. Unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Submitted by,
Randy Hicks, ER9 Transportation Committee Chairperson