

# **CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY**

## **SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS**

**HELD NOVEMBER 20, 2025**

**AT 8:30 a.m.**

### **LOCATION:**

**California Department of Food and Agriculture  
1220 N Street,  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
and virtual via Zoom**

Electronic Reporter: --

Transcribed by: Nithish Kumar  
Datagain

## APPEARANCES

### Board Members

Tom Richards, Chair

Nancy Miller, Vice Chair

Ernest Camacho, Board Member

Martha Escutia, Board

Henry Perea, Board Member

Lynn Schenk, Board Member

Anthony Williams, Board Member

Jeffrey Worthe, Board Member

### Authority Staff

Adam Brezine, General Counsel

Alex Armstrong deHoogh, Board Secretary

1

## PROCEEDINGS

2

*(Meeting commenced at 8.30 a.m.)*

3

CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

4

This is the California High-Speed Rail Authority's Board of Directors.

5

The first meeting of two that we'll have today is a Special Board Meeting, for the Agenda today, November the 20th. There will be, for this closed session, the only item that will be on this Agenda, there will be no Public Comment during this meeting.

9

However, at our regular Board Meeting this morning, there will be the Public Comment as we normally have it agendized.

The California High-Speed Rail Authority Board of Directors will meet in a closed session pursuant to Government Code 1112- -- or 26 (E) (1), and some more parentheses, to confer with legal counsel regarding the following litigation: the California High-Speed Rail Authority; the United States Department of Transportation, Senator Sean Duffy; the Federal Railroad Administration, Drew Feeley; that's in the United States District Court, Eastern District -- Eastern Ninth District.

19

The meeting is called because of significant litigation.

20

So, I would like to ask the Board Director -- or the Board Secretary to call the roll.

22

BOARD SECRETARY: Director Schenk?

23

BOARD MEMBER LYNN SCHENK: Here.

24

BOARD SECRETARY: Chair Richards?

25

CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: Here.

1           BOARD SECRETARY: Director Camacho?

2           BOARD MEMBER ERNIE CAMACHO: Here.

3           BOARD SECRETARY: Vice-Chair Miller?

4           VICE-CHAIR NANCY MILLER: Present.

5           BOARD SECRETARY: Director Perea?

6           BOARD MEMBER HENRY PEREA: Here.

7           BOARD SECRETARY: Director Escutia?

8           BOARD MEMBER MARTHA ESCUTIA: (No audible response.)

9           BOARD SECRETARY: Director Williams?

10          BOARD MEMBER ANTHONY WILLIAMS: Here.

11          BOARD SECRETARY: Director Worthe?

12          BOARD MEMBER JEFFREY WORTHE: (No audible response.)

13          BOARD SECRETARY: Director Cohen?

14          BOARD MEMBER EMILY COHEN: (No audible response).

15          BOARD SECRETARY: Assembly Member Carrillo?

16          ASSEMBLY MEMBER JUAN CARRILLO: (No audible response.)

17          BOARD SECRETARY: Senator Gonzalez?

18          SENATOR LENA GONZALEZ: (No audible response.)

19          BOARD SECRETARY: Mr. Chairman, we have a quorum.

20          CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: Thank you. Thank you.

21          I would like to make a motion that the Board adopt a finding that

22         this Special Meeting is warranted due to the circ- -- due to

23         circumstances that occurred after the posting of our regular Meeting

24         Agenda, and which would cause a substantial hardship on the Board

25         and the Authority to wait an additional 10 days to act because the

1     Board must receive an update, and provide direct- -- our direction to  
2     staff in closed session on pending litigation matters, which I mentioned  
3     a moment ago.

4            UNIDENTIFIED BOARD MEMBER: Second.

5            CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: I've got to make the -- I've got to make  
6     motion --

7            UNIDENTIFIED BOARD MEMBER: You --.

8            CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: -- I've got to make the motion. Oh, you  
9     --.

10          UNIDENTIFIED BOARD MEMBER: I thought you did make it.

11          CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: Yeah, I did. Well, I still making it.

12          UNIDENTIFIED BOARD MEMBER: Oh. Oh, you're still making it?

13          CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: No, I'm happy to be (CROSSTALK).

14          UNIDENTIFIED BOARD MEMBER: Preemptive set.

15          CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: All right. We have a motion and second.

16     Can we please call the roll?

17          BOARD SECRETARY: Director Schenk?

18          BOARD MEMBER LYNN SCHENK: Yes.

19          BOARD SECRETARY: Chair Richards?

20          CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: Yes.

21          BOARD SECRETARY: Director Camacho?

22          BOARD MEMBER ERNIE CAMACHO: Yes.

23          BOARD SECRETARY: Vice-Chair Miller?

24          VICE-CHAIR NANCY MILLER: Yes.

25          BOARD SECRETARY: Director Perea?

1           BOARD MEMBER HENRY PEREA: Yes.

2           BOARD SECRETARY: Director Williams?

3           BOARD MEMBER ANTHONY WILLIAMS: Aye.

4           BOARD SECRETARY: Director Worthe?

5           BOARD MEMBER JEFFREY WORTHE: Yes.

6           BOARD SECRETARY: The motion carries, Mr. Chairman.

7           CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: Thank you.

8           All right. We'll -- we have a motion and a second. The Board  
9           Secretary has called the roll, and we will now -- the Board will now go  
10          into closed session.

11          After the closed session, we'll come back out and report to the  
12          public whether there was any actions taken by the Committee in closed  
13          session -- or the Board.

14          With that, we'll now move to closed session. Thank you.

15          (CLOSED SESSION) (RECOMMENCES AT 02:24:46)

16          CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen,  
17          and welcome back -- or at least I'll welcome my colleagues back.

18          We have been in closed session.

19          I can report to those of you here, and around the State, that we've  
20          concluded the closed session portion of it, and that there has been no  
21          action taken to report out to the -- to you.

22          I will say that the closed session will be continued -- or it's -- it will  
23          be continued in the following dates at 770 L Street, Suite 11A, here in  
24          Sacramento. There will be a continuation of the closed session on  
25          Monday, November the 24th, Tuesday the 25th, Wednesday the 26th,

1 and Friday the 28th, each of those days at 10:00 a.m. There may be  
2 addition- -- additional closed sessions after that. Those are the ones  
3 that we're announcing now. One more time for you, one date -- next  
4 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday the 24th, 5th, 6th, and 8th,  
5 10:00 a.m. at 770 L Street, Suite -- or Room 11A. That is the  
6 headquarters for the High-Speed Rail Authority.

7 With that, the closed session is now adjourned until Monday the  
8 24th at 10:00 a.m.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Adjourned or continued?

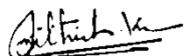
10 CHAIR TOM RICHARDS: Continued. I'm sorry. Thank you.

11 *(Meeting concludes at approximately 10:46 a.m.)*

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I, Nithish Kumar, a transcriber for Datagain, do hereby certify: That said proceedings were listened to and transcribed by me and were prepared using standard electronic transcription equipment under my direction and supervision; and I hereby certify that the foregoing transcript of the proceedings is a full, true, and accurate transcript to the best of my ability.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name this  
December 1, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nithish Kumar".