

SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Minutes- Board of Directors

October 26, 2007

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District met on Friday, October 26, 2007 at the Santa Cruz City Council Chambers, 809 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

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

SECTION 1: OPEN SESSION

1. ROLL CALL:

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Jan Beautz
Dene Bustichi
Donald Hagen
Michelle Hinkle
Kirby Nicol
Emily Reilly
Mike Rotkin
Dale Skillicorn
Pat Spence
Mark Stone
Marcela Tavantzis

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Ex-Officio Donna Blitzer

STAFF PRESENT

Ciro Aguirre, Operations Manager
Angela Aitken, Finance Manager
Pat Aviles, Asst Human Resources Manager
Wally Brondstatter, Acting Paratransit Administrator
Mark Dorfman, Assistant General Manager
Mary Ferrick, Base Superintendent

Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel
Debbie Kinslow, Asst Finance Manager
Robyn Slater, Human Resources Manager
Tom Stickel, Maintenance Manager
Les White, General Manager

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

Adela Bates, Customer Service Representative
Ceil Cirillo, City of Santa Cruz RDA
Paul Marcelin-Sampson, Transit User
Ian McFadden, Transit Planner

Steve Paulson, Retiree
Amy Weiss, Spanish Interpreter
Bob Yount, MAC

2. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Written:

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| a. | Karena Pushnik, SCCRTC | Re: | METRO'S Short Range Transit Plan |
| b. | Kathy Handford | Re: | Bus Service Improvements |
| c. | Bill Donovan | Re: | Bus Service Improvements |

Oral:

Chair Tavantzis reported that a City of Watsonville employee has been commuting to work by bus from Scotts Valley for a little over a month now and has expressed delight in the service.

3. LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

None.

4. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS

A revised Agenda and Attachment "A" for today's Special Meeting and revised page #12.a9 for the Regular Meeting were distributed and are attached to the file copy of these minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 5-1. **ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED CLAIMS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2007**
- 5-2. **CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS: None**
- 5-3. **ACCEPT AND FILE THE METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 17, 2007 AND MINUTES OF AUGUST 15, 2007**
- 5-4. **ACCEPT AND FILE PARACRUZ OPERATIONS STATUS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2007**
- 5-5. **ACCEPT AND FILE METROBASE STATUS REPORT**
- 5-6. **CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING AN ANNUAL DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) PARTICIPATION RATE FOR FEDERALLY-FUNDED PROCUREMENTS IN 2008**
- 5-7. **APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14 & 28, 2007**
- 5-8. **ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES REFLECTING VOTING RESULTS FROM APPOINTEES TO THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2007 MEETING(S)**
- 5-9. **CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH PAT PIRAS CONSULTING FOR EVALUATION OF DISTRICT'S ADA/504 PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES AND TO EXTEND THE PROGRAM DEADLINE**
- 5-10. **ACCEPT AND FILE SEPTEMBER 2007 RIDERSHIP REPORT**
- 5-11. **CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF REVISED RIDERSHIP REPORT FORMAT**
- 5-12. **ACCEPT AND FILE INFORMATION REGARDING INCIDENT AT SCOTTS VALLEY CAVALLARO TRANSIT CENTER**
- 5-13. **ACCEPT AND FILE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ SERVICE UPDATE FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2007**

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR RIELLY SECOND: DIRECTOR ROTKIN

Approve the Consent Agenda

Motion passed unanimously with all Directors present.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS

The following employees were awarded longevity certificates for their years of service:

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

Adela P. Bates, Customer Service Representative

THIRTY YEARS

Arlette J. Abacherli, Bus Operator

7. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICES OF STEVEN A. PAULSON AS THE PARATRANSIT ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR SPENCE

Adopt Resolution of Appreciation for the services of Steven A. Paulson as the Paratransit Administrator for the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

Chair Tavantzis presented Steve Paulson with a plaque and thanked Mr. Paulson for his years of service. Mr. Paulson accepted the award and thanked SCMTD for his years of employment.

Motion passed unanimously with all Directors present.

ITEM #9 WAS TAKEN OUT OF ORDER

9. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICES OF JOHN H. MELLON AS THE LEAD PARTS CLERK FOR THE SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR SPENCE

Adopt Resolution of Appreciation for the services of John H. Mellon as the Lead Parts Clerk for the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

Motion passed unanimously with all Directors present.

In recognition of the two retirees, Chair Tavantzis invited all attendees to participate in the refreshments and took a brief Recess at 9:20 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session at 9:30 a.m.

8. PUBLIC HEARING: CONSIDERATION OF SERVICE REVISIONS FOR WINTER 2007

Summary:

Ian McFadden reported that staff is proposing eliminating the Paradise Park Loop from Route 4 due to very low ridership and operational needs and also modifying the first southbound Route 35 to restore connection to the Highway 17. Today's Public Hearing provides the public an opportunity to comment on this issue.

Mr. McFadden reported that 3 Public Hearing notices were placed in each bus, Paradise Park management was notified and a notice was posted there, and that the elimination of the Paradise Park Loop would not impact ParaCruz service because fixed route service on Graham Hill Road is within $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile to the park.

CHAIR TAVANTZIS OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 9:38 A.M.

There were no public comments.

CHAIR TAVANTZIS CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 9:38 A.M.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR SKILLICORN

Approve proposed service revisions for Winter 2007

Motion passed unanimously with all Directors present.

10. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDED CLAIM TO THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR FY 2008 STATE TRANSIT ASSISTANCE (STA) FUNDS AND TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT (TDA) FUNDS

Summary:

Mark Dorfman reported that METRO had originally submitted a claim for \$5,881,242 in anticipated STA funds. However, through a diversion of funds from the Public Transit Account to the General Fund in the FY 2008 California State Budget, this amount has been significantly reduced to only \$2,270,625. This amendment reflects the decreased amount of anticipated STA funds.

Discussion:

Director Spence noted that the STA dollar amounts listed on page #10.b3 had not been updated with the amended figures and Les White replied that staff would make those corrections.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR SPENCE SECOND: DIRECTOR REILLY

Adopt Resolution authorizing an amended claim to the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission for FY 2008 State Transit Assistance (STA) Funds and Transportation Development Act (TDA) Funds

Motion passed unanimously with all Directors present.

11. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH MHN, INC. FOR EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SERVICES

Summary:

Tom Stickel reported that the District provides an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) to its employees and their dependents. The current contract expires at the end of next month and staff recommends awarding the new contract to MHN, Inc.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR REILLY

Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with MHN, Inc. For Employee Assistance Program services

Motion passed unanimously with all Directors present.

12. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ FOR THE PACIFIC STATION PROJECT

Les White reported that a corrected replacement page #12.a9, "Schedule of Rates and Reimbursements" had been distributed today. The page originally distributed with the Staff Report had been the schedule for the previous MOU.

Discussion:

Ceil Cirillo, Executive Director of the City Redevelopment Agency, explained the scope of services the City would provide. There was a discussion regarding the benefit of contracting with the City and Directors Bustichi and Stone questioned the fees to be paid by METRO. Les White clarified that although the City will ultimately benefit from this project, it is not a joint project at this stage.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR NICOL SECOND: DIRECTOR HAGEN

Authorize the General Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Santa Cruz for the Pacific Station Project

Motion passed with Directors Bustichi and Stone voting no and all Directors present.

Chair Tavantzis recessed to the annual meeting of the Santa Cruz Civic Improvement Corporation at 10:53 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session at 10:58 a.m.

13. ACCEPT AND FILE REPORT ON 2007 APTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Summary:

Les White reported that he and Mark Dorfman attended the 2007 APTA Annual Conference held in Charlotte, NC October 7 – 11, 2007. Mr. White described the various committee meetings and conference sessions he attended and stated that he found the program content and topics to be very relevant and well presented.

14. ORAL ANNOUNCEMENT: NOTIFICATION OF MEETING LOCATION FOR NOVEMBER 16, 2007 – WATSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 250 MAIN STREET, WATSONVILLE

Chair Tavantzis announced that the November 16, 2007 Board meeting would be held in Watsonville and noted that it was scheduled one week earlier than normal due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

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

Margaret Gallagher reported that the Board would have a conference with its Labor Negotiators regarding UTU, Local 23, Fixed Route, and a conference with its Legal Counsel regarding the workers' compensation claim of Richard Dollente and the potential claim of Aiping Zhang and Po Zhao.

16. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION

None.

SECTION II: CLOSED SESSION

Chair Tavantzis adjourned to Special Open Session at 11:10 a.m. followed by Closed Session and reconvened to Open Session at 12:01 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, Chair Tavantzis adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

CINDI THOMAS

Administrative Services Coordinator