



2024-2

**GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT**

**MEMORANDUM OF MINUTES**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 23, 2024**

**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 in the Board Room, Administration Building, Golden Gate Bridge Toll Plaza, San Francisco, CA, on Friday, February 23, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., with President Cochran presiding. A second public location was made available via audio with Director Thier at The Alpine Lodge, Lobby, 264 Main Street, North Creek, NY 12853 and a remote audio option for public participation was available.

- (1) **CALL TO ORDER:** President Gerald D. Cochran.
- (2) **ROLL CALL:** Secretary of the District Amorette M. Ko-Wong. **[00:21 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

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

**Directors Absent (1):** Director Safaí.

**Staff Present:** General Manager Denis Mulligan; Acting Auditor-Controller and Budget and Electronic Revenue Director Jennifer Mennucci; 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/Bus Transit Division Les Belton; 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.

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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.

- (3) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** First Vice President Hill **[01:51 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**
- (4) **PUBLIC COMMENT:** **[02:18 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

The following individuals spoke under Public Comment:

- Dave Rhody, The Climate Reality Project (in person)
- David Pilpel, San Francisco resident (remotely)
- Shane Weinstein, Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), Local 1575 (in person)

**[12:25 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

President Cochran and General Manager Denis Mulligan thanked all those who made public comments. Mr. Mulligan responded to the comments. He indicated that the Board is engaged in a strategic planning process, and the Advisory Committee is finishing its work and will make information available to the Board and public in the relatively near future. He spoke about the Golden Gate Transit Amalgamated Retirement Plan (GGTARP) subsidies. He reviewed the District's communications systems, which include radio, and confirmed the District has redundancy. He explained that the GGTARP's actuary, Graham Schmidt, used the term subsidy when he referred to the early retiree and spousal subsidies.

- (5) **CONSENT CALENDAR:** **[16:11 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Director Thériault stated he did not attend the meetings and would not vote on the Consent Calendar.

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

**AYES (16):** Directors Dorsey, Engardio, Garbarino, Giudice, Grosboll, Hernández, Mastin, Moulton-Peters, Pahre, Rodoni, Snyder, Stefani and Thier (remotely); Second Vice President Rabbitt; First Vice President Hill; President Cochran.

**NOES (0):** None.

**ABSTENTION (1):** Director Thériault.

**ABSENT (2):** Directors Conroy and Safaí.

(A) **Approve the Minutes of the following Meetings:**

- (1) Building and Operating Committee of January 25, 2024;
- (2) Finance-Auditing Committee of January 25, 2024;
- (3) Rules, Policy and Industrial Relations Committee of January 25, 2024;
- (4) Governmental Affairs and Public Information Committee of January 26, 2024; and,

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(5) Board of Directors of January 26, 2024.

**Carried**

(B) **Ratification of Previous Actions by the Auditor-Controller**  
**Resolution No. 2024-008** (as detailed in the February 22, 2024, Finance-Auditing Committee meeting)

- (1) Ratifies Commitments and/or Expenditures
- (2) Ratifies Previous Investments
- (3) Authorizes Reinvestments
- (4) Accepts Investment Reports for January 2024

**Adopted**

(6) **REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

(A) **General Manager** [17:09 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]

Mr. Mulligan presented the General Manager Report and indicated the report was reissued with a new link for the Bay Area Return to Office Survey for January 2024. He highlighted a few items in the report including: 1) Bridge traffic and transit ridership are trending upward; 2) the Golden Gate Transit Amalgamated Retirement Plan (GGTARP) Board of Trustees, under the leadership of Chris Snyder, took action and removed the spousal subsidy from the GGTARP; and, 3) recognition of Willie Gibson, Keith Nunn, Wilson Lau, and Avninder Khaira for their District service.

**[Director Conroy arrived.]**

**[24:31 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Director Thériault explained the GGTARP Board of Trustees considered and deadlocked on the spousal subsidy about two years prior.

Director Grosboll inquired about the District's plan to follow up on the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee's (PBAC) recommendations regarding signage.

Director Mastin commented about the GGTARP update in the GM report and said he looks forward to seeing the Trustees take additional steps this year.

Director Hill said he attends the PBAC meetings, has an interest in wayfinding and looks forward to hearing about the District's proposed follow up to the wayfinding recommendations.

Director Snyder said the conversation was very positive at the recent GGTARP Rehabilitation Plan meeting. He reported the newly hired actuary would review and develop options for the GGTARP.

Mr. Mulligan responded to the inquiries. He stated that the District receives many suggestions and addresses those ideas based on a number of factors including benefit, viability and resource availability. He added that staff would evaluate signage as well as continue its work on other large and important projects, such as Alexander Avenue.

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**(B) Attorney [28:12 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 [28:33 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 updates on a few projects:

- Seismic Retrofit
- Suicide Deterrent System (SDS) and Traveler System
- Alexander Avenue Survey and Improvement Design Services

**[30:31 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Director Pahre commented about the Gamboa family's absence after attending almost all Board meetings for about a decade, and asked staff to continue to provide them with updates about the SDS project.

Director Hill expressed appreciation for Engineering staff's work on Alexander Avenue.

Ms. Bauer-Furbush confirmed that staff would provide the Gamboa family with updates.

**(7) OTHER REPORTS:**

There were no Other Reports to discuss.

**(8) REPORT OF COMMITTEES: [32:53 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Attorney Manolius stated that Director Thier has recused herself for Item No. 8.A.

**[Director Thier departed.]**

**(A) Building and Operating Committee/Committee of the Whole [33:19 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]  
February 22, 2024  
Chair Patricia Garbarino**

Chair Garbarino expressed appreciation for the hard work of District Engineer Ms. Bauer-Furbush and her staff.

**(1) Approve Actions Relative to the Preconstruction Phase of *The Golden Gate Suspension Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project* [33:48 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

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**Directors GARBARINO/RABBITT**

**Resolution No. 2024-009** approves the following actions relative to the Preconstruction Phase of the *Golden Gate Suspension Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project* (Project #1923):

- (a) Authorizes execution of Professional Services Agreement (PSA) No. 2023-B-015, *Golden Gate Suspension Bridge Seismic Retrofit CMGC Preconstruction Services*, with Halmar International, LLC, Nanuet, NY, in an amount not-to-exceed \$5,754,332, for Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) preconstruction services subject to the District receiving the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) approval of the award prior to the PSA execution;
- (b) Authorizes execution of PSA No. 2023-B-042, *Golden Gate Suspension Bridge Seismic Retrofit ICE Services*, with Leland Saylor Associates, Walnut Creek, CA, in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,514,263, for Independent Cost Estimator (ICE) preconstruction services, subject to the District receiving the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) approval of the award prior to the PSA execution;
- (c) Authorizes execution of the Fourteenth Amendment to PSA No. 2010-B-1, with HDR Engineering, Inc., Walnut Creek, CA, in an amount not-to-exceed \$5,543,833, for additional engineering design services to finalize the Project construction documents and to assist the District in establishing construction price and schedule for the Project during the Preconstruction Phase; and,
- (d) Authorizes an \$8,540,031 increase, to be funded with District reserves, in the FY 23/24 Bridge Division Capital Budget for Project #1923 to finance the estimated \$15,913,057 in costs for the District's staff and consultant services, and other expenses required to develop the final construction documents and the construction price and schedule, for the total Project budget of \$19,845,538.

**Adopted**

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

**NOES (0):** None.

**ABSENT (2):** Directors Safaí and Thier.

- (B) Meeting of the Finance-Auditing Committee/Committee of the Whole [37:29  
Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]  
February 22, 2024  
Chair David Rabbitt**

- (1) **Approve Renewal of the Marine Insurance Program [37:40 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

**Directors RABBITT/GIUDICE**

**Resolution No. 2024-010** approves the Marine Insurance Program, effective February 20, 2024, as follows:

- (a) Renews Protection & Indemnity coverage with the Steamship Mutual Protection and Indemnity Club (Club) for a one-year term, with a limit of \$1 billion for each occurrence/annual aggregate in excess of a per occurrence deductible of \$55,000 and annual aggregate deductible of \$350,000 for a total premium of \$502,731;
- (b) Renews Hull & Machinery, Increased Value and War coverage including Terrorism and Risk Insurance Act (TRIA) coverage with Travelers, The Hartford and Liberty for a one-year term, with insured hull limits per values in excess of the same \$200,000 deductible for a total premium of \$284,641;
- (c) Renews Marine General Liability coverage with Liberty Mutual for a one-year term, with a limit of \$1 million occurrence and \$2 million aggregate, in excess of a per occurrence deductible of \$10,000 for a total premium of \$30,500;
- (d) Binds Excess Marine General Liability Insurance program with Navigators, Liberty, Core Specialty, Great American, Endurance, and Continental for a one-year term with a liability limit of \$50 million for each occurrence/annual aggregate in excess of a \$10,000 self-insured retention (SIR) for a total premium of \$118,375; and,
- (e) Binds Vessel Pollution Liability coverage with Great American for a one-year term, with a limit of \$5 million for a total premium of \$6,920.

**Adopted**

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

**NOES (0):** None.

**ABSENT (1):** Director Safaí.

(9) **ADDRESSES TO BOARD:**

There were no Addresses to Board.

(10) **SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

- (A) **Action to Delegate to the General Manager the Authority to Make Transit Service Level Adjustments Through March 1, 2025 [39:33 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

Mr. Mulligan presented the staff report. He spoke about the COVID-19 pandemic conditions that led to the delegation, and said the action has to be renewed annually. He explained the delegation allows him to rapidly make changes to transit service to meet ridership changes, and this capability has helped keep District expenses in line with demand.

**Directors GIUDICE/GARBARINO**

**Resolution No. 2024-011** approves the following actions:

- (1) Temporarily waives Board Procedural Rules and Policies that would otherwise apply to transit service level adjustments through March 1, 2025; and,
- (2) Delegates to the General Manager authority to make transit service level adjustments as necessary and appropriate to address shifting ridership demand and community needs, consistent with federal and state laws, and the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District's approved annual budget.

**Adopted**

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

**NOES (0):** None.

**ABSENT (1):** Director Safaí.

(11) **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no Unfinished Business.

(12) **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business.

(13) **COMMUNICATIONS [42:14 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

President Cochran stated that copies of Communications are available from the District Secretary's Office.

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**(14) ADJOURNMENT: [42:31 Minutes Mark on the Audio Recording]**

All business having been concluded Directors HILL/GIUDICE moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned in honor of Richard Benjamin and Carolyn Kabanuck at 10:43 a.m.

Carried

Respectfully submitted,



Amorette M. Ko-Wong  
Secretary of the District

AMK:EIE:tnm