

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT
February 9, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Armenta called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the MST 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 (11:00)
	Vicki Stillwell	City of Pacific Grove
	Sergio Sanchez	City of Salinas (10:19)
	Thomas Mancini	City of Seaside
	Fernando Armenta	County of Monterey
	Maria Orozco	City of Gonzales (Ex-Officio) (10:03)

Absent: None

Staff:	Carl Sedoryk	General Manager/CEO
	Hunter Harvath	Asst. General Manager/Finance & Administration
	Michael Hernandez	Asst. General Manager/Chief Operating Officer
	Robert Weber	Director of Transportation Services
	Lyn Owens	Director of Human Resources
	Sonia Bannister	Office Administrator/Marketing & Sales Specialist
	Michael Gallant	Planning Manager
	Tom Hicks	CTSA Manager

Others:	Dave Laredo	DeLay & Laredo
	Lance Atencio	MV Transportation
	Jim Fink	Salinas resident
	Victor Williams	MST

Apology is made for any misspelling of a name.

2-1. – 2-12. CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda items consisted of the following:

- 2-2. Adopt Resolution 2009-17 recognizing Victor Williams, Utility Service Person, as Employee of the Month for February 2009.

- 2-3. Adopt Resolution 2009-18 recognizing Kathleen Bertrand, Payroll Specialist, for 22 Years of Service.
- 2-4. Disposal of property left aboard buses.
- 2-5. Minutes of the regular meeting of January 12, 2009.
- 2-6. Financial Report – January 2009.
- 2-7. Board Committee meeting dates.
- 2-8. Mid-year budget update.
- 2-9. Authorize the sale of retired vehicles.
- 2-10. Authorize Hastus Runcutting and DDAM software maintenance agreement.
- 2-11. Approve letter of support for Transit in the Parks operating funds.
- 2-12. Approve Resolution 2009-19 Homeland Security grant application authority.

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

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mike Hernandez, Assistant General Manager/Chief Operating Officer, introduced Victor Williams, Utility Service Person, as Employee of the Month for February 2009. On January 15th, Victor found a cashiers' check in the amount of \$10,000 while cleaning buses. The check was made out to a car dealership and could easily have been overlooked or disposed of in a trash bin. He was alert, spotting this check and turning it in to his Supervisor. The check was later turned over to the police department and provided a potential clue to the status of a missing person.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Fink, Salinas resident, commented on the following: 1) that the Spanish to English translations are not faithful to the English version; 2) the windows on MST buses should be sealed shut – similar to Greyhound buses; 3) switch from a private security company and start using local Police Departments to patrol transit plazas saving MST money; 4) restrooms need to be available when buses are in the area; and 5) he wants the Board to prefer a fare increase instead of route reductions. The fare increase needs to keep up with inflation.

5. COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board accepted and filed the MST RIDES Advisory Committee Minutes – December 15, 2008.

6-1. LEGISLATIVE CONSULTING CONTRACT

Since March of 1997, MST has utilized the services of professional legislative consultants in Washington, DC, to assist with various federal policy and fiscal matters. Thomas Walters and Associates has been MST's legislative consultants for most of those 11 years and has worked with Congressional legislators and staff to ensure that MST's major capital projects, operations and funding priorities have received attention, support and financial backing. In addition, Thomas Walters and Associates provides Executive branch advocacy on behalf of MST, especially with the Federal Transit Administration, which grants MST approximately 1/3rd of its annual operating and capital funds.

Director Sharp moved to award a three-year contract with two one-year options in the amount of \$54,000 per year (plus annual escalators) to Thomas Walters, Inc. for federal legislative consulting services. Director Mancini seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Director Sanchez arrived at 10:19 a.m.

6-2. BUS WEST CONTRACT

Mr. Hernandez, Assistant General Manager/Chief Operating Officer, reported that staff is currently in negotiations with the Defense Language Institute (DLI) to add additional service to the DLI due to a loss of parking at the Institute. The new service may require up to 10 to 12 buses placed into weekday service. The majority of the service will be provided using MST's existing 35- and 40-foot buses. It is anticipated that there may be a need for up to four medium sized vehicles.

Director Mancini moved to the purchase of up to four medium-size buses from Bus West at a cost of \$85,750 per bus. Director Clark seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

9-1. FORMATION OF MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT DISTRICT

Mr. Hunter Harvath, Assistant General Manager for Finance & Administration, reported that Monterey-Salinas Transit is a Joint Powers Agency (JPA) created by the State of California to provide public transit services to citizens of and visitors to communities which comprise its member jurisdictions. In addition, MST operates transit services under contract to other communities in Monterey County as well as connecting services to other transit providers at Watsonville, Gilroy, Morgan Hill, and San Jose.

Transforming the Monterey-Salinas Transit JPA into a transit district would give MST the flexibility to ask the voters of Monterey County directly for a local sales tax to support public transit services. In addition, an MST transit district would have bonding capabilities.

Staff will be going to each member jurisdiction asking for a Resolution supporting the change.

Director Stilwell moved to authorize staff to proceed in pursuing a legislative change to the Public Utilities Code to create the Monterey-Salinas Transit District. Director Ford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

10-1. – 10-7. REPORTS & INFORMATION ITEMS

The reports consisted of the General Manager/CEO Report; TAMC Highlights – January 28, 2009; Washington DC Lobbyist Report – January 28, 2009; Sacramento Lobbyist Report – December 2008; Pacific Grove trolley update; Walters & Associates, Inc. Annual Report; and Board Referrals.

11. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director Mancini reported that he will be absent for the March Board meeting.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

MST received a Transportation Excellence Award from TAMC for mustard seed biodiesel research.

13. CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session to meet with legal counsel regarding pending litigation with Nationwide Auction Systems.

14. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Upon returning to open session, General Counsel Laredo announced that the Board met regarding pending litigation with Nationwide Auction Systems. A status report was given and general direction was provided. No other reportable action was taken by the Board.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Armenta adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

PREPARED BY: 
Sonia AR Bannister