



**SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (METRO)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 28, 2017 – 8:30 AM  
METRO ADMIN OFFICES  
110 VERNON STREET  
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) was convened on Friday, April 28, 2017 at the METRO Admin Offices, 110 Vernon Street, Santa Cruz, CA

The Board Meeting Agenda Packet can be found online at [www.SCMTD.com](http://www.SCMTD.com) and is available for inspection at Santa Cruz METRO's Administrative offices at 110 Vernon Street, Santa Cruz, California.

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**SECTION I: OPEN SESSION**

1 CALL TO ORDER at 8:35 AM by Chair Dutra.

2 ROLL CALL: The following Directors were **present**, representing a quorum:

<b>Director Ed Bottorff</b>	<b>City of Capitola</b>
<b>Director Cynthia Chase</b>	<b>City of Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Director Jimmy Dutra, Board Chair</b>	<b>City of Watsonville</b>
<b>Director Norm Hagen</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>
Director John Leopold	County of Santa Cruz
<b>Director Donna Lind</b>	<b>City of Scotts Valley</b>
<b>Director Cynthia Mathews</b>	<b>City of Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Director Bruce McPherson, Board Vice Chair</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Director Oscar Rios</b>	<b>City of Watsonville</b>
<b>Director Dan Rothwell</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Director Mike Rotkin</b>	<b>County of Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Ex-Officio Director Donna Blitzer</b>	<b>UC Santa Cruz</b>
<b>Ex-Officio Director Liber McKee</b>	<b>Cabrillo College</b>

Director Leopold was absent.

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Alex Clifford  
Julie Sherman

METRO CEO/General Manager  
METRO General Counsel

METRO EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO VOLUNTARILY INDICATED THEY WERE PRESENT (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER) WERE:

Heather Adamson, AMBAG  
Angela Aitken, METRO  
Antonio Castillo, SEIU VMU

Joan Jeffries, SEIU SEA  
Olivia Martinez, SEIU  
Daniel Zaragoza, METRO

### **3 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Dutra introduced Carlos Landaverry and his Spanish Language Interpretation services. He then announced that the meeting is being televised by Community Television of Santa Cruz County with technician, Chris Ivins

Announced the following were distributed to Board members and available at the back of the room for the public:

- Item 9-07, Consider adopting a resolution authorizing the CEO to submit an application and sign necessary agreements to obtain Proposition 1B funding from the FY17 California Transit Security Grant Program. Staff Report Correction to Summary Section, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph.
- Item 9-08, Attachment A, Consideration of authorization to join a procurement with Clemson Area Transit for the purchase and delivery of electric buses. Staff Report Corrections to Discussion and Alternatives Considered Sections. Attachment A Correction to 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph
- News clips of interest
- CEO Quarterly Newsletter, April 2017

### **4 BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMENTS**

Vice Chair McPherson expressed his appreciation and compliments to Senators Beall and Frazier for their efforts in the successful passing of SB1. He also thanked all METRO employees who contributed to the success of Measure D. This success was a large contribution to Santa Cruz County becoming a self-help county. Revenues are yet to begin flowing to METRO and lots of work remains to be done; however, Santa Cruz County should benefit from improved public transportation as a result of both successes.

Chair Dutra also thanked everyone for their support. He also mentioned Assemblymember Anna Caballero's visit to METRO later today. She will participate in a round table and lunch with METRO staff.

Hearing no further comments, Chair Dutra moved to the next agenda item.

### **5 COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Having none, Chair Dutra moved to the next agenda item.

### **6 COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAC**

Having none, Chair Dutra moved to the next agenda item.

### **7 LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS**

Joan Jeffries, SEA Chapter President, introduced herself and Tony Castillo, VMU Chapter representative. Olivia Martinez, SEIU staff, introduced herself and mentioned she works with three METRO chapters and others throughout the County.

## **8 ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 9-01 ACCEPT AND FILE: PRELIMINARY APPROVED CHECK JOURNAL DETAIL FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2017
- 9-02 ACCEPT AND FILE: THE YEAR TO DATE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF JANUARY 31, 2017
- 9-03 ACCEPT AND FILE: MINUTES OF THE SANTA CRUZ METRO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF MARCH 24, 2017 WITH CORRECTION TO RESOLUTION RECITALS
- 9-04 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO EXECUTE A 5<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT EXTENDING THE CONTRACT FOR ONE YEAR WITH ALLIANT INSURANCE SERVICES, INC. FOR EXCESS WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE, INCREASING THE CONTRACT TOTAL BY AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$177,000
- 9-05 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AWARD OF CONTRACT TO DYNAMIC SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES FOR AN ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEM NOT TO EXCEED \$249,537
- 9-06 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FY17 REVISED CAPITAL BUDGET
- 9-07 APPROVE: CONSIDER ADOPTING A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION AND SIGN NECESSARY AGREEMENTS TO OBTAIN PROPOSITION 1B FUNDING FROM THE FY17 CALIFORNIA TRANSIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM
- 9-08 PULLED FROM CONSENT AT REQUEST OF CHAIR DUTRA  
APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO JOIN A PROCUREMENT WITH CLEMSON AREA TRANSIT FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ELECTRIC BUSES**

**ACTION: MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED, EXCEPTING ITEM 9-08, CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO JOIN A PROCUREMENT WITH CLEMSON AREA TRANSIT FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ELECTRIC BUSES, WHICH WAS PULLED FROM CONSENT.**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR CHASE**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Dutra, Hagen, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin). Director Leopold was absent.**

## REGULAR AGENDA

### **9-08 PULLED FROM CONSENT AT REQUEST OF CHAIR DUTRA TO BE DISCUSSED AS THE FIRST ITEM UNDER THE REGULAR AGENDA**

APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO JOIN A PROCUREMENT WITH CLEMSON AREA TRANSIT FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ELECTRIC BUSES

Erron Alvey, Purchasing Manager, provided background to the staff report and explained the opportunities in the grant cycle, which would allow METRO to take advantage of additional options to purchase additional buses over the next five years.

Chair Dutra inquired as to the timing and how many electric buses may be procured by METRO. Ms. Alvey answered METRO has been awarded grant funding for an initial purchase of three electric buses. There are nine options over the next five years to provide us with potential additional buses, should funding be received. The goal for delivery of the initial purchase is January 2019

Director Rotkin asked how the bus is transported across the country.

Ms. Alvey noted that the BYD equipment is manufactured in Southern California and shipped via flatbed to the transit company location.

Vice Chair McPherson asked if this is an expansion of the three buses received last year.

CEO Alex Clifford responded no; this came about as a result of Plan B, pursuing a joint procurement. We are aiming for mid-year next year as we are not yet under contract for Over The Road (OTR) coaches and are still determining the infrastructure requirements. Erron added that the new coaches will also require Altuna testing, a federal requirement, which takes additional time.

Director Chase asked if the electric bus grants typically include infrastructure.

Ms. Alvey responded some grants do combine equipment and infrastructure. Others also include funds to support working with a consultant to assist the agency with the bus purchase and infrastructure requirements.

Director Rothwell asked if anyone knew how many electric buses are in operation in the nation, what the cost is and if a bus can be manufactured in advance of an in-place contract.

Ms. Alvey answered that the buses are often customized to the agency's specifications and manufacturing begins upon receipt of a purchase order. By piggybacking onto another agency order, where options have become available, an agency can sometimes complete the process on a faster timeline. Electric buses cost almost double the price of a CNG bus, which costs approximately \$500K - \$600K each.

CEO Clifford added that he was not aware of how many electric buses are running today. Foothill Transit in Southern California has a large fleet. Stanford runs a fleet of BYD equipment. Due to the cost of the equipment and the 20 year life expectancy of our CNG facility, METRO's fleet plan remains two-fold: to integrate and increase electric buses, while maintaining CNG.

Chair Dutra asked Ms. Alvey to provide him with a monthly list of agencies she's contacted to see if there are any available options for electric buses that METRO could avail itself of.

**ACTION: MOTION TO AUTHORIZE METRO TO JOIN A PROCUREMENT WITH CLEMSON AREA TRANSIT FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF ELECTRIC BUSES AS PRESENTED.**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR BOTTORFF**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR CHASE**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Dutra, Hagen, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin). Director Leopold was absent.**

**10 EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION TO AL PIERCE, MAINTENANCE MANAGER, AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW MAINTENANCE MANAGER, EDDIE BENSON**

Alex Clifford, CEO/General Manager, spoke of Al Pierce's accomplishments and contributions to METRO as Maintenance Manager. He brought leadership, direction and policies and procedures were put into place. Under his management, the 'dead bus' list was reduced by approximately half.

COO Ciro Aguirre added that, with his 40+ years of experience in maintenance and facilities, Mr. Pierce brought a level of leadership, foresight, commitment and dedication that is extraordinary. Mr. Pierce streamlined the maintenance program to ensure alignment with Federal and State regulations and coordinated various construction projects throughout the County. He will continue to assist METRO's efforts through the electric bus infrastructure and contract phases.

Mr. Pierce thanked the staff and personnel he had worked with and said he's enjoyed his tenure at METRO. He appreciated the CEO recognizing the importance of maintenance as a good return on investments. He also thanked his wife, Diana, for her support over the years.

Vice Chair McPherson added his appreciation to Mr. Pierce for his multipurpose approach to his responsibilities, his expertise and his professionalism. It is clear everyone enjoyed working with him. Additionally, it is a feather in his cap that he was able to keep METRO moving and on the road.

Director Rotkin added Mr. Pierce's expertise was considerable and he excelled at keeping METRO vehicles on the road.

COO Aguirre then introduced METRO's new Maintenance Manager, Eddie Benson, who has over 31 years of industry experience.

Mr. Benson recognized Mr. Pierce as a leader in the industry and said he hopes to continue his legacy and keep the fleet operating successfully. He is happy and pleased to work with everyone at METRO.

Chair Dutra added additional thanks to Mr. Pierce for the maintenance of METRO's facilities.

**11 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO USE THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF 9 SUPPORT VEHICLES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$213,779**

[Al Pierce, Maintenance Manager](#)

- 12 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO USE THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE PARATRANSIT VEHICLE VIA CALTRANS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$66,000**

**Al Pierce, Maintenance Manager**

- 13 APPROVE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF 11 PARATRANSIT VEHICLES THROUGH THE CALACT CONTRACT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$824,958.42**

**Al Pierce, Maintenance Manager**

At the request of Chair Dutra, agenda items 11, 12 and 13 were combined and discussed as one item.

Mr. Pierce provided information to supplement the three staff reports as well as information on the useful life of vehicles and the logic behind the purchase of replacement vehicles. He noted the funding sources were from 5339, 5310 and STIC, not Measure D.

Director Rotkin asked how many miles were typically on the existing Paratransit vehicles.

Mr. Pierce responded that they have over their double life expectancy; i.e., over 150K – 200K miles. Keeping these vehicles on the road is a testimony to good driving and maintenance.

**ACTION: ITEM 11: MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF 9 SUPPORT VEHICLES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$213,779 AS PRESENTED; AND,**

**ITEM 12: MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE PARATRANSIT VEHICLE VIA CALTRANS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$66,000 AS PRESENTED; AND,**

**ITEM 13: MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF 11 PARATRANSIT VEHICLES THROUGH THE CALACT CONTRACT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$824,958.42, AS PRESENTED.**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR McPHERSON**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Dutra, Hagen, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin). Director Leopold was absent.**

- 14 CONSIDERATION OF A NEW MONTHLY BOARD MEETING START TIME**

Chair Dutra, Board Chair, explained the rationale behind his request, noting the difficulties encountered by the public and board members that an 8:30AM start time presents under the current traffic conditions throughout the county.

Directors Hagen, Rothwell and Rio voiced their support.

Director Rotkin added his support, but asked that the other board members recognize the importance of maintaining quorum and to make a commitment to stay throughout the entire meeting as short agendas are not always guaranteed. He noted that an earlier start time may be a disadvantage to attendees who work during the day and may have to extend their time missing work.

Director Bottorff supports a later start time and applauds the success of one monthly meeting versus two. He added that the Board can revert to an earlier start time if we find the 9:00AM is not working.

Vice Chair McPherson recommended the board members block their calendars through the lunch hour to ensure success.

Public Comment:

Nari Tarone, UCSC student, appreciates the later start time, but it does make it more difficult to get to a 12:00 class on time.

Cap Steele, Santa Cruz Public Library retiree and rider, said she would attend all meetings regardless of the start time.

**ACTION: MOTION TO APPROVE A NEW MONTHLY BOARD MEETING START TIME AS PRESENTED.**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR MATHEWS**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Dutra, Hagen, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin). Director Leopold was absent.**

## **15 FINANCE, BUDGET AND AUDIT STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING MARCH 3, 2017 REPORT OUT**

Angela Aitken, Finance Manager, said today's focus is on the Committee recommendations and the attachments included in the report.

Director Bottorff asked if METRO would be in the black in FY18 and in the red in FY19

Ms. Aitken answered yes. She added these are preliminary numbers; an updated presentation will be brought forward at May's board meeting.

Director Hagen suggested an increase in Paratransit fares may be helpful in the near future.

CEO Clifford provided a brief verbal update of fare changes over the past couple of years and said METRO is trying not to raise fares in FY17, particularly in light of the recent service changes. This is the 'year of peace' he committed to the board.

Director Rothwell asked if there would be any fuel savings with the implementation of electric buses and if METRO has considered solar charging stations.

CEO Clifford responded that staff has no definite answers at this time, due to the relatively new technology of electric buses and infrastructure. We anticipate lower maintenance expenses; CNG buses run hot and blow pistons. Peak versus non-peak charging costs vary. We are looking into the feasibility of installing solar on existing facilities and/or over the bus yard; however, storage capacity then becomes an issue.

Vice Chair McPherson noted that the tri-county Monterey Bay Community Power Agency is having its first meeting next week and may be beneficial to this effort.

Chair Dutra inquired as to the sales tax rate and the impact local spending can have.

Ms. Aitken explained the ebbs and flows of the sales tax and the downward impact Internet sales have had on the revenue. METRO is budgeted at 2.5%.

Director Rotkin noted this is a US and global economy impact, not solely a local issue.

Director Mathews stressed the importance of fiscal responsibility. Given the anticipated Measure D revenue, she inquired as to the budget shortfall.

Ms. Aitken responded that the anticipated \$2M to \$2.5M from Measure D will certainly help but the shortfall is correct and that it will be a careful balance between the Operating Budget, Reserves and Capital Budget over the next five years.

Chair Dutra asked why SB1 is not listed as a revenue source.

Ms. Aitken responded that the measure had not yet been signed by the Governor when the presentation was prepared. The expected SB1 funds will be incorporated into the draft budget presented to the Board in May.

## **16 ORAL PACIFIC STATION UPDATE**

Barrow Emerson, Planning and Development Manager, said the Capital Projects Standing Committee has been discussing this topic and METRO is investigating the most efficient method to serve our customers, as well as the most advantageous footprint for Pacific Station. Every transit system is unique, based on its individual needs and topography and there are a number of approaches to serve the central city. METRO is in the process of confirming the availability of funds from the FTA to study these issues. The financial situation is undetermined at this time.

Director Chase added the Committee is looking to broaden the philosophy of system efficiencies.

Director Rotkin asked if any of the costs would be shared with the City of Santa Cruz.

Director Bottorff responded the Committee is taking this into consideration.

Director Mathews asked what the approximate timeline is.

Mr. Emerson answered it is slightly premature to determine now. Professional, qualified consultants are expensive and to do this exercise will take time.

CEO Clifford said, before the new direction from the Committee, METRO was comfortable with the \$50K originally programmed but we now need to confirm with the FTA with regard to use of the grant funds. We may have to dedicate \$100K-\$500K from the Operating budget for the analysis.

Chair Dutra stressed the importance of the local cities' partnerships with METRO and cited the City of Watsonville's recent EIR grant award.

Director Chase said the City of Santa Cruz has contributed money and time over the years.

Director Bottorff concurred, saying City partnerships are essential. We need to understand the most efficient method to deliver service. The recent Committee request may have exceeded the boundaries of the grant funding; it is unknown at the current time.

Director Rotkin provided some historic perspective on the project, noting that a developer had promised to fund the project at one time. This is not today's reality.

Chair Dutra asked METRO to provide the amount spent over the years on this project.

Mr. Emerson said he would respond under separate cover, as he did not have that information with him.

CEO Clifford reminded the assembly that the Board is not being asked to approve anything today.

**17 APPROVE: AUTHORIZATION TO PROCURE AND INSTALL ONBOARD BUS AND PARATRANSIT SECURITY SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT AND THE ADOPTION OF A USE OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA POLICY AND A REVISED USE OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE POLICY**

Alex Clifford, CEO/General Manager, provided commentary to the report, including recent examples of METRO incidents where cameras would have been helpful to law enforcement. His informal survey of other transit agencies revealed most agencies began installing cameras 20+ years ago. In fact, he couldn't find a single agency that doesn't have cameras installed. The return on investment is difficult to calculate as deterrents are hard to quantify. However, we anticipate a reduction in claims payouts, damages to buses, etc. The Capital Projects Standing Committee recommends approval. The proposal would use \$750K of existing Proposition 1B CalOES funding.

Attachment C represents a new policy. Attachment D is an existing policy, which has been revised slightly to ensure consistency between the two policies.

Director Rothwell asked if the unions have signed off on the policies.

CEO Clifford responded that the decision to install cameras on buses is within management's rights; therefore, no union sign-off is required. However, there was a meet and confer with both unions regarding certain impacts of the video policies. SEIU expressed concerns of new electronic equipment impact to employee classifications and asked for a review in one year.

Director Rios asked where the cameras will be most useful, where have most of the incidents occurred, and why is Paratransit priority? And, what were the union concerns?

CEO Clifford stated that most incidents occurred on Fixed Route. UTU asked that the installations be staged in this manner; i.e., there are fewer camera installations on Paratransit and we can ensure the model is correct before moving to Fixed Route. One of the biggest union concerns was if the cameras would be used in a disciplinary manner. The answer is yes; but not on a fishing expedition. This is why the new policy includes incident-based language. METRO doesn't have the resources or desire to download any more video than required. Additionally, at UTU's request, we added a section dealing with minor discipline incidents and a permitted timeframe for viewing footage before and after the incident.

Director Lind, speaking as a retired police officer, voiced her support, noting it is very valuable for law enforcement. It also serves as a preventative measure.

Director Rotkin cited positive Santa Cruz Sheriffs' recent experience. He appreciates management meeting with the union to vet the policies.

Director Rothwell asked if signage would be posted.

CEO Clifford answered yes; this is planned. There may also be monitors in place so the public can see some of the video views.

*Director Lind departed at 10:31AM.*

Chair Dutra asked how long the video would be stored, at what cost and where.

CEO Clifford said the plan is to spec the DVR to retain data for a minimum of 30 days.

General Counsel, Julie Sherman, explained that the transit district video surveillance retention statute has a requirement of one year. However, under the statute, transit districts may store video for less than one year, if it is too expensive or the technology is unavailable. : Most transit agencies store video for less than one year. However, if there is an incident, that video must be pulled until the issue is resolved.

CEO Clifford added for most incidents, we would download to computer or memory stick. In the event of a major incident, we would pull the hard drive of the device, make a mirror image and store it until the incident is resolved. This would happen at a cost yet to be determined. We anticipate these being few and far between.

Chair Dutra asked if the cameras will be easily moved from older to newer buses and what the cost would be per bus. Also, will METRO return to the board for approval before final purchase?

CEO Clifford answered that METRO is conducting a thorough technical evaluation to determine if it would be more cost effective 5 years down the road to order buses with cameras already on board or have the buses wired for installation. The current cost estimate will depend upon the vendor proposals received, but we anticipate \$10K-\$15K per bus and, yes, staff will return to the board before awarding a contract.

Isaac Holly, IT Manager, noted that we anticipate a low expense in the transferring of cameras from bus to bus; basically, a cable change.

There was no public comment.

**ACTION: MOTION TO PROCURE AND INSTALL ONBOARD BUS AND PARATRANSIT SECURITY SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT AND THE ADOPTION OF A USE OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA POLICY AND A REVISED USE OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE POLICY AS PRESENTED.**

**MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

**SECOND: DIRECTOR HAGEN**

**MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Chase, Dutra, Hagen, Lind, Mathews, McPherson, Rios, Rothwell & Rotkin). Director Leopold was absent.**

**18 ORAL REPORT FROM BOARD CHAIR AND OTHER BOARD MEMBERS REGARDING MARCH 29-31, 2017 WASHINGTON, DC LEGISLATIVE VISITS**

Jimmy Dutra, Board Chair and other Board Members, provided an update regarding their recent visit to Washington, DC where they met with various legislators and transportation funding agencies.

Director Rotkin observed that the current transportation committee members do not seem to know what the current administration is planning. When the DOT was asked when the grant application guidelines would be published, they had no answer and had received no direction. By law, the decision must be made by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Vice Chair McPherson said "uncertainty" is the word to use in today's Washington, DC. He reminded the assembly that last year's visit resulted in METRO receiving over \$3M of the \$720M distributed over 3,000 agencies. Senator Feinstein's Chief of Staff said METRO represents a model of success under financial stress.

Chair Dutra requested staff develop a press release containing the comment from Senator Feinstein's office.

Director Mathews said she would report this information back to her City Council and suggested other board members do likewise. Director Rotkin volunteered to report to the individual jurisdictions.

**19 CEO ORAL REPORT**

Alex Clifford, CEO/General Manager, said METRO was looking forward to hosting Assemblymember Caballero this afternoon. Director Rios asked METRO to express their thanks for her support of SB1.

CEO Clifford noted that Governor Brown is expected to sign SB1 very soon.

Guidelines for the Federal programs were issued this week. METRO's quick evaluation confirms what was learned during the agency's trip to DC. There is a lot of emphasis on scalability of the requests, which implies funding will be spread across the nation.

Vice Chair McPherson, CSAC Representative for Santa Cruz County, said SB1 has been a top priority for local governments over the past two years. He thanked all responsible for the narrow victory.

Director Mathews suggested METRO send a letter to the various jurisdictions, etc. thanking them for their assistance in the successful passage of SB1.

Chair Dutra requested staff pen an OpEd to the Sentinel and Pajaronian and thank you notes to those they visited in Washington, DC.

There were no public comments.

**20 REVIEW OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

Julie Sherman, General Counsel, announced the items below to be discussed in Closed Session. She did not anticipate any reportable actions.

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – PENDING LITIGATION**

Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1) – Parties: Lewis C. Nelson and Sons, Inc. and RNL Design, Inc.

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2) – one potential case

**21 ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017 AT 9:00AM, WATSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 475 MAIN STREET, WATSONVILLE, CA**

Chair Dutra announced the next meeting as above.

**22 ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Dutra adjourned the meeting at 10:59AM

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Pye  
Executive Assistant