



GYPA Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Greater Yuma Port Authority.
Apr 4, 2024 at 9:00 AM MST
@ Yuma International Airport

Attendance

Present:

Members: Gary Knight, Gary Magrino, Ian McGaughey, Tony Reyes, Nieves Riedel, Matias Rosales

Guests: Jason Girard, Yuma County, Alejandro Figueroa, Buna George, Jenny Torres, Honorable Javier Vargas, Trevor White

Absent:

Members: Russ Jones

I. Call to order

Meeting called to order at 9:02 by Chairman Rosales

II. Roll call

A quorum was confirmed. All but 1 board member were present in person.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Presentations:


A. ASU - EPICS - ECCS: Proposed International border projects in the San Luis AZ area (Dr. Dana Chappelle, Senior Research Director)

<https://www.edapsc.org/current-design>

Dr. Dana Chappelle, Senior Research Director of this particular proposed border project provided an overview of the proposed pilot program for the San Luis, AZ area. Information provided was principally from the website <https://www.edapsc.org/current-design>. Boardmember, Gary Knight asked clarifying questions regarding, water usage, location and the groups current dialogue with DHS.

Dr. Chappel made an ask of support from the board regarding the projects scope of work and location. He is confident this project serves as a mean to solve many of the problems concerning energy, food supply via its hydroponic capabilities with the recycled water. The board thanked Dr. Chappelle for his time and presentation.

V. Discussion and possible action approving the meeting minutes for 01/25/2024.

 [January 2024 Meeting Min..pdf](#)

Motion:

Motion to approve as presented

Motion passed unanimously

- VI. Discussion and possible action approving board retreat minutes for 03/07/2024

 [GYPA Retreat & Strategic Planning Minutes.3.7.24.pdf](#)


Motion:


Motion to approve with Mr. Reyes noting he recalled there being conversations stating that GYPA should be more San Luis focused.

Motion passed unanimously

- VII. Discussion and possible action approving financial reports ending 1/31/24.

 [Check Register. Ending 1.31.24.pdf](#)

 [Balance Sheet.1.31.24.pdf](#)


 [PnL.1.31.24.pdf](#)


Motion:

Motion to pass financial reports as presented. Ian McGaughey added that in the future items like these can be added to a consent agenda and be voted on once. The executive director took note and will make changes to next month's agenda.

Motion passed unanimously

- VIII. Discussion and possible action approving financial reports ending 2/29/24.

 [Check Register. Ending.2.29.24.pdf](#)


 [PnL.2.29.24.pdf](#)


Motion:

Motion to pass reports as presented

Motion passed unanimously

- IX. Discussion and possible action approving financial reports ending 3/31/24.

 [Check Register Ending 3.31.2024.pdf](#)

 [PnL.Ending.3.31.24.pdf](#)

Motion:

Motion to pass reports as presented.

Motion passed unanimously

X. Discussion and possible action regarding newly executed investment accounts

1st Bank Yuma
&
Arizona State Treasury

Motion:

Executive director discussed the capital from the land sales have been placed in various funding models, one including an investment with the AZ State Treasury. All accounts are interest bearing and are staggered on their maturity dates. She asked the board approve and acknowledge that the funds have been invested.

Motion passed unanimously

XI. Discussion and possible action regarding retreat action items as outlined on March 7, 2024.

The items listed were discussed among the board members.

Executive director explained to the board that these were potential programs that fell into conjunction with the findings and metrics at the Board Retreat.

Nieves Riedel asked that a cohesive plan for what the organization was going to do and how.

Item was discussed, but no action was taken.

A. Establishing short term programs/projects for grant applications

1. Feasibility studies for private vehicles.
2. Origin and destination studies for cross border goods at SLII: Data gathering Possible vendors
3. Roadway improvement advocacy
 - a. County 25th extension to Ash as an alternative truck route
 - b. Ave D/E Corridor as a tertiary means of ingress/egress between the City of Somerton and City of San Luis
 - c. Highway 95 Northbound expansion
4. Student passport cards.
 - a. Passport cards have a cost of \$30. Apply to grants with the anticipation to provide a refund to parents who apply for passport cards for students within the San Luis area. Proof of enrollment and address.
5. Sentri workshops for the general public in conjunction with CBP.


6. Arizona International Development Authority

7. Multimodal transport: San Luis to Downtown Yuma

- B. Ex-Officio Engagement
- C. Private sector engagement
- D. Additional staffing for GYPA mission and activities

XII. Discussion and possible action regarding final project accounting for Magrino Phase 4, ARPA Funding and Yuma County Loan.

- This item was brought forth to the board in the January 2024 meeting, and tabled, it is being brought back to obtain direction from the board.
- Phase 4 of the Magrino Industrial development project was undertaken in partnership with Yuma County with staff from its engineering and grant departments. The contractor experienced delays and ultimately was operating under punitive damages due to the delayed completion.
- These negotiations between the contractor and Yuma County credited the job costs \$117,198.07.
- GYPA paid Yuma County \$122,540 on 5/16/2023 as an interest payment on the \$2.28 million dollar loan.
- Yuma County has asked if GYPA would consider donating the surplus funds back to Yuma County to allocate to other projects/community needs.

 [FINAL Total Project Cost MAGRINO CIP No. 1.2204FIN \(1\).pdf](#)


Motion:


This item was moved up before item #7 due to a representative from Yuma County being present. The executive director brought forth this item as it was tabled in January. She explained that the reasoning behind the refund, the contractors delays and asked for direction from the board if they would like to accept the refund or donate it back to Yuma County so they can allocate it to other community projects. The board discussed the refund, and acknowledged Yuma County did allocate \$2.5million of their ARPA funding allocation towards the Magrino Industrial Park.

Motion to return the money to Yuma County to be allocated to other community projects.

Yay: Ian McGaughey, Tony Reyes / Nay: Matias Rosales, Nieves Riedel / Motion carries.


XIII. Discussion and possible action on a preliminary draft of the 2024/2025 fiscal year budget.


 [Draft.2024.2025.pdf](#)


 [Budget Sheet. Ending.3.31.24.pdf](#)

- A. 2024/2025 funding sources.

- B. Yuma County's funding request for \$150,000 for their "Mill and Fill" project for Highway 95 between County 22 and County 17, Yuma County CIP Project 1.2409.

 [YC.Approval.10.16.23 \(1\) \(1\).pdf](#)

 [GYPA Ltr to M. Rosales \(2\) \(1\).pdf](#)


 [Scan_0055 \(3\) \(1\) \(1\).pdf](#)

Motion:

Motion to approve the \$150,000 request by Yuma County

Nay: Gary Magrino, Gary Knight, Nieves Riedel, Matias Rosales. Motion does not pass.

- C. City of San Luis funding request of \$155,000, resolution 2255, requested 11/2023.

 [0200_001 \(1\).pdf](#)

Motion:

Motion to deny \$155,000 request from City of San Luis

Motion passed unanimously

- D. Cocopah Tribe's funding request of \$155,000, requested 11/2023.

Motion:

Motion to withdraw Cocopah's Request for \$155,000

Motion passed unanimously

- E. GYEDC binational consultant partnership.
- XIV. Discussion and possible action for the Executive Director to apply for a credit card for the Authority for purchases.

Currently, ED only has bank card for purchases, for added security, ED is requesting the ability to apply for an American Express for the GYPA.

- XV. Discussion and possible action in approving the formation of a 501-c6 organization with the assistance of GYPA's legal representatives.

Executive director explained that the bylaws are a working document, what was presented was not a final draft. Executive director was directed to continue to work with legal on executing this organization.

- A. Draft bylaws and fee schedule

XVI. Discussion and possible action regarding implementing changes within the GYPA mission statement and logo.

Current mission statement: "The Greater Yuma Port Authority will develop a gateway for global trade and facilitate, promote and support multi-modal transportation and trade opportunities to enhance economic development in the greater Yuma area"

Propose to change the organization's mission narrative by adding a subsection as follows:

Option 1:

GYPA: A unified front, securing international trade opportunities through the San Luis Ports of Entry to create vibrant communities throughout Yuma County.

and/or

Option 2:

GYPA: Inspiring growth, prosperity and opportunities.

This item was not discussed, it will be brought back at the next meeting at the direction of the Chairman as requested by the Executive Director for the sake of time.

A. Current logo: Action on approving ED to execute logo redesign

LogoTournament.com

B. Addition of verbiage on mission and key words

XVII. Executive Director Report

Executive Director stated the following:

- She attended the Fresh Produce Association of America's Spring Summit in Tubac AZ where she had the opportunity to hear from Customs, ADOT, and topic such as mitigating port disruptions, contingency plans and emergency management. Nogales faces a different system of re-routing as their only port alternatives are San Luis or Texas, both of which are hours away. Unlike San Luis that has an adjoining commercial outlet 45 minutes to the West.
- The Arizona Mexico Commission held its quarterly meeting, which she attended virtually. She noted that the organization is among a hiring freeze and there is still ongoing restructuring internally and audits, it was brought forth that future board meetings would migrate throughout the state of Arizona.
- She was informed by CPLC's/Magrino Industrial Real Estate Representatives for a potential new user, for a 15 acre parcel.
- Lumen/Century link work at the former Labrie building remains ongoing and should be completed by the end of April.
- She will be attending the port construction update hosted by GSA next week.
- She has remained in contact and engaged with CBP and ADOT as there continues to be a loss of commercial crossings at San Luis II. In which she is working with ADOT in mitigating the reasoning behind the change in traffic.

 February 2024 Social Media Report GYPA.pdf

XVIII. Chairman's Report

The Chairman noted that he has asked GYEDC to include GYPA Executive Director in their monthly board meetings. He also asked that Director attend YMPO Tac meetings and P&Z meetings throughout the county to observe what is going on planning wide through Yuma County.

Nieves Riedel also asked that the director and the board keep up to date with the planning and zoning changes coming up in San Luis on the East side developments.

XIX. Summary of current events:

Board members may discuss events attended on behalf of the Port Authority, may present a summary of current events, and update the schedule for future meetings, as appropriate. No legal action will be taken pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02 (K).

Board did not engage in current event dialogue.

XX. Call to the public:

Call to the Public is held for public benefit to allow individuals to address issue(s) within the jurisdiction of each individually appointed member and their scope of knowledge. Board members may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute §38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to criticism, or scheduling the matter for further discussion and decision at a future date. Public comments may be made in person or submitted by email at: BGeorge@GYPA.org. The email forms of public comment will be accepted until 7:00 a.m. the morning of the scheduled meeting. All public comments will be read aloud during the board of directors meeting that begins at 9:00 a.m. If a person so chooses to address the board in person, the general public is allotted 5 minutes to address their issue(s) to the GYPA Board of directors.

No one from the public spoke.

XXI. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:22am