

**MINUTES OF THE  
EAGLE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
March 13, 2024**

A meeting of the Eagle Valley Transportation Authority (“Authority”) Board of Directors (“Board”) was held on March 13, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. The meeting was held in person at the Avon Council Chambers located at 100 Mikaela Way, Town of Avon, Colorado, 81620, and on zoom. Notice of the meeting was posted on March 8, 2024, and included agenda items, location and time, as well as the teleconference information, needed to participate in the public portion of the meeting. The Notice of Board of Directors Meeting dated March 8, 2024, and the certification of posting are attached hereto.

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**ATTENDANCE**

**Directors in Attendance:**

Director Amy Phillips, Mayor and Councilor, Town of Avon

Director Dave Eickholt, Beaver Creek Metro District

Director Jeanne McQueeney, Commissioner, Eagle County

Director Barry Davis, Councilor, Town of Vail

Director Earle Bidez, Mayor, Town of Minturn

Alternate Director Bryan Woods, Councilor, Town of Eagle.

Director Garrett Alexander, Member of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Red Cliff

**Directors Absent:**

Nick Sunday, Councilor, Town of Eagle

**Also in Attendance:**

Jeff Wetzal, Operations Manager, ECO Transit

Greg Barret, Safety & Security Manager, ECO Transit

Jessie Cooper, Fleet Asset Supervisor, ECO Transit

Tanya Allen, Executive Director, EVTA

Scott Robinson, Deputy Director, EVTA

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Aryn Schlichting, Director of People & Culture, EVTA

Ursula Hayden, Director of Finance, EVTA

Lance Trujillo, Director of Innovation & Technology, EVTA

Larry Tenenholz, Acting Director, ECO Transit

Juan Reyes, Road Supervisor, ECO Transit

Ray Shei, Alternate Board, Beaver Creek Metro District

Jim Shoun, Transit Manager, Town of Avon

Sarah Smith Hymes, Eagle County Resident, Eagle County  
Commissioner Candidate

Keith Klesner, Town of Eagle Resident, Holy Cross Board  
Member

Laura Hartman, Town of Eagle Resident, Palmer Foundation  
Member

Kristen Hartel, Town of Eagle Resident, Palmer Foundation  
Member

Chatham Mayberry, Town of Eagle Resident

Tim McMahon, Community Member, Town of Avon

Jeremy Rietmann, Manager, Town of Gypsum

**Public Attendance On Zoom:**

Bill Ray, Communications Consultant, EVTA

Randy Belisle, Lead Trainer, ECO Transit

Stephanie Samuelson, Information Representative, ECO Transit

Todd Cleveland, ITS Technician, ECO Transit

Jodi Doney, Terminal Ops Manager, EGE Airport

Rachel Walker, Back Office Supervisor, Eagle County Sheriff

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Jordan Winters, Operations Manager, Town of Vail

Elizabeth Baer, Walking Mountains

Will Barror, Walking Mountains

Gina McCrackin, Walking Mountains

Kira Koppel, Town of Eagle Resident

Laura Waniuk, Eagle County Resident

Melissa Daruna, Town of Eagle Resident

Michelle Meetter, Town of Minturn Resident

Scott Foust, Eagle County Resident

Joanna Kerwin, Edwards Metro District Resident

Tim Mullen, Executive Director, CRA

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**APPROVAL OF THE  
AGENDA**

Director Phillips presented the agenda for the meeting and inquired if there were any proposed changes. There were none.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
AND FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS**

Director Phillips presented the minutes dated February 14, 2024, for approval. Director Bidez moved to approve the minutes and financial statements. Director Eickholt seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous 7-0 vote.

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**BOARD COMMENT**

Director Eickholt mentioned that he had a productive discussion about cash management with Deputy Director Robinson and Director of Finance Hayden.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tim McMahon voiced his concerns regarding pedestrian safety on Highway 6 and the extension of the winter bus schedule. He suggested an alternative board meeting time and requested the attendance of an SP Plus representative at the meetings.

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**AGENDA ITEMS**

**6. Presentations**

**6.1 EVTA People & Culture Update**

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Director of People & Culture Schlichting presented an update on the EVTA People & Culture Plan, highlighting its primary focus on the smooth transition of staff and maintaining consistency in service.

## **7. Business**

### **7.1 EVTA Total Compensation Philosophy**

Director of People & Culture Schlichting stated that the staff is currently developing the Total Compensation Philosophy, with the goal of transitioning successful practices from ECO Transit into EVTA, focusing on competitive compensation and flexible rewards. Director Davis expressed his desire for ongoing communication from EVTA to all municipalities within Eagle County regarding employee packages.

Director Davis motioned to approve the EVTA Total Compensation Philosophy as presented. Director Woods seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous 7-0 vote.

### **7.2 Colorado Retirement Association (CRA) Resolution & Agreement**

Deputy Director Robinson stated that he collaborated with representatives at CRA, while also considering feedback from ECO Transit employees, to develop the presented plan. The plan includes a 5% mandatory 401a contribution, along with the option for 457/Roth contributions. He reviewed the details of the employer match and the flexibility of the plans based on employees' needs. Board members expressed concerns about making the 401A contributions mandatory, especially for seasonal employees.

Tim Mullen (CRA Executive Director) noted that EVTA can amend their participation agreement in the future if necessary. He explained that upon separation of service, an individual can cash out their account or rollover into a new plan. Director Phillips expressed approval of the mandatory contribution due to the generous match offered and the cash-out option upon separation.

Director McQueeney motioned to approve the resolution to join the CRA, appoint Tanya Allen as the designated signee on the

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policy and plan documents presented and authorize staff to spend up to \$75,000 to be used for replacing the unvested dollars of ECO employees who are not fully vested yet at time of transfer to EVTA. Director Davis seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous 7-0 vote.

### **7.3 ECO Operations Update and Summer Fare Proposal**

Mr. Tenenholz summarized the recent successes at ECO Transit and highlighted increased ridership numbers. Executive Director Allen elaborated on the potential challenges of a fare-free service system this summer but emphasized its positive impact on our community and the importance of using this period to gather data about ridership patterns for the winter. Discussion ensued among board and staff regarding the clarification of fare-free zones versus fare zones. Director Davis expressed concern that launching this summer may be premature. Director Philips expressed support for launching the fare-free program this summer to analyze the data and prepare for higher demand in the winter.

Director Bidez motioned to approve fare-free operation on the entirety of ECO Transit's Highway 6 and Minturn Routes, beginning with the summer 2024 season starting May 19 and fare-free operation on the Valley route, except for stops within Town of Gypsum boundaries, also beginning with the summer 2024 season starting May 19. Director Alexander seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous 7-0 vote.

### **7.4 Retreat Review and Updated Interim Strategic Plan Adoption**

Director Davis exited the meeting. Executive Director Allen presented an Interim Strategic Plan that was modified based on feedback from the board retreat. She explained that the document will be utilized until the ECO Transit transition is complete in 2025. Director Phillips requested an easily digestible announcement on the website to clarify the results of the ballot measure to ensure the public is aware of the outcome and there is no confusion regarding the community members in Gypsum.

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Director Eickholt motioned to approve an updated Interim Strategic Plan for EVTA. Director Alexander seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous 6-0 vote.

## **8. Staff Reports**

### **8.1 Administration Division Report**

Deputy Director Robinson introduced EVTA's new Director of Finance, Ursula Hayden.

### **8.2 Operations Division Report**

Executive Director Allen discussed adjustments made to the Beaver Creek study and confirmed that staff is receiving good data.

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:54 PM.

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