

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT  
January 14, 2008

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Armenta called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Monterey-Salinas Transit Conference Room.

Present:	Karen Sharp	City of Carmel-By-The-Sea
	Kristin Clark	City of Del Rey Oaks
	James Ford	City of Marina
	Libby Downey	City of Monterey
	Vicki Stilwell	City of Pacific Grove
	Sergio Sanchez	City of Salinas
	Thomas Mancini	City of Seaside
	Fernando Armenta	County of Monterey
	Lisa Senkir	City of Gonzales (Ex-Officio)

Absent: None

Staff:	Carl Sedoryk	General Manager/CEO
	Lyn Owens	Director of Human Resources
	Hunter Harvath	Director of Administration
	Michael Hernandez	Chief Operating Officer
	Robert Weber	Dir. Transportation Services
	Sonia Bannister	Office Administrator
	Tom Hicks	CTSA Manager
	Mark Eccles	Director of IT
	Dave Sobotka	Controller
	Zoe Smallwood	Marketing Analyst
	Carl Wulf	Facilities/Capital Projects Manager

Others:	Dave Laredo	DeLay & Laredo
	Ann Armbruster	Coach Operator
	Cristy Sugabo	Paratransit Eligibility Specialist
	Paul Lopez	Facilities Technician
	Patrick Hilliard	Coach Operator

***Apology is made for any misspelling of a name.***

## **2-2. – 2-7. CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda items consisted of the following:

- 2-2. Adopt Resolution 2008-11 recognizing Cristy Sugabo, Paratransit Eligibility Specialist, as Employee of the Month for January 2008.
- 2-3. Adopt Resolution 2008-12 recognizing Paul Lopez, Facilities Technician, as Employee of the Year for 2007.
- 2-4. Disposal of property left aboard buses.
- 2-5. Minutes of the regular meeting of December 10, 2007.
- 2-6. Financial Report – December 2007.
- 2-7. Claim rejection.

**Director Downey moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Director Ford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

## **3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

Robert Weber, Director of Transportation Services, introduced Cristy Sugabo, Paratransit Eligibility Specialist as MST Employee of the Month for January 2008. Cristy has successfully completed the ADA Paratransit Eligibility Determination training in July 2007. Since then she has done an excellent job processing between 80 - 100 MST RIDES applications monthly and within specifically required timelines. She has also been able to resolve difficult and demanding problems involving individuals with disabilities. In addition to her regular duties, she has recently completed an extensive, time-consuming project involving the implementation of a new fare program. At the same time, she is able to assist the Customer Service Department by continuing to provide pass order accounting.

Carl Sedoryk, General Manager/CEO, introduced Paul Lopez, Facilities Technician, as MST Employee of the Year for 2007. Paul has been instrumental in supporting MST's service changes and provided valuable feedback to improve signage installation. Over the past two and a half years, he was tasked with maintaining and providing rebuilding support for the CARS station. The City of Monterey staff is very impressed with the condition of the CARS station and are thankful to MST for taking such good care of the facility.

Mr. Sedoryk also presented Patrick Hilliard, Coach Operator, a 20-Year service award.

The General Manager's Excellence Awards were presented to Michael Hernandez, Chief Operating Officer and Carl Wulf, Facilities/Capital Projects Manager.

Throughout the past year, Mr. Hernandez has excelled in his role as Chief Operating Officer and has overseen many successful projects this year. These include the successful construction and occupation of the Marina Transit Exchange, purchase of 15 new buses, implementation of the largest service change in the past seven years, and the successful retirement of all CNG equipment including the CARS station.

Throughout the past year, Mr. Wulf has excelled in his role of overseeing construction of our new Marina Transit Exchange (MTX). He oversaw the successful removal of the hazardous materials from the site, identified potential problems with workmanship, materials and helped identify conflicts in the project schedule. He also made decisions to keep the project moving if materials needed to be substituted or if meetings were needed with agencies/vendors. He played a vital role in coordinating with other MST staff for key project elements like Information Technology, Security and Planning for bus operations at Marina Transit Exchange.

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

#### **5-1. – 5-2. BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The Board accepted and filed the MST Marketing Committee Minutes – December 3, 2007; and the MST Human Resources Committee Minutes – December 10, 2007.

#### **6-1. RIDERS GUIDE CONTRACT**

MST's Rider's Guide is the main customer service and information piece for the agency, notifying the public of all route schedules and MST policies.

**Director Mancini moved to authorize the procurement of Rider's Guide printing to PrintTeam for one year at \$59,928.75 with two additional year options at the same price. Director Clark seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

#### **6-2. SHOP HOIST**

MST's has one portable "Transpo" hoist. The hoist is routinely used to service buses at the Monterey TDA facility when the two in-ground hoists are in use. The existing hoist is 25 years old and has been repaired on numerous occasions over the past several years. In October 2007, the hoist had a serious failure and was promptly removed from service.

**Director Ford moved to: 1) Authorize the purchase of a replacement portable hoist from ALM Corporation at a cost of \$26,100; and 2) Authorize the sale/disposal of the existing hoist. Director Stilwell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

## **7. PUBLIC HEARING**

None.

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

### **9-1. PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY ACCESS**

Mr. Harvath, Director of Administration, reported that in late summer of 2001, general public access to the Presidio of Monterey was curtailed due to security concerns. For decades, MST had operated transit lines that traversed the Presidio twice each hour connecting downtown Monterey with upper New Monterey and Pacific Grove via High, Stillwell and Pine Streets. In addition, MST operated peak-hour commuter service into the heart of the Presidio, which catered to the students, faculty and support staff of the Defense Languages Institute (DLI).

With the closure of the Presidio in 2001, MST was forced to reroute Line 2 Pacific Grove from High/Stillwell/Pine streets to Lighthouse Avenue. An unintended consequence of this action was that upper New Monterey lost a substantial degree of access to transit service, especially considering the extreme topography of this neighborhood. Furthermore, the closure eliminated a key transportation corridor between Pacific Grove and downtown Monterey, redirecting all traffic onto Lighthouse Avenue and Holman Highway. The result has been severe congestion on Lighthouse Avenue, especially during summer, weekends and holiday periods, which adversely impacts MST's operations and on-time performance on Lines 1 Monterey-Pacific Grove, 1x Asilomar-Lover's Point Express, and 2 Monterey-Pacific Grove via Forest Hill.

During the autumn of 2007, MST staff attended meetings of the New Monterey Neighborhood Association in an attempt to brainstorm with the community as to how to improve transit access to the upper portion of their community. The consensus that emerged from the discussions at the meetings was that the key to effectively, efficiently and economically serving this area with transit involved regaining access through the Presidio. At the same time, there may be some opportunities to assist the Presidio/DLI with mobility solutions to meet their needs during this time of mission- and facility-expansion.

Initial research has indicated that there are other military installations in the country that currently allow public transit vehicles to travel to and/or through the restricted areas. To facilitate negotiations with the military about public transit access

to/through the Presidio, the City Manager of Monterey has requested that the MST Board endorse these efforts. With the Board's approval, staff will move forward with these discussions, which could potentially produce both improved transit access for residents of upper New Monterey as well as new partnerships with the Presidio of Monterey and DLI.

It was the consensus of the Board to clarify that the purpose of the military personnel on the buses while traveling within the Presidio, is to prevent passengers from deboarding within the Presidio of Monterey.

### **9-2. LINE 23 EXPRESS SALINAS-KING CITY**

The new Line 23 Express is a one-year demonstration project that will offer one morning rush hour round trip and one evening rush hour round trip on weekdays. Its streamlined route will make only one stop in each of the south county communities of King City, Greenfield, Soledad, Gonzales and Chualar. In Salinas, Line 23 Express will serve both the Salinas Transit Center as well as Hartnell College and will be operated using buses equipped with MST's free Wifi network in hopes of attracting students and commuters. With this streamlined route, travel time between King City and Salinas will be reduced by approximately 20 minutes. MST was awarded \$24,654 in Federal Transit Administration 5311(f) grant funds for the new Line 23 Express.

**Director Downey moved to approve the new Line 23 Express Salinas-King City Demonstration Project. Director Stilwell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

### **10-1. – 10-6. REPORTS & INFORMATION ITEMS**

The reports consisted of the General Manager/CEO Report; TAMC Highlights – December 5, 2007; Washington DC Lobbyist Report – December 28, 2007; Sacramento Lobbyist report – January 1, 2008; Letter regarding unmet transit needs for Gonzales residents; and staff trip report.

### **11. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS**

Director Sanchez asked staff to meet with representative from Hartnell College to discuss the new Alisal Campus.

Director Ford would like an update on adding more bus service to the Dunes Shopping Center and how the MST On Call is doing.

### **12. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

### 13-1. CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session to meet with legal counsel regarding conference with labor negotiators and potential litigation on two cases.

**Upon returning to Open Session, General Counsel Laredo provided a status report regarding labor negotiations with ATU. No reportable action was taken by the Board.**

**Regarding the potential litigations on two different cases, the Board provided authority and direction to retain special counsel to defend Ninfa Fagaragan and Danny Togafau.**

### 14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Armenta adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

PREPARED BY:   
Sonia AR Bannister