



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

March 18, 2026 - 1:30 PM

5401 Old Redwood Highway, 1st Floor
Petaluma, CA 94954

1. Call to Order [00:08 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]
Before calling roll Clerk introduced new Board member, Kevin Jacobs.
Chair Coursey called the meeting to order at 1:30pm. Directors Cader Thompson, Fleming, Garbarino, Jacobs, Kelley, Lucan, Paulson, Rabbit and Vice Chair Sackett were present. Directors Colin and Pahre were absent.
2. Approval of the February 18, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes [01:42 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]
MOTION: Vice Chair Sackett moved approval of the February 18, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Director Paulson seconded. The motion carried 9-0-2-1 Directors Colin, Pahre were absent and Director Jacobs abstained.
Public Comments:
None
3. Board Member Announcements [03:45Minutes Mark on the Video Recording] Directors Cader Thompson, Garbarino, Kelley and Vice Chair Sackett spoke.
4. General Manager's Report [07:28 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]
General Manager Cumins provided a PowerPoint presentation, which is posted on SMART's website. Highlights include:
 - Contracts and Procurements
 - Ridership Report
 - New Bike Storage Area
 - Giants Season
 - Healdsburg Events
 - MASCOTS Service Update
 - Transit Appreciation Day
 - Highlight of the Month

Chair Coursey asked about bike storage and updated information on the MASCOTS webpage. Director Cader Thompon asked about bikes on trains and the limitations.

5. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items [20:49 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

The following individual spoke under Public Comment:

- Warren Wells – technical difficulties prevented hearing comment
- Mitso Floor
- Mike Pecner

6. Consent Calendar [26:06 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

- a. Accept Monthly Ridership Report – January 2026
- b. Approve Monthly Financial Status Report – December 2025
- c. Determine there is a continued need for emergency repairs to the Black Point Bridge and approve Contract FR-BB-25-002.

MOTION: Director Rabbitt moved approval of Consent Agenda Items 6a thru 6c, as presented. Director Garbarino seconded. The motion carried 9-0-2-1. Directors Colin, Pahre were absent and Director Jacobs abstained.

Public Comments:

None

7. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-04 to make various changes to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Adopted Budget - Amendment #8 – Presented by Chief Financial Officer, Heather McKillop [27:00 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

Public Comments

None

MOTION: Vice Chair Sackett moved to Adopt Resolution No. 2026-04 to make various changes to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Adopted Budget - Amendment #8, as presented. Director Kelley seconded. The motion carried 10-0-2-0. Directors Pahre and Colin were absent

8. Accept SMART's Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/2025 Single Audit, presented by Chief Financial Officer, Heather McKillop [30:04 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

Board Comments [32:41 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

Chair Coursey spoke

Public Comments:

None

9. Receive the staff update on the changes to CEQA under SB 71, presented by Grants

and Legislative Affairs Manager, Joanne Parker [32:23 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

Board Comments [38:10 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

Director Kelley spoke

Grants and Legislative Affairs Manager, Joanne Parker responded to questions.

Public Comments

None

10. Adopt Resolution 2026-05 and approve Early Works Package Phase II Amendment, presented by Senior Engineer, Michael Wiltermood. [41:42Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

Board Comments:

None

Public Comments

None

MOTION: Director Rabbitt moved to Adopt Resolution 2026-05 and approve Early Works Package Phase II Amendment, as presented. Director Lucan seconded. The motion carried 10-0-2-0. Directors Pahre and Colin were absent

11. Review the Fare-Free Program for Youth and Seniors for FY26-FY27 and provide direction to staff Presented by General Manager, Eddy Cumins [45:10 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

Board Comments [52:43 Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

Directors Rabbit, Paulson, Garbarino, Cader Thompson, Fleming, Lucan, Kelley and Vice Chair Sackett spoke

General Manager Cumins responded to questions.

Public Comments

Dain Sheehan-Meyer

Closed Session [01:16:57Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

12. Conference with Legal Counsel regarding existing litigation pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(a), Number of Cases – three (3)
- 1) Dennis Muelrath, et al. v. Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District (SMART) - Superior Court of California, County of Sonoma - SCV-271787
 - 2) SMART v. Dennis Muelrath - Superior Court of California, County of

Sonoma 25CV06592

- 3) SMART v. Ellen Pauli et al. - Superior Court of California, County of Sonoma – 25CV06571

Public Comments:

None

13. Report Out Closed Session [00:53:47Minutes Mark on the Video Recording]

District Counsel Sutherland reported out of Closed Session at 3:24 PM on the following:

Conference with Legal Counsel regarding existing litigation pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(a), Number of Cases – three (3)

- 1) Dennis Muelrath, et al. v. Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District (SMART) - Superior Court of California, County of Sonoma - SCV-271787
- 2) SMART v. Dennis Muelrath - Superior Court of California, County of Sonoma 25CV06592
- 3) SMART v. Ellen Pauli et al. - Superior Court of California, County of Sonoma

No reportable action

14. Next Board of Directors Meeting, April 15, 2026 – 1:30 PM – 5401 Old Redwood Highway, 1st Floor, Petaluma, CA 94954

15. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 3:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kyreen Jorgensen
Clerk of the Board

Approved on: _____