



2023-9

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM OF MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023

These minutes are supplemented by the audio recording that is posted online at:
<https://www.goldengate.org/district/board-of-directors/meeting-documents>

The Board of Directors (Board) of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (District) met in regular session at the United Irish Cultural Center, Saint Francis Room, 2700 45th Avenue, San Francisco, CA, on Friday, September 22, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., with President Thériault presiding. A remote audio option for public participation was available.

- (1) **CALL TO ORDER:** President Michael Thériault. **[00:46 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**
- (2) **ROLL CALL:** Secretary of the District Amorette M. Ko-Wong. **[01:35 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Directors Present (18): Directors Conroy, Dorsey, Engardio, Garbarino, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin, Moulton-Peters, Pahre, Rabbitt, Rodoni, Safaí, Snyder, Stefani and Thier; Second Vice President Hill; First Vice President Cochran; President Thériault.

Directors Absent (1): Director Giudice.

Staff Present: General Manager Denis Mulligan; Auditor-Controller Joseph Wire; District Engineer Ewa Bauer-Furbush; Secretary of the District Amorette Ko-Wong; Attorney Kimon Manolius; Deputy General Manager/Bridge Division David Rivera; Deputy General Manager/Ferry Division Michael Hoffman; Deputy General Manager/Administration and Development Kellee Hopper; Executive Administrator to the General Manager Justine Bock; Senior Board Analyst Elizabeth Eells.

- (3) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Director Gerald Cochran **[01:11 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

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Copies of all reports are available on the District's web site at <https://www.goldengate.org/district/board-of-directors/meeting-documents> or upon request from the Office of the District Secretary.

(4) PUBLIC COMMENT: [02:17 and 29:24 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

The following individuals spoke under Public Comment:

- Dave Rhody, The Climate Reality Project (in person)
- Manuel Gamboa, Sacramento County Resident (remotely)

Public Comment was re-opened at 29:05 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording. For more information, see the minutes section before Agenda Item No. 7, Other Reports.

[09:15 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

President Thériault and General Manager Denis Mulligan thanked the speakers for their comments. Mr. Mulligan responded to the public comments. He thanked Mr. Gamboa for his and his family's tireless advocacy over the past decade and expressed sympathies for the loss of their son. He said that their Suicide Deterrent System advocacy efforts have been very successful. He also thanked Mr. Rhody for his climate change advocacy and acknowledged that renewable diesel is not a long-term solution.

[Director Safaí arrived.]

(5) CONSENT CALENDAR: [09:53 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Directors THIER/MASTIN moved and seconded to approve the Consent Calendar. All items were approved by the following vote of the Board of Directors:

AYES (17): Directors Conroy, Dorsey, Engardio, Garbarino, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin, Pahre, Rabbitt, Rodoni, Safaí, Snyder, Stefani and Thier; Second Vice President Hill; First Vice President Cochran; President Thériault.

NOES (0): None.

ABSENT (2): Directors Giudice and Moulton-Peters.

(A) Approve the Minutes of the following Meetings:

- (1) Building and Operating Committee of August 24, 2023;
- (2) Finance-Auditing Committee of August 24, 2023;
- (3) Rules, Policy and Industrial Relations Committee of August 24, 2023; and,
- (4) Board of Directors of August 25, 2023.

Carried

(B) Ratification of Previous Actions by the Auditor-Controller

Resolution No. 2023-058 (as detailed in the September 21, 2023, Finance-Auditing Committee meeting)

- (1) Ratifies Commitments and/or Expenditures
- (2) Ratifies Previous Investments

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- (3) Authorizes Reinvestments
- (4) Accepts Investment Report for August 2023

Adopted

(6) REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

(A) General Manager [10:56 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Mr. Mulligan presented the General Manager Report. He highlighted a few items in his report including: 1) The Golden Gate Transit-Amalgamated Retirement Plan (GGTARP) presentation will be presented to the Board on October 27, 2023; 2) The Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific National Pension Plan (IBU Plan) achieved Pension Protection Act Zone Certification "Green" Status as of July 1, 2023; 3) The District spearheaded and hosted Maritime Emergency Preparedness and Security Exercises on September 18-21, 2023; 4) The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Week is being held in San Francisco November 11-17, 2023; and 5) recognition of Wilfred Marlin Owens, Aaron Kozlowski and Andrew Bianchi for their District service.

[17:13 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

President Thériault commented about the IBU Plan's prior status in the "red" zone, and acknowledged the plan's progress. He expressed optimism that the GGTARP would achieve a similar green status.

Director Snyder inquired about the possibility that pension plans could apply for federal funds.

Director Grosboll acknowledged the Gamboa Family, their son's death on September 20, 2013, and their placement in the Obituary section of the San Francisco Chronicle that week.

Mr. Mulligan responded to the Directors' comments and inquiry. He said that the IBU Plan could possibly offer a road map for GGTARP to achieve success. He also said he would check on the possibility that the pension plan is eligible for government funding.

(B) Attorney [18:57 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Attorney Kimon Manolius presented the Attorney Report, which was for informational purposes only and no action was required.

(C) District Engineer [19:17 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

District Engineer Ewa Bauer-Furbush presented the District Engineer Report, which was for informational purposes only and no action was taken. She provided an update on a number of Engineering projects including the:

- Suicide Deterrent System
- Administration Building Elevator
- Toll Plaza Pavement Overlay
- Corte Madera Ecological Preserve (CMER)

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She explained that staff is talking with the consultant about the pampas grass removal and the consultant is working with the County of Marin to identify alternatives to remove the grass. She said that staff would bring an Amendment to the Board if necessary.

Director Thier inquired about alternative methods for the removal of the invasive pampas grass and the possibility that staff would work with consultants on those efforts. She commented about additional alternatives that could be available and expressed her goal to have the CMER team explore and consider those alternatives. She requested the removal be done in the most environmentally friendly and sensitive manner. She also requested a regular report about the status and removal of the invasive plants on a marshland. She expressed appreciation for the team's efforts to find alternatives.

Ms. Bauer-Furbush and Mr. Mulligan responded to the Director's inquiries. Mr. Mulligan stated that staff would continue to report to the Board about this matter. Ms. Bauer-Furbush said that the District's consultant WRA has a conscientious and cooperative team working on this project, she would ensure that they follow Marin County's Integrated Pest Management principles, and she would provide regular reports to the Board.

Before continuing on with the agenda, President Thériault requested a motion to re-open public comment.

[29:05 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Directors COCHRAN/DORSEY moved and seconded to re-open Public Comment. There was no opposition to this action and the Board re-opened Public Comment.

[29:24 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Public Comment was re-opened, and the following individual spoke:

- David Pilpel, San Francisco Resident (in person)

[32:10 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

President Thériault responded that Board members attended meetings the day before from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, and said he anticipates Board members could meet for that length of time again that day.

(7) OTHER REPORTS:

There were no Other Reports to discuss.

[Director Moulton-Peters arrived and Director Safaí departed.]

(8) REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

- (A) Building and Operating Committee [33:02 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]
September 21, 2023
Chair Patricia Garbarino**

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President Thériault stated that the Building and Operating Committee met and had considerable discussion the day before.

- (1) **Approve Actions Relative to Award of Contract No. 2023-BT-071, Transit Data Dashboard of Swiftly, Inc.** [33:14 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Directors GARBARINO/THIER

Resolution No. 2023-059 approves actions relative to the award of Contract No. 2023-BT-071, *Transit Data Dashboard*, as follows:

- (a) Approves award of Contract No. 2023-BT-071, with Swiftly, Inc., of San Francisco, CA, to maintain access to data and visualization software that enables quick analysis of transit operational and scheduling system performance, for a one-year term with two additional one-year option terms, for a total amount of \$411,449; and,
- (b) Authorizes the General Manager, or their designee, to approve amendments to the Contract to allow for future years' annual recurring maintenance and support after the one-year base term and two one-year option terms provided that funding has been allocated in the annual budget and such renewals are in the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District's (District) best interest.

Adopted

AYES (17): Directors Conroy, Dorsey, Engardio, Garbarino, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin, Moulton-Peters, Pahre, Rabbitt, Rodoni, Snyder, Stefani and Thier; Second Vice President Hill; First Vice President Cochran; President Thériault.

NOES (0): None.

ABSENT (2): Directors Giudice and Safaí.

- (B) **Rules, Policy and Industrial Relations Committee** [35:20 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]
September 21, 2023
Chair Sabrina Hernández and Vice Chair Garbarino

President Thériault said that the Rules, Policy and Industrial Relations Committee met and had considerable discussion the day before.

Chair Hernández recused herself for the item, and asked Vice Chair Garbarino to present the Committee report.

[Chair Hernández and Directors Grosboll and Snyder departed.]

- (1) **Approve an Increase in Annual Educational Assistance**

Reimbursement Allotment [36:20 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Directors GARBARINO/DORSEY

Resolution No. 2023-060 raises the annual educational assistance reimbursement allowable amount to \$3,000 each calendar year for eligible employees for continuing education and/or professional development through a program that either offers growth in an area related to an employee's current position or might lead to promotional opportunities within the Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District. The educational assistance has commonly been referred to as tuition reimbursement.

This reimbursement program includes costs for tuition and books for programs such as college credit courses, continuing education courses, seminars, certification studies and/or tests. It also includes costs for position-related licensing and certification application and/or renewal fees. An employee must secure a passing grade of "C" or higher, and/or successfully pass the certification and/or licensing test to be eligible for reimbursement. Expenses must be validated by receipts, and a copy of the final grade, license or certification issued by the learning institution, certifying or licensing agency must be presented upon request for reimbursement.

Adopted

AYES (14):	Directors Conroy, Dorsey, Engardio, Garbarino, Mastin, Moulton-Peters, Pahre, Rabbitt, Rodoni, Stefani and Thier; Second Vice President Hill; First Vice President Cochran; President Thériault.
NOES (0):	None.
ABSENT (5):	Directors Giudice, Grosboll, Hernández, Safaí and Snyder.

[Chair Hernández and Directors Grosboll and Snyder returned.]

(9) ADDRESSES TO BOARD:

There were no Addresses to Board.

(10) SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:

There was no Special Order of Business.

(11) UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no Unfinished Business.

(12) NEW BUSINESS:

There was no New Business.

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(13) COMMUNICATIONS:

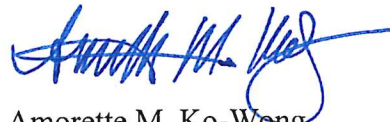
There were no Communications.

(14) ADJOURNMENT: [38:46 Hour Mark on the Audio Recording]

All business having been concluded **Directors HERNÁNDEZ/HILL** moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

Carried

Respectfully submitted,



Amorette M. Ko-Wong
Secretary of the District

AMK:EIE:tnm