

EASTON, REDDING, REGION 9 BOARDS OF EDUCATION
Joint Transportation Committee Special Meeting
Central Office Conference Room
March 29, 2018 - 8:00 a.m.
Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Committee members: Coppinger, D'Agostino, Denny, Parkin and Hicks
Administration: Reiss and Ponzio
Public: none

Mr. Hicks called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

MOTION: move to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2018 ER9 Joint Boards of Education Transportation Committee Special meeting. Motioned by Parkin; Seconded by Denny. Approved. Hicks, Coppinger and D'Agostino abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT: None

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: REVIEW RFP RESPONSES

Mr. Reiss distributed a summary of the bid responses for the committee members to review. Members discussed various similarities and differences from each of the bidders. Members discussed keeping three tier busing with the option/flexibility to adjust to two tier in the future. Members discussed the possible benefits or disadvantages of "wet hose" fuel delivery. Mr. Reiss described how the service would mirror our current diesel pricing. Mr. Reiss expressed his desire that the Boards not own the buses in the future, and each bidder is pricing both the transportation service and vehicles – a bundled transportation service. Discussion ensued as to why we switched providers 7 years ago. The Committee agreed to review the minutes from previous meetings.

Members discussed how the providers did not independently suggest any changes to our current fleet. The pricing between 74/72 passenger buses and 35 passenger buses was negligible. Twenty-six passenger buses were approximately 25% lower in price/day. Mr. Reiss indicated it appeared that at least two of the bidders would continue to use the current Bethel location to house the buses.

The members discussed the next meeting date, likely to be April 25 and that we may not be in a position to make a final recommendation by the date of the May Tri-Board meeting. Mr. D'Agostino said we should ask all the bidders to return so that the Committee can ask specific, clarifying questions.

The Committee discussed the individual add-ons from each provider, such as routing software, GPS tracking, and "here comes the bus" app.

Members concluded with a "to do" list, namely i) try to determine why did we change providers seven years ago, ii) generate a list of questions for the next "interview" meeting with each of the bidders.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Submitted by,
Randy Hicks, ER9 Transportation Committee Chairperson