Siskiyou Transportation Agency

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Minutes of the Siskiyou County Local Transportation Commission

Date: October 14, 2025

The Siskiyou Transportation Agency meeting of October 14, 2025, was called to order by Chair Kobseff at 10:39 a.m. at the Siskiyou County Transit Center conference room located at 190 Greenhorn Road, Yreka, California.

Directors in attendance included:

Michael N Kobseff	Pat Vela
Ed Valenzuela	Cliff Munson
Matthew Bryan	Mercedes Garcia (Alternate)

Directors absent from the meeting:

Nancy Ogren	Jess Harris (Alternate)

Other Staff Present In-Person:
Melissa Cummins, Executive Director
Dana Barton, Chief Deputy County Counsel
Angie Stumbaugh, Transportation Services Manager

The agenda items included:

Roll Call – Director Kobseff called the meeting to order at 10:39 a.m.

Directors present in-person included Bryan, Garcia, Kobseff, Munson, Valenzuela and Vela.

7) Public Comment - None

8) Consent Agenda Action Items

Regular Informational Items

A. Executive Director Report – Staff report on activities, reporting, and other projects including the latest ridership report.

B. STAGE Staff Report – Staff report on activities, reporting, and other projects including the latest ridership report.

Consent Agenda Action Items

C. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on August 19, 2025.
D. Budget Appropriation – Fund 5683 - Radio Replacement Project

A motion was made by Director Valenzuela and seconded by Director Bryan to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Ayes:	Bryan, Kobseff, Munson, Valenzuela, Vela
Noes:	None
Absent:	Ogren
Abstain:	None

Motion passed unanimously.

Following the consent agenda the Board took up agenda item 12.

9) Discussion – Dissolution of Siskiyou Transportation Agency

Discussion regarding dissolution of the Siskiyou Transportation Agency and the outcome of the October 7th Board of Supervisors agenda item related to a public hearing to withdraw from STA.

At the August 19th meeting staff were asked to bring this item back before the Board for further discussion. Chair Kobseff explained that at the last meeting of the Board of Supervisors they set a hearing to withdraw from the agency. This would get us back to one entity as a representation of everyone and not having duplication of services. The hearing is scheduled for November 18th. That is when the decision will be made whether the Board withdraws or not.

Commissioner Bryan voices concern that there was a robust conversation at the last meeting, and everyone agreed that in the absence of several city and county officials it was to be brought back for further discussion. It was also pointed out by legal counsel that the STA couldn't dissolve themselves. He has talked with numerous city representatives and feels the duplication can be resolved. He likes that the cities have representation since it is their money that they have a say. It was a lot of work to establish the JPA.

Commissioner Kobseff explains that when the JPA was launched it was to divorce essentially from the County and now they find out that they have maintain both. He also said that due to the time frame for withdrawing he wanted to bring it before his Board (County Board of Supervisors).

Commissioner Bryan expected additional information to be presented and discussed at this meeting. Other Commissioners explained that the presentation could still take place. Commissioner Valenzuela trying to reset to improve the process. Commissioner Bryan feels that every city will want to be represented instead of an advisory board. Commissioner Kobseff states that the cities were always represented on the TAC (Technical Advisory Committee). Commissioner Bryan states the difference would be in an advisory board the decision would still go to the Board of Supervisors for approval whereas with the JPA if the vote takes place here then it would be enacted. The cities

have a responsibility to protect their residents' tax dollars and transportation resources and have to prefer a stronger voice.

Commissioner Kobseff shared that they learned at the last meeting that the Board (STA) decides how to break up the withdrawal. This allows the cities to pick up the transportation element within their city if they desire. Former Commissioner Deutsch was advocating for bus service for Dunsmuir in the past. Commissioner Bryan addresses the concept of each city having their own agency in essence, which creates the need for governing agreements between entities. Commissioner Valenzuela explains that we are better together.

Commissioner Bryan asks for clarification from staff on the differences between the agency and the Commission. Ms. Barton explains that the Commission is the transportation planning agency and the Agency is the transit operator.

The Executive Director answers other questions from Commissioner Bryan regarding the make-up and requirement to have the Commission versus the JPA. He also sought clarification on what items of the Commission's were taken to the Board for approval. Ms. Cummins explained that in approximately 2012 or 2013 there was research and discussion with County Counsel which clarified the Commission is a separate entity from the County. Following that clarification all contracts, budgets, or other items were no longer taken to the County Board of Supervisors for approval. The only thing that remains connected is the staff, who act as ex officio. Ms. Barton confirmed that prior to the JPA the LTC had independent authority to approve contracts, grants, etc.

Commissioner Bryan clarified that the formation of the agency takes the operations responsibility further away from the County. Ms. Barton explained that LTC and the Agency fully reimburse the County for all expenses related to staff.

Commissioner Bryan summarizes that the County feels as though they are involved in multiple ways. He seeks clarification of where they are still involved that is resulting in duplication. Commissioner Kobseff explains that the duplication of staff and counsel as examples. Commissioner Bryan asks Ms. Barton for clarification on whether legal counsel could be consolidated. She advised the Board that since the Commission and Agency are not in conflict with each other counsel could be consolidated at the direction of the Commission.

Further discussion followed between Commissioners and staff regarding various aspects of the two agencies and information provided at the August 19th meeting.

Directions were provided to bring this item back to the next meeting on November 18, 2025. Staff requested clarification on the topics to be included in the next agenda.

Kellie Mendes, Caltrans Regional Planner, advised that many other agencies are trying to get to where Siskiyou is with the JPA.

Commissioner Munson requested additional information on the staffing needs.

Additional discussion continued between Commissioners about the scheduled public hearing, the notice timeframe, and the tasks that would need to be addressed to avoid disruption of services.

Ms. Barton reviewed the timeframe that it took to negotiate the JPA with each agency. There are more signatory agencies than seated members. The cities may want to attend the public hearing at the Board of Supervisors. If the Board of Supervisors decides to withdraw the notice timeframe is just a minimum, but they may want to provide more than the minimum of 120 days. The end goal would be no disruption of service.

If the County decides to withdraw all the members would need to form some type of consensus on what the successor agency looks like. The dissolution process is set forth in the JPA document. Commissioner Kobseff asks if the Board decided to withdrawal if they can rescind that decision at any time during that period. Ms. Barton will research that and report back.

Ms. Barton clarified that the items to be brought include:

- Additional slides breaking down the pros and cons of the impact of dissolution
- Breakdown of:
    - Which funding streams may fund staffing.
    - Which funding streams fund programs/services.
    - Which programs/services require staffing to run the programs.
    - Which programs/services are not running because of lack of staffing
    - Which funds may be at risk of returning to the State if the program money cannot be spent due to lack of staffing
    - Which grants/funding is available but not being sought/applied for due to lack of staffing to run the programs.
- Various options for successor agency.
- Streamlining options such as one attorney.
- Explain the need for additional staffing. Why are additional staff needed?
- If Board decides to withdraw from JPA, can they rescind their decision if they change their mind.

10) Other Business

A. Executive Director

The next free fare day for STAGE is on Halloween (10/31/2025).

B. Other Business

Commissioner Kobseff asked about the inquiry on the agenda item numbering. Ms. Cummins advised that she reviewed the numbering structure of the Board of Supervisors and Flood Control District agendas and we are following the same model.

C. Next Regular Meeting

Commissioner Bryan inquired about postponing the public hearing until after the presentation (at the next LTC/STA meeting). Discussion continued regarding an alternate LTC/STA meeting date prior to the 18th or postponing the public hearing by the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Barton offered support to accommodate the postponement of the public hearing. Further discussion followed between Commissioners about the pros and cons of holding the hearing prior to receiving the full presentation at the LTC/STA meeting. Other Commissioners expressed a desire to receive the information so they can be informed to take a position. Ms. Barton also mentioned that the public hearing can also be continued.

Commissioner Kobseff will discuss postponing the public hearing with the CAO.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.

11) Chair Kobseff adjourned the Board meeting at 11:29 a.m.