



## **CENTRAL SIERRA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (CSEDD)**

### **GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

#### **AGENDA**

Thursday, November 16, 2017

9:30 a.m.

Mother Lode Job Training  
197 Mono Way, Suite B, Sonora CA

#### **CSEDD Governing Board Members:**

Alpine County – Terry Woodrow, Supervisor (Chair)  
Alpine County Citizen Member – Tom Sweeney  
Calaveras County – Michael Oliveira, Supervisor  
Calaveras County Citizen Member – Brian Tewksbury  
Mariposa County – Marshall Long, Supervisor  
Mariposa County Citizen Member – Dane Carlson  
Tuolumne County – Randy Hanvelt, Supervisor  
Tuolumne County Citizen Member – Ron Patel  
City of Angels Camp – Joseph Oliveira, Council Member  
City of Sonora – George Segarini, Council Member

#### **CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL**

- 1. ORAL COMMUNICATION:** The Public may speak on any item not on the printed agenda. No action may be taken. [Gov. Code § 54954.2(b)(2)]
- 2. CONSENT AGENDA:** The following Consent Agenda items are expected to be routine. They will be acted upon by the District Board at one time. Any Board



Member, staff member or interested person may request that any Consent items be removed for discussion.

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the September 21, 2017 meeting of the CSEDD Governing Board.

**3. OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. New member Amador County (Update)
- b. Sierra Northern Railway Track Upgrade Project (Update)

**4. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Partnerships, Contracts and Economic Development (Update)
- b. Grant Funding (Update)

**5. NEXT MEETING(S):**

- a. Third Thursday of the Second Month (Discussion)
- b. 2018 Dates: February 15, May 17, August 16, November 15  
Time: 9:30 am  
Mother Lode Job Training, 197 Mono Way, Suite B, Sonora, CA

**6. ADJOURN**

In accordance with the American with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance (i.e. auxiliary aids or services) in order to participate in this public meeting, please contact the Administrative Assistant of the Tuolumne County Economic Development Authority (TCEDA) at 209-989-4058. Notification 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting will enable the Administrative Assistant to make reasonable accommodations to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

# **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CENTRAL SIERRA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

## **Mother Lode Job Training**

**Thursday, September 21, 2017**

**9:30 a.m.**

### **1. ROLL CALL**

Terry Woodrow brought the regular meeting of the Central Sierra Economic Development District (CSEDD) to order at 9:30 a.m., asked for the roll call to establish which Directors were present and to confirm that there was a quorum.

### **The following Directors of the Governing Board were present:**

Alpine County – Terry Woodrow, Supervisor (Chair)  
Alpine County Citizen Member – Tom Sweeney  
Calaveras County – Michael Oliveira, Supervisor  
Calaveras County Citizen Member – Brian Tewksbury  
Mariposa County – Marshall Long, Supervisor  
Mariposa County Citizen Member – Dane Carlson  
Tuolumne County – Randy Hanvelt, Supervisor  
City of Angels Camp – Linda Hermann, Council Member  
City of Sonora – George Segarini, Council Member

### **The following Directors of the Governing Board were absent:**

Tuolumne County Citizen Member – Ron Patel

### **Others in Attendance:**

Carlyn Drivdahl	County Counsel/ CSEDD Legal
Dave Thoeny	Mother Lode Job Training
Larry Yanni	Mother Lode Job Training
Vicki Long	Mother Lode Job Training

A quorum was confirmed with 8 board members present at roll call of the CSEDD Governing Board Meeting. Brian Tewksbury arrived after roll call which then made 9 board members present

**1. ORAL COMMUNICATION:**

Randy Hanvelt discussed the request of a letter of support for Sierra Northern Railway Track Upgrade Project discussion was made on the importance of adding this item to the agenda for today. Carlyn Drivdahl explained how to add a late agenda item be placed on the agenda with sufficient evidence of adding item. Adding item to new business #B

Motion: Marshall Long made a motion to approve the added item. Michael Oliveria seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 9-0-0 vote.

Carlyn Drivdahl announced that there will be AB 1234 Ethic Training held on November 9, 2017 at Tuolumne County BOS. If interested, please contact Carlyn's office at 209-533-5517.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Approval of the Minutes of the June 22, 2017 meeting of the CSEDD Governing Board.

Motion: Marshall Long made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2017 CSEDD Governing Board meeting. Randy Hanvelt seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 9-0-0 vote.

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

A. New member Amador County (Discussion and Possible Action)

Carlyn Drivdahl, Tuolumne County Deputy County Counsel addressed the board on this matter. Amador County is very interested in rejoining the CSEDD. Amador County withdrew in 2014 which also included the 5 incorporated cities. Carlyn explained the process of the operation of the JPA at the time which meant once the county withdrew, the cities were automatically withdrawn. 2015 district members revised the JPA to allow cities to join or stay in the district without their counties and visa - versa. Explanation was given on how a member would now join the JPA and what the number of members would be. She also explained the financial contribution for Amador County to join. Formula plan is set by the board members and she shared a chart that would show what the proposed contributions would be and how it has been done in the past. D. Thoeny also contributed to this discussion with regards to

the current fees and that this new amount was calculated with Amador County joining. Question was asked about the interest of the 5 incorporated cities join again also. Discussion followed regarding their interest and decision was made that Amador County would contact them and get interest and then bring back to future meeting. Carlyn asked for consideration of Amador County to join and what the financial contribution will be. Staff will work with Amador County to present the JPA ratification to the BOS with dues mentioned and have it placed on the BOS agenda to approve.

Motion: Randy Hanvelt made a motion to approve the Amador County membership and add the dues with the 35K population as mentioned, Marshall Long seconded. The motion was approved by a 9-0-0 vote.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **A. Partnerships, Contracts and Economic Development Update**

D. Thoeny addressed the board on these updates. Introduced MLJT staff to the board members and explained how MLJT is funded and what services they offer through their Workforce Development efforts. Shared some examples of how counties within the region are starting to work closer together to break down silos and form a stronger coalition within our communities. Discussion also followed regarding current and future grant opportunities for workforce development and workforce economics which would also assist in our communities. Operationally we will try to get funds to create opportunities and serve as conveners and work on a way to keep best practices and work collaboratively between counties. Larry Yanni discussed two possible grant opportunities; however, they require a dollar for dollar match and that the board members time could possible count as in-kind match. Question was asked to the board if they could possible go back to their counties and ask for the match in order to apply for these types of grants. Direction was given to staff to make the rounds within the counties and meet with business councils in each. Larry Yanni gave status on current grants: The EDA Butte Fire grant is now being managed by Calaveras Chamber of Commerce and they will be completing the needed recording of the grant. The USDA grant is moving along very well, we are halfway through and meeting the goals as needed. Michael Oliveria shared with the board that a technical education program has been approved by Calaveras BOS. The program will create career pathways in technical trades which will start with K-12 and move up to apprentices. This program was created by many partners High School Superintendent's, Board of Supervisors, Workforce Development and Economic Development.

**B. Support Letter for Sierra Northern Railway Track Upgrade Project.**

R. Hanvelt spoke on this matter, the local railroad is rated E and is limited to 10 miles per hour and also the number of cars they can pull. The rails are in dire need of being upgraded for increased freight efficiency and cost effectiveness for Tuolumne County. They are asking for a letter of support from CSEDD for a grant that they are seeking to upgrade the rails. Board requested a copy of the two-page project description.

Motion: Marshall Long made a motion to approve the Letter of Support, George Segarini seconded. The motion was approved by a 9-0-0 vote.

**C. NEXT MEETING**

November 16, 2017 9:30 a.m.

Mother Lode Job Training, 197 Mono Way, Suite B, Sonora, CA

**D. ADJOURN**

Terry Woodrow adjourned the meeting of the Central Sierra Economic Development District at 10:50 a.m.

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Terry Woodrow, Chair

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Date





October 20, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary of Transportation  
Office of the Secretary  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590  
United States

**Re: Letter of Support for DOT INFRA grant (DOT-OST-2017-0090):**

*“Sierra Northern Railway’s Rail Improvement Project for Increased Efficiency, Safety, and Cost-Effectiveness of Nationally and Regionally Significant Freight Transport in California’s Central Valley and Sierras”*

Dear Madam Secretary:

Central Sierra Economic Development District (CSEDD) urges your department’s support for the above captioned project.

Tuolumne County, municipal partners, and Sierra Northern Railway (SNR), are requesting a \$20 million DOT INFRA grant to rehabilitate 55 miles of short line track, crossings, and bridges to improve the efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and safety of freight transport. The project will be leveraged by \$14 million from SNR and achieve a minimum 400% increase in freight capacity and improve the economic vitality of our economically significant region of central California.

SNR currently ships freight from the Central Valley in Riverbank, California to the Central Sierras in Standard, California for commercial industries and the US military and for the benefit of the region’s residents. Vital economic commodities are transported, including oil and gas, food and agricultural products, lumber, and infrastructure and construction materials.

This DOT project, co-funded by SNR, will greatly improve the efficient delivery of goods, reduce road congestion and deterioration, and improve air quality for a growing population in our rural region.

We are a regional Economic Development District that serves the California Counties of Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa and Tuolumne. We partner with Mother Lode Job Training and local economic development offices to bring workforce and economic development assistance to businesses and residents throughout the region. This short line track expansion is critical to the viability of our local economy and is called out as a key project in the Infrastructure Improvement objective from our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). See excerpt below:



***“Objective Five: Promote infrastructure improvements throughout the CSEDD region.***

*Action Item: Seek funding for the Sierra Rail expansion*

*The Tuolumne County Transportation Council in partnership with the Sonora industrial park, and the Tuolumne County Economic Development Authority will be seeking funding over the next five years to improve the current rail line that runs from Sonora to Oakdale where it connects to the main Union Pacific line. At present, the current rail is only capable of supporting train cars at five miles per hour. The cost for updating the rail to a 20 or 25 mile per hour rail line has been determined to be \$2 million and with TIGER or DOT funding can be completed by 2022. The updating of the rail would be a major boon to Tuolumne County. Rail would be the most efficient way to transport both lumber and cheap propane to the Sonora industrial park. Also, the improved rail system could be used for visitor services related activities, offering short-haul dinner trips to tourists. ”*

Thank you for your consideration of this important project to advance the economic prosperity of central California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dave Thoeny". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dave" and last name "Thoeny" clearly visible.

Dave Thoeny, Executive Director  
(209) 536-4501

cc: Darin Grossi, Tuolumne County Transportation Council  
Sherri Brennan, Chair -Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors  
Craig Pedro, Tuolumne County  
Ken Beard, Sierra Northern Railway





October 20, 2017

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1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
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United States

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This DOT project, co-funded by SNR, will greatly improve the efficient delivery of goods, reduce road congestion and deterioration, and improve air quality for a growing population in our rural region.

Mother lode Job Training helps businesses find the skilled workers they need to compete, and helps workers gain the skills they need to earn a family-sustaining wage. The economy of California’s Mother Lode (gold country) region is dependent on vital infrastructure elements like transportation and logistics. We’re on the periphery of the logistics grid, and many businesses rely on the short line rail track as a life line to transport essential freight and equipment. Healthy businesses keep our local workforce employed and providing for their families instead of burdening the system.

☐Administration  
197 Mono Way  
Suite B  
Sonora, CA 95370  
209-533-3396

☐Amador County  
10877 Conductor Blvd  
Suite 700  
Sutter Creek, CA 95685  
209-223-3341

☐Calaveras County  
7 Main Street  
San Andreas, CA 95249  
209-754-4242

☐Mariposa County  
5362 Lemee Lane  
P.O. Box 1915  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
209-966-3643

☐Tuolumne County  
197 Mono Way  
Suite B  
Sonora, CA 95370  
209-588-1150

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of California™



SERVING AMADOR • CALAVERAS • MARIPOSA • TUOLUMNE COUNTIES

*Better Skills... Better Jobs... Better Economy*

Thank you for your consideration of this important project to advance the economic prosperity of central California.

Sincerely,

Dave Thoeny, Executive Director  
(209) 536-4501

cc: Darin Grossi, Tuolumne County Transportation Council  
Sherri Brennan, Chair -Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors  
Craig Pedro, Tuolumne County  
Ken Beard, Sierra Northern Railway

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209-223-3341

☐Calaveras County  
7 Main Street  
San Andreas, CA 95249  
209-754-4242

☐Mariposa County  
5362 Lemee Lane  
P.O. Box 1915  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
209-966-3643

☐Tuolumne County  
197 Mono Way  
Suite B  
Sonora, CA 95370  
209-588-1150

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