

SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

Minutes- Board of Directors

August 24, 2007

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District met on Friday, August 24, 2007 at the Santa Cruz City Council Chambers, 809 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

Chair Tavantzis called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

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
Mark Stone
Marcela Tavantzis
Ex-Officio Donna Blitzer

DIRECTORS ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Angela Aitken, Finance Manager
Frank Cheng, MetroBase Project Manager
Mark Dorfman, Assistant General Manager
Terry Gale, IT Manager

Robyn Slater, Human Resources Manager
Tom Stickel, Maintenance Manager
Les White, General Manager

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

Karena Pushnik, SCCRTC
Randy Swart, VMU

Amy Weiss, Spanish Interpreter
Bob Yount, MAC

2. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Written:

None.

Oral:

None.

3. LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS

None.

4. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS

Director Spence distributed information regarding Item #8, which is attached to the file copy of these minutes.

VICE CHAIR BEAUTZ ARRIVED

CONSENT AGENDA

- 5-1. ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARILY APPROVED CLAIMS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2007
- 5-2. CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS:
DENY THE CLAIM OF FARMERS INSURANCE (WALTERMYER), CLAIM #07-0026
- 5-3. ACCEPT AND FILE METROBASE STATUS REPORT
- 5-4. ACCEPT AND FILE THE METRO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MAC) AGENDA FOR AUGUST 15, 2007 AND MINUTES OF JUNE 20, 2007
- 5-5. ACCEPT AND FILE PARACRUZ OPERATIONS STATUS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2007
- 5-6. ACCEPT AND FILE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ SERVICE UPDATE FOR MONTH OF JUNE 2007
- 5-7. ACCEPT AND FILE JUNE 2007 RIDERSHIP REPORT
- 5-8. APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 13 & 27, 2007
- 5-9. ACCEPT AND FILE HIGHWAY 17 STATUS REPORT FOR MAY 2007
- 5-10. ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES REFLECTING VOTING RESULTS FROM APPOINTEES TO THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR THE JUNE 2007 MEETING(S)
- 5-11. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A 1-YEAR EXTENSION TO THE CONTRACT WITH MONTE FOUNDATION TO PROVIDE TRANSIT SERVICE TO THE 2007 FIREWORKS FESTIVAL
- 5-12. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF REVISED BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL FOR FY 07-08
- 5-13. CONSIDERATION OF EXTENDING THE REOPENER PERIOD OF TIME PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 4, COMPENSATION, OF THE CONTRACT WITH THE GENERAL MANAGER FROM JULY 2007 TO JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2007
- 5-14. ACCEPT AND FILE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ SERVICE UPDATE FOR MONTH OF JULY 2007
- 5-15. ACCEPT AND FILE DRAFT REPORT ON FY 2007 TRIENNIAL REVIEW
- 5-16. ACCEPT AND FILE JULY 2007 RIDERSHIP REPORT
- 5-17. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO ADD 110 VERNON STREET PROPERTY TO METRO'S EXISTING PROPERTY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR FY08

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR SKILLICORN

Approve the Consent Agenda

Motion passed unanimously with all Directors present.

REGULAR AGENDA

7. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF CALPERS RESOLUTIONS TO REVISE METRO'S MEDICAL PREMIUM CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR UTU FIXED ROUTE AND PARATRANSIT

Summary:

Robyn Slater reported that the Fixed Route resolution is adjusted annually to reflect METRO's actual maximum monthly premium contributions and the Paratransit resolution corrects an error in the language provided by CalPERS in the original resolution established in 2004.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR REILLY

Approve the Resolutions to revise the fixed contribution towards medical coverage for the United Transportation Union, Local 23 (Fixed Route) and Paratransit Unit under the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) medical insurance program

Motion passed unanimously with all Directors present.

8. PUBLIC HEARING: CONSIDERATION OF IDENTIFYING A PRELIMINARY LIST OF UNMET TRANSIT AND PARATRANSIT NEEDS FOR SUBMISSION TO THE SCCRTC

Summary:

Les White reported that at its last meeting, the Board reviewed, revised and assigned priority ranking to METRO's draft list of Unmet Transit and Paratransit needs. The list was transmitted to E&D TAC for their consideration; however, they did not meet as scheduled on August 14th and they have provided no feedback. MAC reviewed the list at their August 15th meeting and their comments are included as Attachment "C". After receiving public comment at today's Public Hearing and reviewing all input received, it is recommended that the Board adopt a final list of Unmet Transit and Paratransit needs to be submitted to the SCCRTC.

Discussion:

Director Rotkin asked for clarification on how important it was to prioritize each item on the list, in light of the current state budget crisis. Les White replied that this is the first time that the SCCRTC has requested prioritization of the list and staff believes it is a constructive exercise to determine METRO's priorities in case extra funds should somehow materialize, however it is not a binding prioritization.

Director Hagen expressed concern that E&D TAC did not comment on METRO's list.

CHAIR TAVANTZIS OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 9:13 A.M.

Bob Yount, MAC, reported that MAC took this seriously and had spent a lot of time on it. MAC recommends that the criteria of impact on the highest number of riders be used when implementing service improvements. Mr. Yount stated that one area where MAC disagreed with the Board was on Holiday Service, which MAC feels strongly should be changed from low priority to high priority. Mr. Yount went on to comment on each of MAC's recommendations that differed from the Board's.

There was a discussion about Holiday Service.

CHAIR TAVANTZIS CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 9:21 A.M.

Chair Tavantzis explained that when the Board reviewed and prioritized the list that system-wide items were high priority, route-specific items were lower priority, etc.

Director Spence requested a cost breakdown. Chair Tavantzis replied that the items were not prioritized by cost, which is not a factor at this point. Les White clarified that there is no funding to implement any of the items, however, staff would be happy to determine costs when and if funding became available. Director Stone added that this was a worthwhile effort and thanked staff and MAC for their time spent on it.

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR REILLY SECOND: DIRECTOR NICOL

Adopt and submit to the SCCRTC the list of Unmet Transit and Paratransit needs as presented, except change Holiday Service from Low Priority to Moderate Priority

Discussion:

Vice Chair Beautz asked about MAC's recommendation to add the replacement of 30 1998 fixed route buses to the list as a very high priority. Les White agreed that would be a good idea and the maker and second of the motion accepted the following amendment:

ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR REILLY SECOND: DIRECTOR NICOL

Adopt and submit to the SCCRTC the list of Unmet Transit and Paratransit needs as presented, except change Holiday Service from Low Priority to Moderate Priority and add Replacement of 30 1998 Fixed Route buses to the list as a Very High Priority

Discussion:

Director Reilly thanked Director Spence and MAC, stating it was good to have MAC's input even though all of their recommendations were not being incorporated at this time.

Les White clarified that there were two technical corrections that the Board had requested previously which were missed in this report, but would be made to the final draft:

1. On page #8.b1, regarding Route 71, the word “headways” will be changed to “frequencies”; and
2. On page #8.b2, the identification of “(AVL)” will be included after “Automated Vehicle Location”

Motion passed unanimously with all Directors present.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chair Tavantzis adjourned the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

CINDI THOMAS

Administrative Services Coordinator