

SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Minutes- Board of Directors

September 12, 2008

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District met on Friday, September 12, 2008 at the District's Administrative Office located at 370 Encinal Street in Santa Cruz, California.

Vice Chair Bustichi called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and welcomed Les White back after his recent surgery.

SECTION 1: OPEN SESSION

1. ROLL CALL:

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Jan Beautz (arrived after roll call)
Dene Bustichi
Donald Hagen
Michelle Hinkle
Kirby Nicol
Emily Reilly
Mike Rotkin
Dale Skillicorn
Pat Spence
Marcela Tavantzis

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Mark Stone
Ex-Officio Donna Blitzer

STAFF PRESENT

Ciro Aguirre, Operations Manager
Angela Aitken, Finance Manager
Pat Aviles, Asst. Human Resources Manager
Frank Cheng, MB Project Manager
Mark Dorfman, Assistant General Manager
Mary Ferrick, Fixed Route Superintendent

Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel
Debbie Kinslow, Asst. Finance Manager
Robyn Slater, Human Resources Manager
Tom Stickel, Maintenance Manger
April Warnock, Paratransit Superintendent
Les White, General Manager

EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO VOLUNTARILY INDICATED THEY WERE PRESENT

Ian McFadden, Transit Planner
Bonnie Morr, UTU

Bob Yount, MAC

2. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Written:

- a. Kathryn Handforth Re: Service Request

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| b. | E/D TAC | Re: | METRO's Discount Bus Pass Policy |
| c. | CA Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. | Re: | ParaCruz Service Complaint |
| d. | SCCRTC | Re: | ParaCruz Service Complaint |
| e. | K. Bach | Re: | Service Request |

Oral:

Director Tavantzis reported that she has received positive feedback from City of Watsonville employees that use METRO's service.

CHAIR BEAUTZ ARRIVED

Regarding Written Communications #2-c and #2-d, Director Spence stated that she personally knew Kurtis Lemke and suggested that METRO staff contact Social Services at Santa Cruz Health Center to provide him assistance with ParaCruz ride scheduling. Ciro Aguirre replied that staff had already made these arrangements and Mr. Lemke had refused them. Mr. Aguirre added that a full report regarding Mr. Lemke's letter had been forwarded to METRO's Legal department and staff will respond appropriately.

3. LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

None.

4. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS

An Attachment for Item #10 was distributed and is attached to the file copy of these minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA

5-1. APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 13 & 27, 2008 AND SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 19, 25 & 29, 2008

No questions or comments.

5-2. ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED CLAIMS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2008

No questions or comments.

**5-3. CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS:
DENY THE CLAIM OF WESLEY ALLEN, CLAIM #08-0026**

No questions or comments.

5-4. ACCEPT AND FILE THE METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

No questions or comments.

5-5. ACCEPT AND FILE PARACRUZ OPERATIONS STATUS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2008

Director Hagen noted the increase in Shared Rides and decrease in Cost Per Ride.

5-6. ACCEPT AND FILE JUNE 2008 RIDERSHIP REPORT

Director Rotkin asked why the pie chart on page #5-6.5 did not add up to 100% and what “Other” meant. Mary Ferrick explained that rather than percentages, the pie chart is labeled by number of hours per category, which add up to the total Dropped Hours and that “Other” is road construction, closures, and traffic congestion.

5-7. ACCEPT AND FILE HIGHWAY 17 STATUS REPORT FOR MAY 2008

No questions or comments.

5-8. ACCEPT AND FILE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ SERVICE UPDATE FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2008

No questions or comments.

5-9. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH DELTA DENTAL FOR EMPLOYEE DENTAL INSURANCE FOR A TWO-YEAR PERIOD

No questions or comments.

5-10. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH ASSURANT FOR EMPLOYEE LONG TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE FOR A TWO-YEAR PERIOD

No questions or comments.

5-11. CONSIDERATION OF FIXED-ROUTE RIDERSHIP REPORT FOR FY 2008

Director Hagen expressed concern about the wording of the first sentence of the Staff Report under “Discussion”. Les White agreed that it was misstated and Vice Chair Bustichi suggested that it be changed to read: “As a result of the completion of recommendations contained in the Draft of the Short Range Transit Plan ...”

5-12. RECEIVE STATUS REPORT REGARDING PARACRUZ SAME DAY SERVICE CHANGE POLICY REVISION IN RESPONSE TO INCIDENT ON JANUARY 7, 2008

Director Spence gave staff a complaint letter regarding a similar incident.

5-13. RECEIVE STATUS REPORT REGARDING CUSTOMER COMPLAINT RECEIVED ON AUGUST 19, 2008

Summary:

Les White reported that this person has written to METRO numerous times over the years, usually with inappropriate language so staff did not respond. Currently, staff is looking at the connection between Routes 35 & 71 at Ocean & Water and is also actively engaged in establishing a ticket outlet in Scotts Valley.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS:

This presentation will take place at the September 26, 2008 Board Meeting.

7. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICES OF SORETTA CHATMAN AS BUS OPERATOR FOR THE SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

This presentation will take place at the September 26, 2008 Board Meeting.

8. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH DEVCO OIL, INC. FOR OFF-SITE FUELING OF METRO'S NON-REVENUE VEHICLES

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR TAVANTZIS SECOND: DIRECTOR ROTKIN

Authorize the General Manager to execute a three-year contract with Devco Oil, Inc. for off-site fueling of METRO's non-revenue vehicles for an amount not to exceed \$260,000.00

Motion passed unanimously with Director Stone being absent.

**9. CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS:
REJECT THE CLAIM OF BRUCE INMAN, CLAIM #08-0025**

Summary:

Margaret Gallagher reported that staff is requesting action on this item today due to the 45-day deadline. Staff recommends denying the claim because it is not a valid claim.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR REILLY

Deny the claim of Bruce Inman, Claim #08-0025

Motion passed unanimously with Director Stone being absent.

10. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FROM SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK FOR BUSES TO BE USED IN FOOD DRIVE

Summary:

Mark Dorfman reported that METRO has participated in various promotions with Second Harvest Food Bank over the years and this year they are requesting that METRO provide three buses for four hours each to carry business leaders for a tour of the Food Bank as part of the 2008 Holiday Food Drive.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR SKILLICORN

Approve the request from the Second Harvest Food Bank for the use of METRO buses as part of the 2008 Holiday Food Drive

Motion passed unanimously with Director Stone being absent.

11. REVIEW OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION:

Margaret Gallagher reported that the Board would have a conference with its Legal Counsel regarding the Existing Litigation claim of Martin Gilbert and the workers compensation cases of Martin Gilbert and Carol Moore.

12. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION

None.

SECTION II: CLOSED SESSION

Vice Chair Bustichi adjourned to Closed Session at 10:03 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session at 10:11 a.m.

SECTION III: RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

13. REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION

Vice Chair Bustichi reported that the Board gave direction to its Legal Counsel and took no other reportable action in Closed Session.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Vice Chair Bustichi adjourned the meeting at 10:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

CINDI THOMAS
Administrative Services Coordinator