



**SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (METRO)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES*
MARCH 8, 2024 – 8:00 AM**

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) convened on Friday, March 8, 2024, as a hybrid meeting.

The Board meeting agenda packet can be found online at www.SCMTD.com. *Minutes are “summary” minutes, not verbatim minutes. Audio recordings of Board meeting open sessions are available to the public upon request.

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1 CALLED TO ORDER at 8:00 AM by Board Chair Brown.

2 ROLL CALL

The following Directors were **present**, representing a quorum:

Director Kristen Brown	City of Capitola
Director Rebecca Downing	County of Santa Cruz
Director Jimmy Dutra	City of Watsonville
Director Shebreh Kalantari-Johnson	City of Santa Cruz
Director Manu Koenig	County of Santa Cruz
Director Donna Lind	City of Scotts Valley
Director Bruce McPherson	County of Santa Cruz
Director Scott Newsome	City of Santa Cruz
Director Larry Pageler	County of Santa Cruz
Director Quiroz-Carter	City of Watsonville
Director Mike Rotkin	County of Santa Cruz
Ex-Officio Director Alta Northcutt	Cabrillo College
Ex-Officio Director Edward Reiskin	UC Santa Cruz
Daniel Zaragoza	Interim CEO/GM
Julie Sherman	General Counsel

RECESSED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 8:01 AM

3 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT – CEO/GM POSITION (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957); CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6)

RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION AT 8:30 AM

4 REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION

Board Chair Brown informed the attendees that the Board of Directors (Board) has concluded their search for a CEO and announced that Corey Aldridge has been appointed as METRO's new CEO. With the help of our recruiter, the Board performed a nationwide search and received over two dozen potential candidates. We spoke to a long list of stakeholders, including METRO's unions and the METRO Advisory Committee leadership. We took those conversations to heart and considered that feedback in the recruitment and interview process. Of the applications we received, a short list of candidates was created, and interviews were held. Ultimately, it was determined that Mr. Aldridge was the best candidate for METRO at this time and the Board Chair provided a brief background on Mr. Aldridge's transit experience.

Board approval of Mr. Aldridge's employment agreement will be at the March 22, 2024 Board meeting and his start date is tentatively set for April 29, 2024.

Mr. Aldridge thanked the Board for this opportunity. He expressed that he is looking forward to working with METRO employees and staff, the public and stakeholders as METRO moves forward with the Reimagine METRO Phase 2 and other projects in the works.

Several Directors welcomed Mr. Aldridge to METRO. Board Chair Brown added that we are excited to have you join us and thanked Gregg Moser, K & A Partners, and Julie Sherman, Legal Counsel, for their guidance in this process.

There were no public comments.

5 ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Board Chair Brown announced the next regular Board meeting will be on Friday, March 22, 2024, at 9:00 AM at the METRO Admin Office, 110 Vernon Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

6 ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:34 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bauer
Executive Assistant