

SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Minutes- Board of Directors

February 10, 2006

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District met on Friday, February 10, 2006 at the District's Administrative Office, 370 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

Vice-Chair Tavantzis called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

SECTION 1: OPEN SESSION

1. ROLL CALL:

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Jan Beautz (arrived after roll call)
Dene Bustichi
Michelle Hinkle
Mike Keogh
Kirby Nicol
Emily Reilly (arrived after roll call)
Mike Rotkin (arrived after roll call)
Dale Skillicorn
Pat Spence
Mark Stone (arrived after roll call)
Marcela Tavantzis

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Ex-Officio Wes Scott

STAFF PRESENT

Frank Cheng, MetroBase Project Manager
Mark Dorfman, Assistant General Manager
Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel
Robyn Slater, Human Resources Manager

Judy Souza, Acting Operations Manager
Tom Stickel, Maintenance Manager
Les White, General Manager

EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO VOLUNTARILY INDICATED THEY WERE PRESENT

Carolyn Derwing, UTU
Sandra Lipperd, UTU
Ian McFadden, SEA

Bonnie Morr, UTU
Robert Yount, MAC

2. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Written:

None.

Oral:

None.

3. LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

Bonnie Morr, UTU, said she would like to move forward since the strike ended over 90 days ago but that she wants the Board to know that UTU feels they are being subject to retaliatory actions for participating in the strike. Ms. Morr gave examples including eligible candidates being denied a promotion, numerous Staff Reports referring to the strike, with no validity, as being the cause of certain things that occurred during the last 90 days, ParaCruz investigations not handled in a timely manner, difficulty getting certain medical and workers compensation expenses paid, medical insurance not adjusted correctly, drivers not being allowed to lie down in the drivers' lounges.

CHAIR ROTKIN ARRIVED

Ms. Morr said UTU wants these types of issues to stop and wants the Board to look into this seriously. Ms. Morr said she has spoken to some people about actually having a facilitated four-hour meeting to put everything in the past in a garbage can and bury it in order to move forward on a positive note and start getting back to the business of transit.

DIRECTORS REILLY AND STONE ARRIVED

4. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS

A MetroBase Newsletter for Item #5-12 and the Staff Report for Item #5-14 were distributed at today's meeting and are attached to the file copy of these minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA

5-1. APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 14 AND 28, NOVEMBER 18, DECEMBER 9 AND 16, 2005 AND SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 2, 2005

December Minutes will be included in the February 24, 2006 board packet.
No questions or comments.

5-2. ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED CLAIMS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2006

No questions or comments.

5-3. ACCEPT AND FILE JANUARY 2006 AND PAGE 1 OF THE DECEMBER 2005 RIDERSHIP REPORTS

Page 1 of the January Ridership Report will be included in the February 24, 2006 Board Packet.
No questions or comments.

5-4. CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS: None

5-5. ACCEPT AND FILE THE METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 15, 2006 AND MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16, 2005

No questions or comments.

5-6. ACCEPT AND FILE THE METRO ACCESSIBLE SERVICES TRANSIT FORUM (MASTF) AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 16, 2006 AND MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2006

Not Available – Meeting information page is attached.
No questions or comments.

5-7. ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2005

Will be included in the February 24, 2006 Board Packet.
No questions or comments.

5-8. ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2005 AND APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

Will be included in the February 24, 2006 Board Packet.
No questions or comments.

5-9. ACCEPT AND FILE HIGHWAY 17 STATUS REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2005

No questions or comments.

5-10. ACCEPT AND FILE PARACRUZ OPERATIONS STATUS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2005

No questions or comments.

5-11. ACCEPT AND FILE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ SERVICE UPDATE FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 2005

Will be included in the February 24, 2006 Board packet.
No questions or comments.

5-12. ACCEPT AND FILE METROBASE STATUS REPORT

Frank Cheng distributed a MetroBase Newsletter that will be sent to all area residences and businesses as part of the public outreach regarding the concrete pile driving stage of the MetroBase Project. Mr. Cheng reported that informational meetings would be held on February 16th and March 16th and that now there is a MetroBase website, hotline and mailing list sign-up, which are all included in the newsletter.

5-13. ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES REFLECTING VOTING RESULTS FROM APPOINTEES TO THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR THE JANUARY 2006 MEETINGS

No questions or comments.

5-14. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO RENEW THE CONTRACT WITH ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEWS OF DISTRICT PERFORMED ADA ELIGIBILITY SCREENINGS

No questions or comments.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS

This presentation will take place at the February 24, 2006 Board meeting.

7. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR REVENUE AND NON-RENEW TIRES

Will be included in the February 24, 2006 Board packet.
No questions or comments.

8. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO REVISE SANTA CRUZ METRO'S BYLAWS AND DIRECTOR'S CODE OF ETHICS TO INCORPORATE MODIFICATIONS REQUIRED BY NEW LEGISLATION (AB1234) WHICH BECAME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2006, REGARDING DIRECTOR'S COMPENSATION AND ETHICS REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING TRAINING

Margaret Gallagher reported that this report will be included in the February 24, 2006 Board packet.

9. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDED CLAIM TO THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR STATE TRANSIT ASSISTANCE FUNDS

Discussion:

Director Reilly asked how METRO would be involved in the public outreach campaign for the Highway 1 Merge Lanes Project. Les White responded that he expects METRO will be a part of the Traffic Management Plan that the Regional Transportation Commission received funding from Caltrans to develop.

DIRECTOR BEAUTZ ARRIVED

Summary:

Les White reported that an additional \$441,957 in State Transit Assistance funding is available to METRO due to the governor not suspending Proposition 42, and that by adopting this Resolution, the Board will authorize Staff to submit an amended claim for the increased amount of STA funds available in FY2006.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR KEOGH SECOND: DIRECTOR REILLY

Move Item 9 to the Consent Agenda

Motion passed unanimously with all Directors present.

10. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO CALTRANS FOR FY2006 RURAL OPERATING ASSISTANCE

Summary:

Les White reported that Caltrans has apportioned \$168,582 to Santa Cruz County in FTA §5311 funds for public transit operating assistance and that by adopting this Resolution, the Board will authorize Staff to submit a grant application for these funds.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR KEOGH

Move Item 10 to the Consent Agenda

Motion passed unanimously with all Directors present.

11. ACCEPT AND FILE INFORMATION REGARDING THE PREPARATION AND AVAILABILITY OF THE 2004/2005 FINANCIAL AUDIT IN RESPONSE TO COMMENTS AND REQUEST FROM UTU AT THE JANUARY 27, 2006 BOARD MEETING

Will be included in the February 24, 2006 Board packet.
No questions or comments.

12. REVIEW OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION: District Counsel

Margaret Gallagher reported that the Board would have a conference with their Real Property Negotiator regarding price and terms of properties at 1211 River Street, Santa Cruz; and 110 Vernon Street, Santa Cruz. The Board will also be meeting with their Legal Counsel regarding the existing litigation case of Santa Cruz Sentinel v. Santa Cruz METRO, and one case of anticipated litigation regarding the release of a client's name at a public meeting.

13. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION

None.

SECTION II: CLOSED SESSION

Vice Chair Tavantzis adjourned to Closed Session at 9:25 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session at 10:17 p.m.

SECTION III: RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

14. REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION

Margaret Gallagher reported that the Board took no reportable action in Closed Session.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Vice Chair Tavantzis adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

CINDI THOMAS
Administrative Services Coordinator