

SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Minutes- Board of Directors

March 13, 2009

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District met on Friday, March 13, 2009 at the District's Administrative Office located at 370 Encinal Street in Santa Cruz, California.

In the absence of the Vice Chair, Chair Bustichi called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

SECTION 1: OPEN SESSION

1. ROLL CALL:

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Dene Bustichi
Donald Hagen
Michelle Hinkle
Lynn Robinson (arrived after roll call)
Mike Rotkin
Dale Skillicorn
Mark Stone
Marcela Tavantzis

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Ron Graves
Ellen Pirie
Pat Spence
Ex-Officio Donna Blitzer

STAFF PRESENT

Ciro Aguirre, Operations Manager	Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel
Angela Aitken, Finance Manager	Robyn Slater, Human Resources Manager
Frank Cheng, MetroBase Project Manager	April Warnock, Paratransit Superintendent
Mary Ferrick, Fixed Route Superintendent	Les White, General Manager

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

Will Regan, VMU

2. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Written:

- a. Nikki Simpson & Jerry Walters Re: Bus Stop Relocation Request

Oral:

Les White reported that Director Spence recently had an accident and fractured her leg, which will prevent her from attending the March and April Board meetings.

DIRECTOR ROBINSON ARRIVED

3. LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

None.

4. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

5-1. ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED CLAIMS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2009

No questions or comments.

5-2. ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS REPORT FOR JANUARY 2009

No questions or comments.

**5-3. CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS:
DENY THE CLAIM OF JOE BLAIR, CLAIM #09-0005;
DENY THE CLAIM OF CSAA (SUBROGATING FOR B. SCOTT, CLAIM #09-0008**

No questions or comments.

5-4. ACCEPT AND FILE THE METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) AGENDA FOR MARCH 18, 2009 AND MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2009

No questions or comments.

5-5. ACCEPT AND FILE PARACRUZ OPERATIONS STATUS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2008

No questions or comments.

5-6. ACCEPT AND FILE HIGHWAY 17 STATUS REPORT FOR JANUARY 2009

No questions or comments.

5-7. ACCEPT AND FILE JANUARY 2009 RIDERSHIP REPORT

Director Tavantzis congratulated METRO on the decrease in dropped service hours.

5-8. ACCEPT AND FILE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ SERVICE UPDATE FOR THE MONTHS OF JANUARY 2009

No questions or comments.

5-9. ACCEPT AND FILE METROBASE PROJECT STATUS REPORT

No questions or comments.

5-10. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH BROWN ARMSTRONG FOR FINANCIAL AUDIT AND TAX PREPARATION SERVICES

No questions or comments.

5-11. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A 5-YEAR LEASE EXTENSION FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2880 RESEARCH PARK DRIVE IN SOQUEL

No questions or comments.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS:

This presentation will take place at the March 27, 2009 Board meeting.

7. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICES OF IAN MCFADDEN AS TRANSIT PLANNER FOR THE SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

This presentation will take place at the March 27, 2009 Board meeting.

8. CONSIDERATION OF MODIFICATIONS TO METRO'S DISCOUNT FARE POLICY IMPLEMENTING NEW SECTIONS AND REVISING THE VERIFICATION OF DISABILITY STATUS FORM AND CHANGING THE FORMAT

Summary:

Margaret Gallagher reported that as a recipient of Section 5307 Federal Grant Funding, METRO is required to have a Discount Fare Policy for elderly persons, persons with disabilities, and Medicare cardholders. METRO has had a policy in place for many years, which is now being updated in order to consolidate all related information into one document in a standard Regulation format.

9. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATIONS AND THE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENTS TO RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

Summary:

Angela Aitken reported that President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 on February 17, 2009 which appropriated \$787 Billion in federal funds for economic stimulus. METRO will receive \$5,014,409 through an FTA grant and a preliminary amount of \$267,464 through a grant administered through Caltrans. All of the funds must be used for capital improvement projects with 50% of the funds obligated by contract within 180 days and the remaining funds obligated within one year.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR HINKLE

Adopt Resolution authorizing applications and execution of agreements to FTA and Caltrans for federal funds provided in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Motion passed unanimously with Directors Graves, Pirie and Spence being absent.

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

Margaret Gallagher reported that Item #1 was deleted and that the Board would have a conference with its Legal Counsel regarding the Existing Litigation claims of Martin Gilbert and Rita Gentry.

11. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION

None.

SECTION II: CLOSED SESSION

Chair Bustichi adjourned to Closed Session at 9:40 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session at 10:00 a.m.

SECTION III: RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

12. REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

CINDI THOMAS

Administrative Services Coordinator