

# SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Minutes- Board of Directors

December 14, 2001

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District met on Friday, December 14, 2001 at the District's Administrative Office, 370 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

Vice-Chairperson Reilly called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

## SECTION 1: OPEN SESSION

### 1. ROLL CALL:

#### DIRECTORS PRESENT

Jeff Almquist  
Bruce Gabriel  
Michelle Hinkle  
Mike Keogh  
Christopher Krohn  
Emily Reilly  
Ex-Officio Mike Rotkin

#### DIRECTORS ABSENT

Sheryl Ainsworth  
Jan Beautz  
Tim Fitzmaurice  
Rafael Lopez  
Dennis Norton

#### STAFF PRESENT

Bryant Baehr, Operations Manager  
Paul Chandley, H. R. Manager  
Kim Chin, Planning & Marketing Manager  
Mark Dorfman, Asst. General Manager  
Marilyn Fenn, Asst. Finance Manager  
Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel  
Tom Hiltner, Grants/Legis. Analyst

David Konno, Fac. Maint. Manager  
Ian McFadden, Transit Planner  
Elisabeth Ross, Finance Manager  
Robyn Slater, Asst. H.R. Manager  
Tom Stickel, Fleet Maint. Manager  
Leslie R. White, General Manager

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

Jim Bosso, S. C. Transportation  
Linda Clayton, SEA  
Mary Ferrick, PSA  
Jeff LeBlanc, Rider  
Steve Marcus, UTU  
Bonnie Morr, UTU

Carolyn O'Donnell, TMA  
Josh Shaw, Shaw & Yoder  
Patricia Spence, MASTF  
Sam Storey, Community Bridges  
Marion Taylor, League of Women Voters  
Linda Wilshusen, SCCRTC

### 2. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

- a. James Bosso, S.C. Transportation RE: Community Bridges Contract Extension
- b. Susan Mankowski RE: Traffic Congestion
- c. Ann Ainsworth RE: County Housing Project, Watsonville

**3. LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS**

Bonnie Morr reminded the Board of the UTU Holiday Party being held this evening.

**4. METRO USERS GROUP (MUG) COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**5. METRO ACCESSIBLE SERVICES TRANSIT FORUM (MASTF) COMMUNICATIONS**

Pat Spence reminded the Board of the MASTF meeting on 12/20 at which paratransit certificates and Awards of Appreciation will be presented. The meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. in Room 223 of the University Towne Plaza.

**6. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS**

Director Gabriel submitted a letter in support of the widening of Highway 1. This letter will be in next month's Board packet under "Written Communications".

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**7-1. APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF 11/9/01 AND 11/16/01**

No questions or comments.

**7-2. ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED CLAIMS**

No questions or comments.

**7-3. ACCEPT AND FILE NOVEMBER 2001 RIDERSHIP REPORT**

No questions or comments.

**7-4. CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS: Deny the Claims of: AmCom Insurance Service; Nina Carlotta; Kathleen Smith**

No questions or comments.

**7-5. ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES OF MASTF COMMITTEE MEETING OF 11/15/01**

No questions or comments.

**7-6. ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES OF MUG COMMITTEE MEETING OF 11/14/01**

No questions or comments.

7-7. **ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2001, APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS**

No questions or comments.

7-8. **ACCEPT AND FILE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ SERVICE UPDATE**

No questions or comments.

7-9. **ACCEPT AND FILE STATUS REPORT ON CALL STOP ISSUE PROGRESS**

No questions or comments.

7-10. **ACCEPT AND FILE STATUS REPORT ON ADA PARATRANSIT PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER 2001**

No questions or comments.

7-11. **ACCEPT AND FILE HIGHWAY 17 STATUS REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2001**

No questions or comments.

7-12. **ACCEPT AND FILE STAFF REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATION OF BIO-DIESEL AS AN INTERIM FUEL**

No questions or comments.

7-13. **CONSIDERATION OF FINAL REPORT ON THE “IBUS” TDA-DEMONSTRATION PROJECT**

Les White assured the Board that METRO's role in this project, which was to put together an outline of how new vehicles could be put in place, is concluded.

## REGULAR AGENDA

8. **CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND REPORTS OF INDEPENDENT AUDITOR FOR YEAR-ENDING JUNE 30, 2001**

### Summary:

Elisabeth Ross reported that the final audit for the year ending June 30, 2001 was fine. Ms. Ross stated that the presentation by Benjamin Reyes of Brown Armstrong could be delayed until the January 2002 Board meeting once an extension is received from the Transportation Commission. Ms. Ross proceeded to discuss the possibility of not having a quorum at the December 21<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting and her concerns that Mr. Reyes would make the trip for nothing. METRO's contract states that one trip would be paid for in order for a Brown Armstrong

representative to attend a Board Meeting. Director Almquist stated that it was not necessary for Mr. Reyes to come out at all.

Ex-Officio Director Rotkin indicated that the Board had authority to take action on items at this first Board Meeting and Vice-Chairperson Reilly proceeded to ask if there were any items on the agenda that required action today.

Sam Storey of Community Bridges interjected that dependent care coverage is needed by January 1, 2002, for his employees in order to keep to the schedule. He asked that action be taken today on Item #16.

It was requested that Josh Shaw make a brief presentation on the 2002 State Legislative Program even though this item was approved.

**9. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF REVISED FARE ORDINANCE FOR HIGHWAY 17 EXPRESS SERVICE**

Deferred to January 2002 Board Meeting.

**10. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF 2002 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

**Summary:**

Les White introduced Josh Shaw of Shaw & Yoder, METRO's State Legislative advocate and Executive Director of the California Transit Association.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Shaw gave a very brief presentation on the proposed 2002 State Legislative Program. He reported that in FY 99/00 the State experienced a 25% growth in revenues over the previous year. FY 00/01 reflected 10% more revenue. It was Mr. Shaw's hope that FY 01/02 would end with a \$3M reserve. However, currently revenues are down. He added that FY 01/02 would be below projections by 10%. There is a deficit in the current year of nearly \$3B with a projected deficit for FY 02/03 of \$12M. Mr. Shaw confirmed that the \$8M in TCRP funds are safe.

Mr. Shaw asked for support of Proposition 42, which would dedicate the State's sales tax on gasoline to transit. Ex-Officio Rotkin expressed his hope that the Motion would reflect direction to Staff to prepare letters to the Board members who sit on other agencies' boards and committees to lobby for support of this Proposition as well.

**MOTION: DIRECTOR GABRIEL      SECOND:    DIRECTOR HINKLE**

**Move approval of Items 8, 10, 13, 14 and 16 with direction to Staff to prepare letters to Board members who sit on other agencies to lobby for support of Proposition 42.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**11. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF 2002 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

**Summary:**

Les White stated that this item could be postponed until the January 18, 2002, Board meeting when there would be more specifics on the incentive tier and discussions with the public.

**Discussion:**

Staff was directed to bring this item back in January but to proceed with lobbying in the meantime. Staff will also include a chart in their presentation at the January meeting.

Ex-Officio Director Rotkin noted that the Board will be evaluating Les White today and that, in his opinion, Mr. White is doing a good job and that his focus on large capital projects is also good.

Bonne Morr announced the holiday dinner at the Veterans Hall on December 24<sup>th</sup> and that help would be needed all day and all night until after the dinner ends.

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ALMQUIST SECOND: DIRECTOR GABRIEL**

**Cancel the Board Meeting scheduled for December 21, 2001, and move any pending items to the January Board meeting.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**12. CONSIDERATION OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ELIGIBILITY SOFTWARE FOR PARATRANSIT RIDES**

Deferred to January Board meeting.

**13. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL CONTRACT**

**14. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CONTRACT FOR PRINTING OF HEADWAYS**

**15. CONSIDERATION OF NOMINATION OF DIRECTORS TO SERVE AS BOARD OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2002, TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, AND METRO USERS GROUP CHAIRPERSON ASSIGNMENTS**

Deferred to January Board meeting.

**16. CONSIDERATION OF WAIVING \$21,498 IN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE REBATES FROM COMMUNITY BRIDGES TO ALLOW FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEPENDENT MEDICAL CARE COVERAGE FOR LIFT LINE EMPLOYEES**

**SECTION II: CLOSED SESSION**

Vice-Chairperson Reilly adjourned to Closed Session at 9:44 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session at 10:00 a.m.

**SECTION III: RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

**17. REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION**

There was nothing to report.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Director Reilly adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted.

DALE CARR  
Administrative Services Coordinator