

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT
September 10, 2007

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) (10:09)
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
	Mary Archer	Planner
	Tom Hicks	CTSA Manager
	Mark Eccles	Director of IT
	Carl Wulf	Facilities/Capital Projects Manager
Others:	Dave Laredo	DeLay & Laredo
	Charles Armbruster	Communication Systems Specialist
	Mike Cargile	Communication Systems Specialist
	Gary Wilmot	City of Marina
	Andy Cook	TAMC
	Jim Fink	Salinas resident

Apology is made for any misspelling of a name.

Chair Armenta welcomed Ms. Karen Sharp, new representative for the City of Carmel.

2-2. – 2-9. CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda items consisted of the following:

- 2-2. Adopt Resolution 2008-06 recognizing Daniel Avina, Customer Service Supervisor, as Employee of the Month for September 2007.
- 2-3. Disposal of property left aboard buses.

- 2-4. Minutes of the regular meeting of August 13, 2007.
- 2-5. Financial Report – August 2007.
- 2-6. Appointment of MST RIDES Advisory Committee member.
- 2-7. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) annual goal.
- 2-8. Schedule public hearing for the new “MST On Call” bus service in Marina.
- 2-9. Authorize reprogramming of excess federal funds from the Marina Transit Exchange project to bus replacement project.

Items 2-7 and 2-9 were pulled for further discussion.

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

2-7. DBE ANNUAL GOAL

FTA regulations require MST to set a goal that reflects the percentage of locally available firms that are DBEs. To achieve this, MST calculates the percentage of DBE firms in their directory among all firms available to work on our federally assisted contracts. This resulted in the proposed annual goal of five percent.

With regards to the perceived discrimination, Mr. Sedoryk, General Manager/CEO said the State of California found that there may be some type of discrimination, but it is not of a material nature. MST must show that it has adopted a goal and has a program in place.

Director Downey moved to approve the DBE Fiscal Year 2008 goal of five percent. Director Mancini seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2-9. MARINA TRANSIT EXCHANGE EXCESS FUNDS

With the \$2.5 million State Transportation Improvement Program allocation awarded to MST in June of 2006 for construction of MTX, this project is currently over-funded. In that regard, staff is working with MST’s lobbyist in Washington, DC, on a way to reprogram \$1,322,325 in excess federal earmark funds already awarded to MST for the MTX project into another eligible capital project.

MST staff is seeking to reprogram the \$1,322,325 in excess Marina Transit Exchange federal funds to retiring the debt on the original bus replacement purchase. These funds, which require a 20% local match, along with MST’s annual transportation reauthorization earmark, would be sufficient to make one year’s worth of payments on its financing plan.

Director Clark moved to authorize reprogramming of excess federal funds from the Marina Transit Exchange project to bus purchases. Director Mancini seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Hunter Harvath, Director of Administration, introduced Daniel Avina, Customer Service Supervisor, as Employee of the Month for September 2007. On August 23, 2007, at approximately 9:10 a.m., an employee of Salinas Steel Builder was welding from the top of the bus wash area to remove rusted bolts. Sparks from the welding rained down on the last washer brush closest to the back panel and the brushes started on fire. The contractor attempted to extinguish the brushes, however, his extinguisher was not functioning. At such time, Danny located a fire extinguisher and put out the flames. Thanks to his quick thinking, additional damage to the bus wash was avoided. He is being commended for his prompt response in this emergency situation that could have resulted in significant injury to persons and/or equipment.

The Board presented Safe Driving awards for Mr. Robert Pagan and Mr. Frank Ferrante. Mr. Pagan has over 25 years of Safe Driving and Mr. Ferrante has over 26 years of Safe Driving.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Fink, Salinas resident, commented that VTA just had a major overhaul of their services. VTA will no longer provide service to Menlo Park. He asked if MST could work with VTA to create a partial credit for the CalTrain fare for MST bus pass holders. VTA also has a disclaimer on their timetable with regards to bus departure times.

5-1. MST RIDES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Board accepted and filed the MST RIDES Advisory Committee Minutes – July 16, 2007.

6. BIDS/PROPOSALS

None.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

8-1. MARINA TRANSIT EXCHANGE MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Mr. Harvath, Director of Administration, gave a brief overview on the history of the Marina Transit Exchange project. The Marina Transit Exchange is a new transit facility on MST's 3.3-acre property at 280 Reservation Road that would include some mixed-use commercial/professional and residential structures.

In June of 2007, MST issued an RFP for a master developer to build a mixed-use commercial/professional and residential project on the remaining 2.3 acres of land adjacent to the Marina Transit Exchange. This second RFP had fewer restrictions on development and had more incentives for prospective developers. Still, Community Housing Improvement Systems and Planning Association, Inc. (CHISPA) submitted the only proposal received by MST. CHISPA's proposal does not meet the requirements set out in the RFP or the objectives of MST's Joint Development Policy adopted by the MST Board at its August 13, 2007, meeting. Consultations with city of Marina staff are ongoing regarding the future of this mixed-use project.

9-1. REVIEW OF MST FLEET

Michael Hernandez, Chief Operating Officer, gave a presentation on the MST fleet. Currently, MST's fleet consists of 152 vehicles operating out of two divisions – one in Salinas and one in Monterey. MST's diesel buses carry over 5 million passengers annually and travel over 3.2 million miles each year.

There are currently 84 vehicles in the fixed route fleet, The CNG buses will be replaced later in the year with new diesel buses bring the fleet total to 82 buses with an average fleet age of 4.2 years. Compared to diesel buses, CNG buses cost more to operate per mile and are requiring more mechanical road calls.

There are 36 contractor-operated mini buses. These are primarily used for MST RIDES and the DART. The support fleet consists of 32 vehicles with a combination of trucks, vans, and sedans. 15 new "Clean Diesel" buses are currently on order and should be delivered toward the end of the year.

In addition to safety, the priorities in the Maintenance Department include complying with federal/state, CARB, and DMV requirements; making sure buses are available to provide the daily pull-out and continue to provide reliable and clean transportation. The Maintenance Department budget consists of \$6.2 million with the majority going towards salaries, wages and benefits; and fuel and supplies.

Projects and challenges include in-processing the new fleet – usually 20 buses in 60 days; recruitment and training; introducing biodiesel into the fleet in 2008; rehabilitating 21 Gillig buses; and maintaining the fleet and operating safely.

The current Gillig fleet currently has over 360,000 miles on each bus. The modernizing/rehab project includes replacing major components; exterior/interior – rust, doors, paint/decals, flooring; seats – coach operator/passenger; camera systems; electronic destination signs; and exhaust systems maintenance.

10-1. – 10-3. REPORTS & INFORMATION ITEMS

The reports consisted of the General Manager/CEO Report; TAMC Highlights – August 22, 2007; and Washington D. C. Lobbyist Report – August 28, 2007.

Mr. Sedoryk reported that ridership for the year is slightly off. Staff is looking into the cause or if this is an indication of a new trend.

11. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director Stilwell wants to discuss ways to improve the pass sales vendor program. Mr. Sedoryk agrees that the existing system needs to be improved. This item will be referred to the Marketing Committee for discussion.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

13. CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session to meet with legal counsel regarding labor negotiations with ATU; and the performance of the General Manager/CEO.

Upon returning to Open Session, Chairman Armenta announced that the Board received a report from its designated ATU labor negotiators (Laredo, Owens) and provided general direction. No reportable action was taken.

The Board discussed is progress toward finalizing its annual performance evaluation of the General Manager/CEO. No reportable action was taken.

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Armenta adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

PREPARED BY:



Sonia AR Bannister