



**SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 27, 2015 – 9:00 AM
SANTA CRUZ CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
809 CENTER 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, March 27, 2015, at the Santa Cruz City Council Chambers at 809 Center Street in Santa Cruz, CA.

The Board Meeting Agenda Packet can be found online at 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 9:01A by Chair Bustichi

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

Director Ed Bottorff	City of Capitola
Director Dene Bustichi, Chair	City of Scotts Valley
Director Karina Cervantez	City of Watsonville
Director Jimmy Dutra	City of Watsonville
Director Zach Friend	County of Santa Cruz
Director Deborah Lane	County of Santa Cruz
Director Don Lane	City of Santa Cruz
Director John Leopold	County of Santa Cruz
Director Bruce McPherson	County of Santa Cruz
Director Mike Rotkin	County of Santa Cruz

The following Directors were absent:

Director Cynthia Chase	City of Santa Cruz
Ex-Officio Director Donna Blitzer	UC Santa Cruz

STAFF PRESENT:

Alex Clifford, CEO
Leslyn Syren, 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
Ron Bushnell, METRO
Carolyn Derwing, METRO
Halle Evans, METRO
Marie Hoyos, METRO

Kathleen Keesler, ADA
Debbie Kinslow, METRO
Kristina Mihaylova, METRO
Fatou Ngom, Self
Shawn O'Connell, METRO
Suzanne Silva, METRO
Daniel Zaragoza, METRO

Chair Bustichi acknowledged Carlos Landaverry's presence and noted his availability for Spanish Language Interpretation as needed.

Carlos introduced himself and offered his interpretation services. He asked that anyone wishing to use his services please meet him at the back of the room to obtain a headset.

3 STUDENT ART CONTEST

Maria introduced the Committee, thanked them for their efforts and explained the "Cruise with METRO" theme art contest. Each winner was introduced to the assembly and presented with certificates and gift packs.

Chair Bustichi recognized the team and the artists for their contributions. He thanked the parents for supporting the students and METRO.

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Bustichi announced the following items were distributed to Board members and available for public review at the sign-in table:

- Item 8-02: Revision to March 13, 2015 DRAFT Board Minutes to the reflect absence of Director Dutra in the motions.

5 COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair Bustichi opened the floor to public comment.

Norm Hagen stated that he supports 90% of the proposed restructure plan. However, he has concerns that Route 72/ 79 riders may have been overlooked and that the elimination of weekend rides for ParaCruz customers would have an adverse impact.

Becky Taylor suggested a Rider Appreciation Day/Driver Appreciation Month to support both passengers and drivers.

Ernestina Saldana, Commission on Disabilities representative, read their letter regarding the ParaTransit proposals. She presented the Clerk with a copy for the

record. Ernestina Saldina continued, as a community individual, and presented the assembly with a petition from Cabrillo. She also referenced another 200 signatures which had been presented to Director Leopold separately. She requested CEO Clifford visit other locations to present the proposals.

Director Deborah Lane suggested the following:

- All board members decline the stipend; i.e., end the current stipend
- Board members take the bus to every board meeting
- Workshop meetings to be held at the Pacific Avenue, Scotts Valley and Watsonville Transit Centers.

Director McPherson, noting the short Board agenda(s), requested a staff report addressing potential cost and time savings if the frequency of Board Meetings were reduced to once a month, with additional specific meetings as required.

6 LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Bustichi opened the floor to public comment.

Eduardo Montesino, UTU/SMART Representative, stated employees are concerned about METRO's structural deficit and spending rate. He stressed there is a communication gap between management and employees.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 8-01** ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARY APPROVED CHECK JOURNAL DETAIL FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2015
- 8-02** ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES OF THE SANTA CRUZ METRO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF MARCH 13, 2015
- 8-03** ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES FOR THE METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) MEETING IN FEBRUARY 2014
- 8-04** ACCEPT AND FILE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES REFLECTING VOTING RESULTS FROM SANTA CRUZ METRO APPOINTEES
- 8-05** ACCEPT AND FILE METRO PARACRUZ OPERATIONS STATUS REPORT FOR JANUARY 2015
- 8-06** ACCEPT AND FILE SANTA CRUZ METRO SYSTEM RIDERSHIP REPORT FOR JANUARY 2015
- 8-07** ACCEPT AND FILE STATUS REPORT FOR ACTIVE GRANTS AND SUBMITTED GRANT PROPOSALS FOR MARCH 2015

- 8-08** CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH RNL DESIGN, INC. FOR ARCHITECT AND ENGINEERING SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000
- 8-09** CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FY15 REVISED CAPITAL BUDGET
- 8-10** CONSIDERATION OF METROBASE MONTHLY CHANGE REPORT

At Director Deborah Lane's request Items 8-02, 8-03 and 8-05 were pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion immediately following approval of the remainder of the Consent Agenda.

ACTION: MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN

SECONDED: DIRECTOR DUTRA

MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Bustichi, Cervantez, Dutra, Friend, Deborah Lane, Don Lane, Leopold, McPherson and Rotkin). Director Chase was absent.

REGULAR AGENDA

- A1. (Previously Items 8-02, 8-03 and 8-05 under the Consent Agenda)
Referencing page 8-02A.3, Director Deborah Lane asked how METRO is addressing the public's concerns and suggested extra care be taken. CEO Clifford responded that METRO is acting on recommendations received from the Board and the public to refine the materials and the public hearings; e.g., purchasing advertisements to augment standard public hearing notice requirements. METRO's efforts exceed the ADA minimal requirements.

Director Deborah Lane also stated that UCSC "deserves a vote at this table".

Director Leopold asked when the new brochure will be available. CEO Clifford outlined the various methods of communication; e.g., ParaCruz mailed a letter to 1200+ individuals, the updated brochure is scheduled to be finalized today, the Spanish version will be distributed next week and there are print advertisements timed for release nearer to the April 10 meeting.

Chair Bustichi opened the floor to public comment.

Becky Taylor noted she had not yet received an updated brochure. She thinks it would be better to raise everyone's fares.

Norm Hagen stated that ParaCruz is a great gift to Santa Cruz County residents and believes the Board must make responsible decisions.

ACTION: MOTION TO ACCEPT PREVIOUS CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 8-02, 8-03 AND 8-05 AS PRESENTED.

MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN

SECONDED: DIRECTOR DUTRA

MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Bustichi, Cervantez, Dutra, Friend, Deborah Lane, Don Lane, Leopold, McPherson and Rotkin). Director Chase was absent.

9 PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS

Chair Bustichi presented the Employee Longevity certificates to Cheri Tuttle Callas and Kenneth Brown.

Ms. Callas praised the leadership technology choices, the professionalism of her coworkers, and the knowledge and talent available within the small IT Department.

Mr. Brown thanked the board for 30 years with METRO. He said the Facilities Maintenance team is like the Marines: They are called when something needs to be done. Mr. Brown would like to see more Board members out in the field, at the company picnics, etc.

10 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR LAWRENCE SWAIN

Chair Bustichi presented Mr. Swain with his certificate. Mr. Swain stated that his experience had shown labor and management willing to reach reasonable solutions together for those we serve. He has a great deal of respect for both during his 10 year tenure.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR LAWRENCE SWAIN AS PRESENTED.

MOTION: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD

SECONDED: DIRECTOR ROTKIN

MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Bustichi, Cervantez, Dutra, Friend, Deborah Lane, Don Lane, Leopold, McPherson and Rotkin). Director Chase was absent.

11 PARACRUZ COMMENDATIONS FOR RAMONA NANCE, PARATRANSIT OPERATOR, AND CHRIS SULLIVAN, PARATRANSIT SUPERVISOR

April Warnock, ParaTransit Superintendent, presented Ramona Nance and Chris Sullivan with their commendations noting they both exemplified great customer service when they assisted and aided a young woman during a medical emergency.

12 CONSIDERATION OF ESTABLISHING STAND UP 4 TRANSPORTATION DAY IN SANTA CRUZ ON APRIL 9, 2015

Maria Granados-Boyce, Customer Service Supervisor, outlined the event and invited the Board members to participate in the various planned events. She noted that several elected officials are sending representatives; e.g., the offices of Sam Farr, Mark Stone, Economic Development Director, Bonnie Lipscomb, SCCRTC, Rachel Moriconi, Dene Bustichi, City of Scotts Valley Mayor and Don Lane, City of Santa Cruz Mayor.

Director Rotkin reminded the assembly that while METRO may not qualify as a “first responder”, METRO does qualify as an essential service. Our buses are often the only means of transport in a number of emergencies with first responders; e.g., the Loma Prieta earthquake.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE YEAR TO DATE FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF JANUARY 31, 2015 AS PRESENTED.

MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN

SECONDED: DIRECTOR BOTTORFF

MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Bustichi, Cervantez, Dutra, Friend, Deborah Lane, Don Lane, Leopold, McPherson and Rotkin). Director Chase was absent.

14 QUARTERLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Alex Clifford, CEO, elaborated on his staff report and requested Board input. He also expressed his appreciation to Congressman Farr for his efforts on behalf of METRO.

Director Rotkin thanked CEO Clifford for his advocacy on behalf of METRO and suggested sending a letter to Congressman Farr expressing METRO’s appreciation. Director Rotkin suggested METRO reach out to Representative Anna Eshoo as well.

CEO Clifford noted that SB508 is in the very early stages but represents an opportunity for discussion.

Director Leopold noted that he has been advocating to include the entire City of Watsonville within the disadvantaged community designation but does not currently hold a lot of confidence.

Director McPherson suggested that METRO send a letter to the SCCRTC thanking them for their contribution to the funding of the Watsonville Transit Center.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE QUARTERLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AS PRESENTED.

MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN

SECONDED: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD

MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Bustichi, Cervantez, Dutra, Friend, Deborah Lane, Don Lane, Leopold, McPherson and Rotkin). Director Chase was absent.

15 APPROVAL OF FY16 AND FY17 PRELIMINARY OPERATING BUDGETS AND FY16 CAPITAL BUDGET FOR REVIEW AND TDA/STA CLAIM PURPOSES

Angela Aitken, Finance Manager, presented the information. CEO Clifford provided additional commentary and stressed that FY14 actuals became the new baseline.

Ms. Aitken and CEO Clifford continued to clarify items as requested by the Board. CEO Clifford noted that METRO is not filling two previously authorized management positions.

Director Cervantez departed at 11:00A

Chair Bustichi opened the floor to public comment.

Carolyn Derwing, SEA President, objected to removing the class and comp study from the budget. She requested an outside evaluation through a third party.

Manny Martinez, PSA SEIU Representative, stated there is confusion among the ranks; he believes METRO is not being prudent.

Louise Keller, ParaCruz Scheduler, requested METRO fill 5 open driver positions. She cited the four rides which were recently sent to a contractor to be served.

Eduardo Montesino, UTU/SMART Representative, wanted to know how much money is in the reserve fund. Ms. Aitken responded that this is fund is continually fluctuating.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE FY16 AND FY17 PRELIMINARY OPERATING BUDGETS AND FY16 CAPITAL BUDGET AS PRESENTED.

MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN

SECONDED: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD

MOTION PASSED WITH 9 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Bustichi, Dutra, Friend, Deborah Lane, Don Lane, Leopold, McPherson and Rotkin). Directors Cervantez and Chase were absent.

Director Friend departed at 11:15A

16 DISSOLUTION OF THE BUS STOP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BSAC)

Alex Clifford, CEO, turned this topic over to Director Deborah Lane. As a result of attending a BSAC meeting, Director Deborah Lane requested that BSAC be retooled to address access to decision makers. She stated that CEO Clifford's staff report was not accurate.

Director Rotkin noted that BSAC had been created in 1979 by Scott Gallaway as an informal committee. He doesn't agree that a committee is needed; the existing issues can be handled through MAC and Unions. Additionally, there is no money to build new bus stops at this time.

Chair Bustichi opened the floor to public comment.

Norm Hagen noted that there was no quorum at 3 of the 6 (out of 8 scheduled) BSAC meetings he attended. Mr. Hagen recommends that MAC meeting frequency be reduced to every other month as their meetings seem to be suffering from the same lack of attendance. In response to Chair Bustichi's question, Norm responded that MAC could handle any BSAC issues.

Becky Taylor noted BSAC's importance in contributing to the implementation of the 2 year plan which includes bus stops more than 1 mile apart.

John Daugherty stated that there is a need for BSAC and mentioned several bus stops which were in need of repair. He suggested that the BSAC dissolution should have been handled differently.

Jon Bartholomew stated there are extra shelters in the yard that aren't being used.

Director Rotkin recommended that bus stop issues be placed on the MAC agenda(s).

17 CEO TO GIVE ORAL REPORT

Alex Clifford, CEO, had nothing additional to report.

Chair Bustichi departed at 11:45A.

Due to the time sensitive nature of one of the Closed Session items, General Counsel Syren requested this item be moved ahead of Item 18. Ms. Syren did not anticipate an announcement after the Closed Session.

Recess to SECTION II: Closed Session at 11:50A

SECTION III: RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Vice Chair Rotkin reconvened the Open Session at 12:03P

18 PRESENTATION ON PUBLIC OUTREACH AND CONCEPTUAL DESIGNS FOR THE WATSONVILLE TRANSIT CENTER RENOVATION

Tom Hiltner, Acting Planning and Development Manager, introduced Erich Friedrich, Sr. Transportation Planner, who provided narrative to the powerpoint presentation.

In response to Vice Chair Rotkin's question, Scott of B&H provided the following ballpark estimates based on square footage and last year's dollars:

- \$16M renovation only
- \$23M renovate tarmac and new building
- \$27M expanded site

Mr. Hiltner noted that this project is a good candidate for cap and trade funds.

Discussions regarding the addition of a Community Room, affordable housing, commercial space, and grant opportunities commenced.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC OUTREACH AND CONCEPTUAL DESIGNS FOR THE NEW WATSONVILLE TRANSIT CENTER RENOVATION WITH THE AMENITIES LISTED AS PRESENTED.

MOTION: DIRECTOR DUTRA **SECONDED: DIRECTOR LEOPOLD**
MOTION PASSED WITH 7 AYES (Directors Bottorff, Dutra, Deborah Lane, Don Lane, Leopold, McPherson and Rotkin). Directors Bustichi, Cervantez, Chase and Friend were absent.

Director Leopold departed at 12:34P

Vice Chair Rotkin announced the next meeting on Friday, April 10, 2015 at 9:00A, at the Santa Cruz City Chambers at 809 Center Street, Santa Cruz. And, continuing at 6:30P, at the Watsonville City Chambers at 275 Main Street, Watsonville

24 ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Rotkin adjourned at 12:36P

Pursuant to Section 54954.2(a)(1) of the Government Code of the State of California, this agenda was posted at least 72 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting at a public place freely accessible to the public 24 hours a day. The agenda packet and materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Board of Directors after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Santa Cruz METRO Administrative Office (110 Vernon Street, Santa Cruz) during normal business hours. Such documents are also available on the Santa Cruz METRO website at www.scmted.com subject to staff's ability to post the document before the meeting.