

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT  
August 14, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

|          |                    |                                 |
|----------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Present: | Michael Cunningham | City of Carmel-By-The-Sea       |
|          | Kristin Clark      | City of Del Rey Oaks            |
|          | Gary Wilmot        | City of Marina                  |
|          | Libby Downey       | City of Monterey                |
|          | Ron Schenk         | City of Pacific Grove           |
|          | James Serrano      | City of Salinas                 |
|          | Thomas Mancini     | City of Seaside                 |
|          | Fernando Armenta   | County of Monterey              |
| Absent:  | Maria Orozco       | City of Gonzales (Ex-Officio)   |
| Staff:   | Carl Sedoryk       | General Manager/CEO             |
|          | Michael Hernandez  | Chief Operating Officer         |
|          | Lyn Owens          | Director of Human Resources     |
|          | Hunter Harvath     | Director of Administration      |
|          | Robert Weber       | Transit Services Manager        |
|          | Sonia Bannister    | Office Administrator            |
|          | William Morris     | Contract Transportation Manager |
|          | Brigga Mosca       | Marketing & Sales Manager       |
|          | Dave Sobotka       | Controller                      |
|          | Tonja Posey        | Human Resources Supervisor      |
| Others:  | Dave Laredo        | DeLay & Laredo                  |
|          | Eli Naor           | VBN Architects                  |
|          | Theresa Obrist     | Coach Operator                  |
|          | Thomas Wittman     | Perteet                         |
|          | Wayne Donney       | Monterey resident               |
|          | Jim Fink           | Salinas resident                |
|          | Matthew Melzer     | MST                             |
|          | Lance Atencio      | MVT                             |

***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 2007-02 recognizing Herb Tamanaha, Maintenance Clerk, as Employee of the Month for August 2006.
- 2-3. Disposal of property left aboard buses.
- 2-4. Minutes of the regular meeting of July 10, 2006.
- 2-5. Financial Report – July 2006.
- 2-6. Ratify employment liability insurance renewal.
- 2-7. Claim rejection.
- 2-8. Adopt Resolution 2007-03 recognizing Theresa Obrist for 15 years of service.

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

## **3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

Michael Hernandez, Chief Operating Officer, introduced Herb Tamanaha, Maintenance Clerk as MST Employee of the Month for August 2006. Herb provided significant help during the development of specifications for MST's Integrated Maintenance Management Information System. In July of 2005, Herb willingly stepped into a Project Coordinator role for this important project. During the past year, Herb has provided excellent coordination between the Maximus vendor and the MST project team. Herb has been one of the primary contacts with the Maximus staff for the past year, and a significant part of the project startup and implementation efforts were funneled through him.

The Board also recognized Theresa Ruth Obrist, Coach Operator, for her retirement after 15 years of service.

## **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jim Fink, Salinas resident, said customers need to have restroom facilities available after hours. He suggested adding a safety buzzer instead of having a security guard or maybe contacting Salinas PD to patrol the area. With regards to the new fare zone, he stated that King City is in the center of Monterey County. There is no way to connect from King City to areas south of King City on public transit.

## **5-1 – 5-2. COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The Board accepted and filed the MST RIDES Advisory Committee Minutes – June 19, 2006; and Planning/Operations Committee Minutes – July 10, 2006.

### **6. BIDS/PROPOSALS**

None.

### **7-1. MST RIDES ZONES AND NEW FARE ZONE STRUCTURE PUBLIC HEARING**

The MST RIDES zone structure needs to be modified in order to establish similar zones for both fixed route and MST RIDES. The MST RIDES South County zone change is necessary to ensure that ADA Paratransit fares remain within ADA compliance. The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Part 37, Section 37.131 c, essentially states that the fare charged to an ADA Paratransit user cannot exceed twice the fare for a similar trip on the fixed-route system.

Chairman Armenta opened the public hearing to receive comments on the proposed changes. Seeing no one wishing to comment, the public hearing was closed.

**Director Wilmot moved to adopt the modified MST RIDES fare zone structure. Director Schenk seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

### **8-1. MARINA TRANSIT STATION FINAL DESIGN**

Eli Naor, VBN Architects, gave a brief overview of the timeline for this project. Currently, this project is in the EIR phase, which is scheduled to be completed in October. The final design is scheduled to be completed the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in October. In November-December this project will go out to bid. December through September 2007 will be construction.

The project is currently divided into 3 distinct elements and project phases: the transit portion, and two additional levels of construction that include a combination of “mixed-use development”, which includes commercial and residential structures.

Mr. Sedoryk, General Manager/CEO, said it is MST’s intent to develop this property as quickly as possible.

Director Wilmot said overall the City of Marina Planning Commission is happy with the project. This is what the City is looking for.

No action was taken on this item.

## **8-2. PENINSULA AREA SERVICE STUDY**

The Peninsula Area Service Study (PASS) evaluated how well MST's bus service in and around the Monterey Peninsula area (coastal communities from Big Sur to Watsonville) is meeting passenger demand with regards to on-time performance, safety and convenience and examined present and anticipated development and travel patterns. As a result of this analysis, a series of new and adjusted bus routes that would better serve existing and future public transit customers as well as increase overall ridership have been proposed.

Thomas Wittman, Perteeet, gave a presentation on the details of the PASS. He discussed the following alternatives: New Marina, CSUMB service to Monterey; direct all-day service in Seaside to Carmel; direct service from Seaside to Ryan Ranch; using smaller buses in Asilomar; new route using smaller buses operating between downtown Carmel and Carmel Rancho; and Carmel Rancho to Monterey operating all day.

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Jim Fink, said he uses the MPC Library on Sundays during the school year. The proposed change would not allow him to use this resource.

With regard to line 22 Big Sur, Mr. Fink said he has spoken with employees in Big Sur and there is adequate ridership to warrant year-round service. Mr. Harvath said he contacted businesses in Big Sur and the business community said they prefer twice as many trips during the summer. There is not sufficient demand to require year-round service.

**Director Cunningham moved to authorize staff to schedule public hearings and to appoint Hearing Officers to receive comments on the Peninsula Area Service Study. Director Mancini seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

## **9-1. INTENT TO PURCHASE/NEGOTIATE BUS PURCHASE**

Michael Hernandez, Chief Operating Officer, said the CNG fleet continues to negatively impact MST's ability to provide reliable service due to mechanical failures. MST has the ability to procure new buses in conjunction with Cambria County Transit Authority (CamTran) in Johnstown, PA.

Based on service requirements and to remain compliance with FTA spare ratio requirements, MST will purchase only 15 buses to replace the 17 CNG buses to be retired. CamTran has provided MST the opportunity to purchase 15 vehicles from their

contract with Gillig Corporation; however, they require a letter of intent in order to reserve these vehicle options. Gillig also requires an official letter of intent, which can be cancelled if negotiations for financing are not successful. Once an order is placed, the current delivery time is estimated to be at least 12 months.

Municipal Service Group (MSG) arranged the financing for MST's acquisition of 40 buses and six trolleys in 2001. MST has proposed restructuring the debt to finance an additional 17 vehicles over their 12-year life at a blended interest rate of 4.44%. There is adequate cash flow from local transportation funds, anticipated federal formula funds and other state transit assistance for the debit service. Staff estimates that the additional interest costs will be more than offset by the reduced operating costs resulting from retirement of the CNG vehicles within six years.

Director Cunningham supports the purchase; however, he would like staff to hold off as long as possible before entering into this procurement.

**Director Schenk moved to: 1) authorize MST to exercise the option to purchase 15 buses through the Cambria County Transit Authority's contract with Gillig Corporation; and 2) authorize the GM/CEO to negotiate a financing package with Municipal Services Group for this procurement. Director Wilmot seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

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

The reports consisted of the General Manager/CEO Report; TAMC Highlights – July 26, 2006; Washington D. C. Lobbyist Report – July 28, 2006; Update on State Transit Assistance Program; and Letter to Jim Fink in response to comments made at July 10 Board meeting.

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

Director Downey reported that she represented the MST Board on a panel on Succession at the APTA Board Members Conference in Montreal. Director Mancini gave a brief report on the conference. He talked briefly about the transit system in Montreal. Chairman Armenta talked about the Transit Board Member's Handbook. He also sat on a panel to discuss trials and tribulations with regards to planning a transit center. He recommended other Board members attend future APTA Board member conferences.

#### **12. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

California Transit Association Annual Conference,

### 13. CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session to meet with legal counsel regarding the performance evaluation of the General Manager/CEO and potential litigation.

**Upon returning to open session, Mr. Laredo reported that no reportable action was taken on either matter.**

### 13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Armenta adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

PREPARED BY:   
Sonia AR Bannister