



# May 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Greater Yuma Port Authority.

Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 9:00 AM MST

@ 1090 Union Street, San Luis, AZ 85349

## Attendance

### Present:

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

Guests: Buna George, Remigio Martinez, Elizabeth Punpayuk, Jenny Torres, Javier Vargas


### I. Call to order / Roll call / Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was called to order at 9:01 by Chairman Rosales.

A quorum was confirmed by Executive Director

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### II. A moment of respect: remembering late GYPA Board Member, the Honorable Councilmen of the City of Yuma, Gary Knight.

 GK..pptx

Executive Director presented slide with a few photos with Mr. Knight and spoke on his positive impact throughout Yuma County and particularly on the GYPA Board while he served on it. She noted his leadership and presence on the board will be missed.

### III. Presentation

#### A. Introduction: Remigio (Remy) Martinez, new Director of 4Front ED.

Remigio Martinez (Remy) introduced himself to the GYPA Board. The previous evening he presented to the City of San Luis City Council, therefore some of the members of the board were acquainted with him previously. He spoke briefly about his background and his willingness to work with GYPA and other regional organizations to compliment measures that add to the regions economic prosperity.

### IV. Consent Agenda:


The following items listed under the Consent Agenda will be considered as a group and acted upon by one motion with no separate discussion, unless a Board Member so requests. In that event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion and action.

**Motion:**


Motion to approve consent agenda as presented:

Motion passed unanimously


- A. Meeting minutes for the board meeting held on April 4, 2024.

 [GYPA Monthly Board Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

- B. Financial reports ending April 2024.

 [Check Register ending 4.30.24.pdf](#)

 [Balance Sheet 4.30.2024.pdf](#)


 [PnL through 4.30.24.pdf](#)

- C. Letter of support addressed to the ASU EPICS ECCS border project.

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

 [Support Letter. ECCS.pdf](#)

- D. \$2,500 sponsorship to the District Export Council sponsorship

 [Pledge 1002 from Arizona District Export Council.pdf](#)

 [DEC.Sponsorship.pdf](#)

- E. Contribution to the City of Yuma for Mr. Knights celebration of life

GYPA Contributed \$1,500 towards Mr. Knight's celebration of life, the cost covered the flowers at the art center and at the civic center along with the cost of food.

V. Discussion and possible action items:

- A. Preliminary draft of the 2024/2025 fiscal year budget.

 [Budget.2024.2025.xlsx](#)

Item was discussed among the board members. The active topic of finding additional sources of income was the main topic of discussion. No action was taken Budget to be brought back in June meeting and presented to the board.

- B. 2024/2025 Membership cash calls of \$50,000 to the Sovereign Nation of the Cocopahs, Yuma County, City of Yuma and City of San Luis.

Previous discussions among the board came to a consensus that the 2024/2025 cash call would be suspended to the 4 member entities.

Thus, the organization would manage its budget with interest earned from the proceeds of the land sale.

There has been no formal motion made by the board, this motion is a formality and allows the Director to issue a letter to all 4 member entities stating this fiscal years membership dues of \$50,000 have been suspended.



**Motion:**

Motion to provide a letter to each member entity stating that the 2024/2025 cash call has been suspended.

Motion passes unanimously.

C. Feasibility Study for San Luis II, a partnership with the City of San Luis

- \$400,000 contribution towards executing a feasibility study for POV's through San Luis II.
- Board direction on approval of the partnership.
- How would funds be distributed? Reimbursed/All at once? From what funding pool?

**Motion:**

Motion to allocate \$400,000 for a feasibility study for the throughput of private vehicles and pedestrians through San Luis II.

Motion passes unanimously.

D. Right of way acquisition and design for County 25th extension to ash highway, a partnership with the City of San Luis.

- Allocate \$120,000 to the City of San Luis to partner with YMPO and ADOT to begin the design and then follow with necessary right of way acquisition.

**Motion:**


Motion to allocate \$120,000 towards a preliminary design for the County 25th extension and right of way assessments. Jenny Torres noted that this type of project can take 6+ months.

Motion passed unanimously.

E. Right of way acquisition for County 25th, Ave E east to Ave D on the south side of the road.

- Transfer ownership of two parcels to the City of San Luis, as an act of good faith for the County 25th roadway extension project.
- APN: 227-23-901
- APN: 227-23-900

 [GYPA.Property.2.pdf](#)

 [GYPA.Property.pdf](#)

Item to be brought back to the board once county 25th extension study as to how much land is needed to be transferred for the appropriate amount of right

of way. Item was placed on the agenda as a discussion item, no motion was made.

F. Legal: GYPA bylaw changes re: creation of another organization

Legal representative Elizabeth Punpayuk advised the board on the matter: She noted that the 5th restated bylaws were not instated as the City of San Luis and the Cocopah Tribe had not yet signed the document for them to be enforceable. The representatives of The City of San Luis and Cocopah agreed to take this back for execution. Legal also discussed that the bylaws and articles as they stand, does not allow the GYPA to create a new organization. Mr. Jones suggested a partnership of the new organization with SWPU (Southwest Port Users). It was suggested by the Chairman that each representative would go back to their agencies and inquire about their interest, as members, separate from GYPA, in supporting a separate 501-c6 membership organization additional to the GYPA. With a possible one time "seed fund" of \$5,000 to be contributed by each entity and then create a tiered membership structure for founding and future members. The board asked legal for a briefing sheet regarding the new entity, she will provide to executive director to forward to the board.

Motion to table this item to a future meeting for representatives to gather information from their member entities.

No action was taken, item was placed as a discussion topic.

G. GYPA Physical address/office location.

GYPA currently has a PO Box 4601 in Yuma. The last physical address listed is 748 Archibald Street San Luis, AZ (updated 08/2022) . In order to satisfy grants.gov and sam.gov registrations for grant applications, and a credit card application, GYPA needs to provide a physical address. LG Advising LLC is currently in possession of the GYPA Computer, printer and telephone line from her new location at 780 E 39th Place Suite 215 Yuma, AZ 85365.

GYPA files, archived documents, surplus office supplies and furniture are currently held in a storage facility in San Luis, AZ. Cost is \$61/month.

GYPA has had previous address changes: Initially housed at YMPO on Orange Ave to Linda's personal home in the Foothills to 198 Main Street to 748 E Archibald Street in San Luis, AZ.



**Motion:**

The City of San Luis has some space available for the GYPA's principal operations. City of San Luis staff will communicate options to the executive director in the near future to be utilized as a physical location for the GYPA main offices in San Luis, AZ.






Motion passed unanimously

H. GYPA short term & long term goals, strategies and budgets



-  [Greater Yuma Port Authority 2024 Retreat Summary for Board Action \(1\).docx](#)
-  [Greater Yuma Port Authority 2024 Consensus Statement \(1\).docx](#)


Executive director discussed items H, I, and J with the Board. She brought forth the items for the board member to have knowledge of the growth on the East side of the City of San Luis and the need to move forth with an alternative truck route. No action taken, the items were merely placed in the agenda for discussion.

- I. City of San Luis zoning: Subdivision case No. 2024-0205P, 2024-0206F, 2024-0207P and 2024-0208F, Los Mesquites Townhomes.
  -  [2. LOS MEZQUITES TOWNHOMES 2 FINAL PLAT.pdf](#)
  -  [2. LOS MEZQUITES TOWNHOMES 2 PRELIMINARY PLAT.pdf](#)
  -  [Location Map.pdf](#)
- J. Zoning: Yuma Union High School District  
76.67 purchased in January 2024
  -  [YUHSD.77 acres.pdf](#)
- K. A formal request to submit a membership application to the Fresh Produce association of the America's as an associate member.  
<https://www.freshfrommexico.com/membership/#membership-application-form>
  -  [FPAA.Membership Inquiry.pdf](#)

**Motion:**

Motion to approve a membership to the Fresh Produce Association

Motion passes unanimously

- L. A formal request to submit a membership application to the Border Trade Alliance board of directors.
  -  [BTA membership levels 2023.pdf](#)

**Motion:**

Motion to table this item to a later date.

Motion passed unanimously

VI. Executive Director Report

Executive director spoke on her progress with stakeholders

A. Border Crossing statistics

Data gathered from the following site:

<https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/Tables-Query-Tool/6rt4-smhh>

B. Dialogue with ADOT

- Full time entomologist at San Luis II (ADOT and Governor's office)
- Rest stops between Prison and Araby Road off SR-195, east and west.
- Allowance of Northbound dual trailers within 2 mile radius of International Ports
- BBBX in Mexico City
- Port crossing numbers
- AIDA

C. Dialogue with CBP

- Provided aerial images for marketing and promotion
- Chris Leon still not "official" leadership at POE
- Dialogue with Jolene re: migrants and POV's
- De-escalation of "waves" in the AM at Pedestrian crossings.

D. Dialogue with the region's economic developers

- COSL: Sonora Global, invitation to Hermosillo in July
- SLRCS: New ED, intro
- GYEDC: Mexico Advisor
- GYEDC: President Candidate Search
- COSL/YC/GYPA: High School Internship project

E. Other discussions:

- Crystal @ YMPO Re: County 25th Project
- Jenny Torres Re: SL II and County 25th

F. Grant research and progresses

- Grant writing workshop
- Sam.Gov/Grants.gov info required
- Wrote GYPA narratives and mission
- Proposed projects: County 25th extension, SL II Expansion, Operating

G. Issuing RFP for accounting services, legal services and marketing and web hosting services.

Legal: Benesch, Shadle and White

Accounting Firm: Frost PLLC

Marketing/Web Hosting: MGM Design

Board directed executive director to issue an RFP for professional services.


H. Update on social media campaign and website

- Contract for Social media management with MGM ends in June.
- \$1,200/month for calendar creation, data gathering, video editing.



I. LG Advising LLC Contract for the 2024/2025 calendar year

- Contract amount for 2024/2025 to be negotiated by June 30
- Contract was for 3 fiscal years, beginning in 2023/2024.
- Base Salary was left as a TBD last year
- At board meeting, agreement was made retroactive to July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024.

 Signed Agreement (1).pdf

Executive director brought forth that her contract amount was to be negotiated in June's meeting. Board proposed that a personnel committee be formed to review the director's position. Russ Jones, Nieves Riedel and Gary Magrino volunteered to be on the committee. ED will provide documentation to the committee members and contract negotiations was requested to be discussed in executive session in the June meeting.

VII. 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 specified on the agenda.

No one from the public came forth to speak.

VIII. Summary of current events:

Board members and Executive Director 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.

Chairman Rosales spoke about the Trade meeting he attended in Phoenix this week.  
Tony Reyes arrived at 10:07am

IX. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn: Tony Reyes  
Second: Matias Rosales  
Meeting adjourned at 10:08am.