

SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Minutes- Board of Directors

January 28, 2011

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District met on Friday, January 28, 2011 at the Santa Cruz City Council Chambers, 809 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

Chair Pirie called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

SECTION 1: OPEN SESSION

1. ROLL CALL:

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Hilary Bryant
Dene Bustichi
Daniel Dodge
Donald Hagen
Ron Graves
Michelle Hinkle
John Leopold
Ellen Pirie
Mark Stone
Lynn Robinson
Ex-Officio Donna Blitzer

DIRECTORS ABSENT

William Neighbors

STAFF PRESENT

Angela Aitken, Acting AGM/Finance Manager
Bob Cotter, Maintenance Manager
Frank Cheng, MB Project Manager
Mary Ferrick, Fixed Route Superintendent
Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel

Debbie Kinslow, Asst Finance Manager
David Moreau, Asst Paratransit Superintendent
Robyn Slater, Human Resources Manager
April Warnock, Paratransit Superintendent
Les White, General Manager

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

John Daugherty, SEA
Manny Martinez, PSA
Eduardo Montesino, UTU
Bonnie Morr, UTU
Madelyn McCaul
Steve Pleich

Will Regan, VMU
Amy Weiss, Spanish Interpreter
Bob Simmons, CDX Wireless
Brian King, Cabrillo College
Dennis Bailey-Fougner, Cabrillo College

2. **ORAL ANNOUNCEMENT: AMY WEISS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SPANISH LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION DURING "ORAL COMMUNICATIONS" AND FOR ANY OTHER AGENDA ITEM FOR WHICH THESE SERVICES ARE NEEDED**
3. **CONSIDERATION OF: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS TO SERVE AS BOARD OFFICERS; AND APPOINTMENTS TO THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR 2011**

Summary:

Director Pirie announced that the current nominees for Chair are John Leopold and Ellen Pirie and asked if there were any more nominations. Mark Stone nominated Lynn Robinson for Chair. Director Stone explained why he nominated Lynn Robinson. Director Robinson explained why she could not accept the nomination. Director Graves nominated Ellen Pirie for Chair. Director Pirie closed the nominations.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR GRAVES SECOND: DIRECTOR BUSTICHI

Elect Ellen Pirie as Chair.

Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Pirie nominated Lynn Robinson as Vice Chair. Director Dodge nominated John Leopold as Vice Chair.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR DODGE SECOND: NONE

Elect John Leopold as Vice Chair.

Motion failed.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR BUSTICHI SECOND: DIRECTOR GRAVES

Elect Lynn Robinson as Vice Chair.

Motion passed with Directors Stone and Dodge voting no.

Chair Pirie nominated Dene Bustichi, Lynn Robinson, and Donald Hagen as Commissioners for the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission. Director Stone said that Director Hagen deserved to be on the Commission, and that it was important to have more South County representation on the SCCRTC.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR GRAVES SECOND: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD

Appoint Dene Bustichi, Lynn Robinson, and Donald Hagen as Commissioners for the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission.

Motion passed with Directors Dodge, Leopold and Stone voting no and Director Neighbors being absent.

Chair Pirie nominated Ron Graves, Daniel Dodge, and Michelle Hinkle as Alternate Commissioners to the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR PIRIE SECOND: DIRECTOR BUSTICHI

Appoint Ron Graves, Daniel Dodge, and Michelle Hinkle as Alternate Commissioners to the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

Motion passed unanimously with Director Neighbors being absent.

Chair Pirie stated that the Board would defer appointing representatives to the Highway Construction Authority until needed.

4. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

None.

5. LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

None.

6. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

7-1. ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED CLAIMS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2010

7-2. ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS REPORTS FOR OCTOBER 2010 AND APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

7-3. ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED CLAIMS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2010

7-4. ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER 2010 AND APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

7-5. ACCEPT AND FILE PARACRUZ OPERATIONS STATUS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2010

- 7-6. ACCEPT AND FILE RIDERSHIP AND PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2010
- 7-7. ACCEPT AND FILE HIGHWAY 17 STATUS REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2010
- 7-8. ACCEPT AND FILE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ MONTHLY SERVICE REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2010
- 7-9. APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2010
- 7-10. ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES REFLECTING VOTING RESULTS FROM APPOINTEES TO THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR PREVIOUS MEETINGS
- 7-11. ACCEPT AND FILE STATUS REPORT OF ACTIVE GRANTS AND SUBMITTED GRANT PROPOSALS FOR JANUARY 2011
- 7-12. ACCEPT AND FILE STATUS REPORT OF FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATION AND CURRENT LEGISLATIVE ISSUES
- 7-13. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES AND DESIGNATING THE GENERAL MANAGER AS THE AUTHORIZED AGENT TO EXECUTE ACTIONS NECESSARY TO RECEIVE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, MODERNIZATION, IMPROVEMENT AND SERVICE ENHANCEMENT ACCOUNT (PTMISEA) FUNDS ON BEHALF OF SANTA CRUZ METRO
- 7-14. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH THE LAW OFFICES OF MARIE F. SANG FOR LEGAL SERVICES IN THE AREA OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT FOR ONE (1) ADDITIONAL YEAR.
- 7-15. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A ONE YEAR CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR FURNISHING HEAVY DUTY COACH AND AUTOMOTIVE BATTERIES WITH BATTERIES USA, INC. FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000
- 7-16. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH SC FUELS FOR DELIVERY OF ULTRA-LOW SULFUR DIESEL FUEL FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,500,000
- 7-17. CONSIDERATION OF AGREEMENT WITH THE SANTA CRUZ SEASIDE COMPANY FOR THE PROVISION OF LATE-NIGHT SERVICE
- 7-18. ACCEPT AND FILE REPORT ON STATUS OF METRO GFI GENFARE AUTOMATIC FARE COLLECTION SYSTEM UPGRADE

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR BUSTICHI SECOND: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD

Approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously with Director Neighbors being absent.

REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Pirie moved item # 13 to the front of the Agenda

13. CONSIDERATION OF LETTER FROM CABRILLO COLLEGE REGARDING CESSATION OF STUDENT BUS PASS PROGRAM

Summary:

Angela Aitken reported that Cabrillo College is unable to sustain its student bus pass program and has plans to terminate the program in June 2011. There was a discussion about the bus pass program. Director Leopold expressed his willingness to help in any way. Director Hagen asked if students would receive a discounted pass through the ticket vending machines. Angela Aitken said that they would not.

Director Bustichi asked if this issue could be re-visited in order to devise a special student pass. Leslie White said it would be difficult, and that it remains for Cabrillo College to devise a mechanism for acquiring the funds, and offered to see if METRO's transit lobbyist Josh Shaw could look into this. Dr. Brian King, president of Cabrillo College, explained that dwindling funds forced the cancellation of 400 course sections, and that there are a lot of limitations on what the college can do to find funds for transportation. Director Leopold said that he was appreciative of the offer to have Josh Shaw look into the matter.

8. PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS

Maria Granados-Boyce was not able to attend today.

9. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICES OF MIKE ROTKIN AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Summary:

Chair Pirie read aloud the Resolution of Appreciation for Mike Rotkin. Ex-Director Rotkin thanked the Board, spoke at length about working with Board members and METRO staff, and voiced his opinion about how Sacramento treats public transit. Mr. Rotkin said that it was a pleasure to serve the people of the community.

Discussion:

Directors Robinson, Bustichi, Bryant and Hagen each thanked Mr. Rotkin for his mentorship and leadership. Bonnie Morr, UTU, thanked Mr. Rotkin for his service. Will Regan, VMU, thanked Mr. Rotkin and noted that he had outlasted him. John Daugherty, SEA, thanked Mr. Rotkin for

acknowledging all staff and for his support of METRO. Manuel Martinez, PSA, recalled that he learned long ago that other Directors were moving parts, but that Mr. Rotkin was a permanent fixture.

ACTION: MOTION: CHAIR PIRIE SECOND: DIRECTOR STONE

Approve Resolution of Appreciation for the services of Mike Rotkin as a member of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District.

Motion passed unanimously with Director Neighbors being absent.

Director Leopold left.

10. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICES OF MARCELA TAVANTZIS AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Summary:

Chair Pirie read aloud the Resolution of Appreciation for Marcela Tavantzis. Ex-Director Tavantzis thanked the Board and advised them that replacing Les White would be difficult. Ms. Tavantzis said that METRO staff is wonderful and thanked them for their efforts. Ms. Tavantzis encouraged the Board to continue to look at widening the freeways in order to provide trunk service in the area, to consider a multi-ride pass that would provide some savings to people who are not able to buy a monthly pass.

Director Robinson thanked Ms. Tavantzis for her attention to METRO's financial foundation and for her mentorship. Directors Hagen, Bustichi, and Dodge also thanked Ms. Tavantzis.

Bonnie Morr, UTU, Will Regan, VMU, Manuel Martinez, PSA, and John Daugherty, SEA, all thanked Ms. Tavantzis for her service.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR BUSTICHI SECOND: DIRECTOR HAGEN

Approve Resolution of Appreciation for the services of Marcela Tavantzis as a member of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Neighbors and Leopold being absent.

11. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICES OF BATTISTA BREGANTE AS FACILITIES MAINTENANCE WORKER I FOR THE SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR BUSTICHI SECOND: DIRECTOR HAGEN

Approve Resolution of Appreciation for the services of Battista Bregante as Facilities Maintenance Worker I for the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Neighbors and Leopold being absent.

12. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH CAPITALEdge ADVOCACY, LLC FOR FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

Summary:

Leslie White recommended approval of the contract extension with CapitalEdge Advocacy, LLC.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD SECOND: DIRECTOR HAGEN

Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Capitaledge Advocacy, Llc for Federal Legislative Services.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Neighbors and Leopold being absent.

14. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF THE 2002 CHANCE COACH COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS RUBBER TIRED TROLLEY TO SOUTH METRO AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT IN WILSONVILLE, OREGON, A FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION (FTA) DIRECT RECIPIENT AGENCY, UPON RECEIPT OF THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ'S RELEASE OF INTEREST AND FTA APPROVAL OF SUCH TRANSFER

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR DODGE SECOND: DIRECTOR BUSTICHI

Defer item to next meeting on February 11, 2011.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Neighbors and Leopold being absent.

15. CONSIDERATION OF A GRANT BUDGET AMENDMENT TO SUPPLEMENT THE LOCAL MATCH AMOUNT ON FTA 5309 CAPITAL GRANT CA-04-0156 FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW FAREBOXES AND REDUCE THE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR THIS PROJECT BY \$12,380

Summary:

Angela Aitken reported that by including labor costs towards the AB5309 grant local match amount, the capital budget was reduced, less cashed is used, and she recommended approval of the amendment.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD SECOND: DIRECTOR ROBINSON

Approve grant budget amendment to supplement the local match amount on FTA 5309 Capital Grant CA-04-0156 for the purchase of new fareboxes and reduce the capital budget for this project by \$12,380.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Neighbors and Leopold being absent.

16. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH MOORE & ASSOCIATES FOR WATSONVILLE TRANSIT PLANNING STUDY

Summary:

Angela Aitken reported that this was a collaborative community effort, with multiple Watsonville agencies being contacted, and she recommended approval of the contract.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR DODGE SECOND: DIRECTOR HAGEN

Authorize General Manager to execute a contract with Moore & Associates for Watsonville Transit Planning study.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Neighbors and Leopold being absent.

17. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH DAY WIRELESS FOR UPGRADE OF SANTA CRUZ METRO'S LAND MOBILE RADIO SYSTEM

Summary:

Ciro Aguirre reported that the district's communications system needed upgrading, and that Day Wireless was chosen after the proscribed bidding and evaluation process. Mr. Aguirre noted that because of budget limitations the contractors reduced their price after removing some components, and he said that if money became available for additional components, Board approval would be sought.

Discussion:

Director Bustichi said that he would have wished to have more information about the bid. Director Graves asked what components were removed to bring the cost down and whether the District would be able to accomplish the upgrade.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR STONE SECOND: DIRECTOR HAGEN

Authorize General Manager to execute a contract with Day Wireless for upgrade of METRO's Land Mobile Radio System.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Neighbors and Leopold being absent.

18. CONSIDERATION OF WRITTEN REQUEST TO PROVIDE BUS ADVERTISING SPACE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING "POETRY ON THE BUS" AFFILIATED WITH THE POETRY IN MOTION PROJECT

Summary:

Ciro Aguirre said that he received a letter requesting the posting of poetry on METRO buses, and determined that it did not meet the criteria under the District advertising policy.

Discussion:

Director Hagen said that he did not support allowing poetry on the bus. Gary Young, Poet Laureate of Santa Cruz County, described the Poetry in Motion project. Director Stone said he thought an opportunity was being passed up and asked that a review of poetry programs in other communities be conducted. Director Bustichi said he appreciated Mr. Young's intent, but asked how content would be controlled, and said the item should be brought back at a later date. Director Robinson agreed that other transit agencies should be surveyed. Leslie White noted that Seattle's transit agency is being sued for offensive literature. Director Dodge noted his concern for hate speech.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR STONE SECOND: DIRECTOR ROBINSON

Re-affirm District advertising policy; direct staff to research similar programs in other agencies; and defer item to March 25, 2011 Board meeting.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Neighbors and Leopold being absent.

19. ACCEPT AND FILE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2010

Summary:

Debbie Kinslow reported that METRO had recently undergone a financial audit. Ms. Kinslow said that METRO received that highest rating available.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROBINSON SECOND: DIRECTOR BUSTICHI

Accept and file financial statements with independent auditors for year ending June 30, 2011.

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Neighbors and Leopold being absent.

20. ORAL ANNOUNCEMENT: THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 AT 9:30 A.M. AT THE SANTA CRUZ METRO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES LOCATED AT 110 VERNON STREET, SANTA CRUZ

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chair Pirie adjourned the meeting at 10:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



ANTHONY TAPIZ
Administrative Services Coordinator