

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT
March 16, 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
	Vicki Stillwell	City of Pacific Grove
	Sergio Sanchez	City of Salinas (10:02)
	Thomas Mancini	City of Seaside
	Fernando Armenta	County of Monterey
	Maria Orozco	City of Gonzales (Ex-Officio) (10:02)

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
	Sonia Bannister	Office Administrator/Marketing & Sales Specialist
	Michael Gallant	Planning Manager
	Kathy Williams	General Accounting Manager
	Zoe Smallwood	Marketing Analyst
	Lou Doll	Safety/Training Officer
	Kelly Halcon	Human Resources Manager
	Carl Wulf	Facilities/Capital Projects Manager

Others:	Dave Laredo	DeLay & Laredo
	Bob Parks	ATU Local 1225
	Doug Wallace	ATU Local 1225
	Andy Cook	TAMC
	Emerito Noza	Salinas resident
	Brent Boardman	MV Transportation

Apology is made for any misspelling of a name.

Chairman Armenta recognized Bob Parks, President, ATU Local 1225.

2-1. – 2-8. CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda items consisted of the following:

- 2-2. Adopt Resolution 2009-20 recognizing Jose Luis Rojas, Coach Operator, as Employee of the Month for March 2009.
- 2-3. Disposal of property left aboard buses.
- 2-4. Minutes of the regular meeting of February 9, 2009.
- 2-5. Financial Report – February 2009.
- 2-6. Liability claim rejection.
- 2-7. Adopt Resolution 2009-21 recognizing Emerito Noza, Coach Operator, for eight years of service.
- 2-8. Approve purchase of seven RIDES vehicles from Bus West, Inc. at a cost of \$46,487.

Directors Sanchez and Orozco arrived at 10:02 a.m.

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

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mike Hernandez, Assistant General Manager/Chief Operating Officer, introduced Emerito Noza, Coach Operator. Mr. Noza retired with eight years of service. During his career, he logged five years of safe driving.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Parks, President, ATU Local 1225, would like to be notified of any possible changes to MST service or reduction in force before it gets published in the local newspapers. He said he was not aware of any service cuts prior to reading a front page article back in October, 2008.

Doug Wallace, ATU Local 1225, asked about the impacts of MST becoming a transit district, if any, to the Collective Bargaining Agreement currently in place with the union.

Mr. Sedoryk commented that in addition to being mailed, the MST Board agendas are also published online. MST does have quarterly scheduled meetings with the union and staff will continue to work with the Union. As for MST becoming a transit

district, Mr. Sedoryk replied that there is no change and everything stays the same. Staff will provide an update to the union, after the Board meeting.

5. COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board accepted and filed the Finance Committee Minutes – February 9, 2009.

6. BIDS/PROPOSALS

None.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

8-1. FJL OPERATIONS CENTER CONTINGENCY BUDGET

Mr. Michael Hernandez, Assistant General Manager/COO, reported that when this contract was awarded in July 2008, it did not include a contingency budget of 12.4%, which is required by FTA. The contingency budget would cover any project changes, or to address unknown project costs.

Back in November 2008, the County of Monterey asked MST to consider relocating the project to the Whispering Oaks site, resulting in about a two month delay in the project process. Staff determined that the new location is suitable for this project. Staff will work with the County to recover the expenses associated with building on the new site through an agreement with the County for the recreated fees and costs linked to the development of this new site.

Mr. Sedoryk reported that MST received \$7.5 million for capital project from the American Recovery Act. Of this amount, half needs to be spent within six months, which will be used to pay off the bus debt. The remaining half must be spent within two years. Congressman Farr's staff indicated to MST that it is their desire that a majority of these funds will be used for the Frank J. Lichtanski Monterey Bay Operations Center.

Director Mancini moved to: 1) authorize a contingency budget for the new Frank J. Lichtanski Monterey Bay Operations Center in the amount of \$387,000 for all Architectural & Engineering related expenses, including fees, permits, and special inspections; and 2) authorize up to \$337,000 for new site and design related expenses for Whispering Oaks. Director Clark seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

9-1. MST RIDES VEHICLE PURCHASE

Mr. Michael Hernandez, Assistant General Manager/COO, reported that this procurement is for fleet expansion of the MST RIDES program. MST has 26 vehicles in the MST RIDES fleet, some of which have over 300,000 miles. There are currently an insufficient number of vehicles for RIDES service requirements.

Director Downey moved to authorize the purchase of four medium sized (mini) buses from Bus West, Inc. for fleet expansion of the MST RIDES Program at a cost of \$231,580. Director Stilwell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

9-2. MONTEREY COUNTY UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS

Mr. Hunter Harvath, Assistant General Manager for Finance & Administration, reported that the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) represents the largest revenue source in MST's operating budget – approximately 44% for FY 2008 and FY 2009. The intent of this fund is for public transit, first and foremost. The Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) is estimating a 12% decrease in overall LTF revenue due to the economic downturn. For the FY 2010 budget cycle, the TAMC Board allocated a decrease of 22.7% in LTF funds.

Each of the South County municipalities must fund 50% of the operating cost of its respective dial-a-ride service from its FY 2010 apportionment. Whatever is left over may be used for local streets and roads.

There is a request for TAMC to consider increasing service on MST's line 23 Salinas-King City. Currently, this route operates approximately every 2-3 hours throughout the day, with slightly more frequency during limited peak service. Ridership on this route has grown significantly. If the service is expanded, virtually all of the LTF currently being used by the South County cities for local streets and roads would be redirected to MST for transit operations.

Director Orozco suggested partnering with Hartnell College and other schools as possible funding sources.

Director Sanchez commented that it is time for elected officials to intervene and meet with the elected officials from South County to try to find a solution to the problem.

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

The reports consisted of the General Manager/CEO Report; TAMC Highlights – February 25, 2009; Washington DC Lobbyist Report – March 4, 2009; Sacramento Lobbyist Report – March 1, 2009; Board Referrals; and APTA Transit Vision 2050.

Mr. Sedoryk reported that while in Washington, DC, MST received a \$475,000 earmark from Congressman Farr. There was also an additional \$600,000 in operating money from an appropriations bill.

Director Clark commented that nationwide, transportation ridership is increasing.

11. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director Downey commented that she has received some feedback from her constituents. The buses that serve the Del Monte Shopping Center are very noisy and request that after 10 p.m. to not go through the neighborhoods.

Director Sanchez commented that more effort needs to be done with regards to communicating with the workforce.

Director Orozco left at 11:16 a.m.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

13. CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session to meet with legal counsel regarding conference with real property negotiators regarding the parcel on the former Fort Ord.

14. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Upon returning to open session, General Counsel Laredo reported that staff provided a status report on the property acquisition (APN # 031-101-056-000). No other reportable action was taken by the Board.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Armenta adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

PREPARED BY: 
Sonia AR Bannister