

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT  
May 12, 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                             |
|          | Thomas Mancini     | City of Seaside                                   |
|          | Fernando Armenta   | County of Monterey                                |
|          | Lisa Senkir        | City of Gonzales (Ex-Officio)                     |
| Absent:  | Sergio Sanchez     | City of Salinas                                   |
| 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 & Marketing/Sales Specialist |
|          | Dave Sobotka       | Controller  |
|          | Tom Hicks          | Contract Transportation Services Manager          |
|          | Michael Gallant    | Planner   |
|          | Mark Eccles        | Director of IT                                    |
|          | Angelina Ruiz      | Human Resource Administrator                      |
| Others:  | Dave Laredo        | DeLay & Laredo                                    |
|          | Janet Madler       | Fleet Manager                                     |
|          | Barsara Flynn      | Central Coast Alliance for Health                 |
|          | Bill Lewis         | MV Transportation                                 |
|          | Alma Almanza       | RIDES Advisory Committee member                   |
|          | Heidi Quinn        | DeLay & Laredo                                    |
|          | Jim Fink           | Salinas resident                                  |
|          | Angelique Milhouse | Central Coast Alliance for Health                 |
|          | Lance Atencio      | MV Transportation                                 |

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

## **2-2. – 2-8. CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda items consisted of the following:

- 2-2. Adopt Resolution 2008-16 recognizing Carlos Dominguez, Coach Operator, as Employee of the Month for May 2008.
- 2-3. Disposal of property left aboard buses.
- 2-4. Minutes of the regular meeting of April 14, 2008.
- 2-5. Financial Report – April 2008.
- 2-6. Committee schedules.
- 2-7. Authorize purchase of sweeper/scrubber.
- 2-8. Pacific Meadows pilot project grant application.

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

## **3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

Robert Weber, Director of Transportation Services, introduced Carlos Dominguez, Coach Operator, as MST Employee of the Month for May 2008. On March 5, 2008, Carlos Dominguez was completing a routine trip on the Line 41 with 30 passengers on board when gunfire suddenly erupted between two vehicles that were positioned directly in front of the coach. The driver of one of the vehicles lost control of his vehicle, striking a female pedestrian that was in a nearby crosswalk. The assailants in the other vehicle then fled the area. Carlos Dominguez immediately responded by assuring that all of his passengers remained on board the coach and out of harms way. After notifying the MST Communications Center of the incident to request police and EMS assistance, he reassured his passengers while collecting witness information, which was later submitted to investigating officers.

## **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jim Fink, Salinas resident, suggested adopting a policy against passenger using bad language on the bus. The Coach Operators should be more proactive and prohibit that type of language. He noted that he has been riding MST for 11 years.

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

The Board accepted and filed the Planning/Operations Committee Minutes – April 14, 2008, and the Finance Committee Minutes – April 28, 2008.

## 6-1. RIDES VEHICLES

MST utilizes 23 Type II Minibuses in providing MST RIDES ADA services. These types of vehicles have a life expectancy of at least 5 years and 150,000 miles. Of the 23 vehicles in the fleet, five of the vehicles have mileage ranging between 230,000 to 271,000 miles and six vehicles have mileage ranging between 148,000 and 195,000 miles. Some of the vehicles to be replaced are six and seven years old.

MST will have 15 RIDES vehicles due for replacement in 2009; however, because of the competitive scoring process and maximum allowable project costs, staff expects MST to receive funding for only six or seven vehicles.

Alma Almanza, Central Coast Center for Independent Living, encouraged the Board to ride in the older RIDES vehicles. She supports the purchase of new vehicles. She also encouraged staff to not buy the same vehicles that were purchased during the last procurement.

**Director Stilwell moved to: 1) approve the purchase of up to eight (8) mini-buses for the RIDES program from Creative Bus Sales; and 2) authorize the retirement and sale/auction of the retired RIDES vehicles. Director Clark seconded and the motion carried with Director Downey opposed.**

## 7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

## 8-1. FY 2009 BUDGET

The FY 2009 budget is \$32,095,209, which is a 17.9 percent decrease from FY 2008. The FY 2009 budget contemplates a reduction in directly operated service of 1.2% and increasing staff levels by 4.5 full time equivalents. This is a balanced budget.

Mr. Fink suggested adding more service on Highway 68 to help alleviate overcrowding on line 20.

**Director Mancini moved to: 1) approve the FY 2009 budget; 2) authorize staff to file the appropriate state and local grant applications to execute the budget; 3) approve Resolution 2008-17 authorizing federal grant applications; and 4) approve FY 2009 Strategic Priorities and Action Plan. Director Ford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

## 8-2. FRANK J. LICHTANSKI MONTEREY BAY OPERATIONS CENTER

Mr. Hernandez, Chief Operating Officer, gave a brief update on the Frank J. Lichtanski Monterey Bay Operations Center. He reported that San Joaquin Regional Transit District is looking to build a similar site and is willing to do a joint project. Both

agencies can use the same architectural design thereby saving substantial amount of money in construction and design costs.

This was for information only. No action was required on this item.

## **9-2. TRANSFER OF MEDI-CAL TRIPS TO RIDES**

Robert Weber, Director of Transportation Services, reported that in March of 2007, MV Transportation Inc (MVTI) and the Central Coast Alliance for Health (CCAH) entered into a one-year agreement in where MVTI would, for flat a fee, provide non-emergency medical transportation to all eligible MediCal recipients within Monterey County. Under this "capitated" agreement, CCAH was able to offer transportation services to an unlimited number of its clients without increasing the agency's cost, as volume is not a consideration in these types of arrangements. It is estimated that MVTI provided over 30,000 CCAH trips in 2007 using their privately owned fleet.

On May 1, 2008 the contract between MVTI and CCAH was terminated as the parties were unsuccessful in renegotiating the terms of the agreement. As a result, CCAH has since limited the number of trips that it will subsidize to only those that are required under Title 22. CCAH has indicated that this development will reduce the number of non-emergency medical trips that they are providing by approximately 95%.

Alma Almanza, CCCIL, said in the mid-90's, the County of Monterey transferred the program to MST. Due to the hard work of MST staff and in working with the new contractor for the RIDES program, the program is working and providing quality service. The RIDES program only has 22 vehicles. If the RIDES program is expected to accommodate the influx of new passengers, the on-time performance will suffer. As a user, she must now make changes to her schedule in order to make it to her work and appointment on time.

This was for information only. No action was required on this item.

## **9-1. BUS RAPID TRANSIT**

Hunter Harvath, Director of Administration, briefly discussed the proposal for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in Monterey County for Seaside and the City of Monterey.

The goal of the BRT is to create a seamless transit connection between the local communities for residents, employees, and tourists in the area; improve the level of service for transit through more frequent service, more reliable service, and a higher capacity of service.

The BRT corridor for Seaside and Monterey compliments, not duplicates plans for long-term, major investment fixed guideway projects currently under investigation by TAMC. The guideway services major trip generators and is located along transit-supported, mixed-use land uses. The corridor will improve MST operational issues

caused by high ridership, overcrowded trips, which sometimes results in unreliable service. The BRT will considerably cut down travel times.

This was for information only. No action was required on this item.

#### **10-1. – 10-5. REPORTS & INFORMATION ITEMS**

The reports consisted of the General Manager/CEO Report; TAMC Highlights – April 23, 2008; Washington DC Lobbyist Report – April 28, 2008; and Sacramento Lobbyist report – May 1, 2008; and Board referrals.

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

Director Downey inquired about bathroom facilities at the Monterey Transit Plaza.

#### **12. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

California Transit Association and California Association for Coordinated Transit are hosting a joint conference in Monterey at the Portola Hotel & Spa on November 4-7, 2008.

#### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Armenta adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Prepared by:   
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Sonia AR Bannister