

Agenda Item: 3.1

FINAL MINUTES

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

*Members are: Lou Calcagno. (Chair),
Steve Villegas (1st Vice Chair), Simón Salinas (2nd Vice Chair),
Frank Sollecito (Past Chair), Jane Parker (County representative),
Maria Orozco (City representative)*

Wednesday, February 03, 2010

*****9:05 a.m.*****

Transportation Agency Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Calcagno called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Board members present: Calcagno, Orozco, Parker, Salinas and Villegas and alternate Deal for Sollecito. Staff present: Bachman, Chen, Goel, Hale, Montiel, Myers, Rodriguez, Watson and Agency Counsel Blankenship.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None
3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Board member Parker and second by Board member Salinas the committee voted 6 – 0 to approve consent item 3.1 as follows:

- 3.1 **APPROVED** enclosed minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of January 6, 2010. – Montiel

END OF CONSENT

4. On a motion by Board member Parker and second by Board member Salinas the committee voted 6 – 0 as follows:

RECOMMENDED that the Board **AUTHORIZE** Executive Director to submit the draft fiscal year 2010/11 Work Program to Federal and State funding agencies for initial review.

Don Bachman, Deputy Executive Director presented the Draft Work Program for fiscal year 2010/11. Mr. Bachman reported that plan is submitted to the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), which prepares an annual Overall Work Program that incorporates the activities of AMBAG, Transportation Agency for Monterey County, Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission, Monterey-Salinas Transit, and Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit System. He noted that the work program is then submitted to state and federal funding agencies. In April 2009, the Board of Directors approved new updated goals and objectives to guide the Agency. Given that the sales tax did not receive the necessary 2/3 super majority vote, the new goals and objectives do not include implementation of the full Transportation Investment Plan. Rather, the emphasis is on the continuation of current programs, and delivery of those projects that are funded, and to continue to seek funding from outside sources.

Chairman Lou Calcagno expressed concerns with allowing the Dole Company to use the Agency and County property without paying a fee. He noted that several diesel trucks park on the site and suggested that the Transportation Agency and County staff work on installing a fence around the property on Monte Road or seek lease fees from Dole. Executive Director Hale noted that staff is aware of this issue and would look into the matter.

Board member Jane Parker commented that the rail transit projects are significant, but not highlighted in the presentation as much as the road projects.

In conclusion, Deputy Executive Director Don Bachman, noted that next steps in the Overall Work Program process are to present the draft to the Board of Directors in February, make changes as directed by the Board, and then submit it to the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments for review by state and federal agencies. The final program will be provided, along with the 2010-2011 budget, to the Executive Committee for review and the Board of Directors for adoption.

Executive Director Debbie Hale reported that she has been approached from outside parties regarding airport land use planning for Monterey County. Currently, AMBAG performs this work. Ms. Hale noted that there is expertise on Agency staff for this work. She also noted that the AMBAG new strategic plan discussed getting out of the single county ridesharing work it does at present for Monterey County. She is in the process of discussing these issues with the AMBAG director and will return with a recommendation in May when the final work program is submitted for approval.

Board members asked for a report back on these discussions. Chairman Calcagno added that there is an opportunity to work with the agricultural industry to encourage carpooling and vanpooling.

5. On a motion by Board member Salinas and second by Board member Orozco the committee voted 6 – 0 as follows:

RECOMMENDED that the Board **AUTHORIZE** Executive Director to submit enclosed draft fiscal year 10/11 budget to federal and state funding agencies for initial review; and

RECOMMENDED that the Board **PROVIDE** direction and guidance to staff on the three-year budget for fiscal year 10/11 through 12/13, and **DIRECT** Executive Director to bring the final three-year budget back to the Board on May 26, 2010 for approval.

Rita Goel, Director of Finance & Administration, presented the draft Agency three-year budget for fiscal years 10/11 through 12/13. She noted that the Agency budget separates expenditures into two types: operating and direct programs. Operating expenditures include staff salaries and benefits, materials, supplies, and equipment purchases. Direct program expenditures include outside consultants, contracts, expenditures that apply to specific project delivery tasks such as rail program, highway projects, bicycle and pedestrian program etc. The proposed fiscal year 2010-2011 operating expenditure budget is \$2,438,195, a net increased over fiscal year 2009-2010 of \$23,912,184. These increased direct program costs are funded with new federal, state and local grants.

Ms. Goel highlighted some minor changes made to the operating budget since the November meeting resulted in reduction from \$2,460,668 to \$2,438,195. She noted that these changes were primarily due to the triennial audit performance costs being moved to the direct program and a change in the Agency's contribution to Cal PERS to reflect the actual vs. the estimated cost used in November.

Chairman Calcagno noted that many agencies have lobbyists and asked that the agency look into the possibility to consolidate this activity. Executive Director Hale agreed to survey the City Managers, CAO and Special District Managers to determine if any ability to consolidate services exists.

6. On a motion by Board member Salinas and second by Board member Parker the committee voted 6 – 0 as follows:

RECOMMENDED the Board adopt a “**WATCH**” position on the services Authority for Freeway Emergencies Modernization bill, which would allow individual service authorities to have the option on increasing the Department of Motor Vehicle fee by \$1, for a total of \$2, for programs and to modernize obsolete language in order to take advantage o new technologies.

Kaki Chen, Transportation Planner, reported that the Agency acts as the Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies in Monterey County. The Agency currently collects \$1 in Department of Motor Vehicle registration fees to fund the call box program and Freeway Service Patrol program. The Freeway Service Patrol program is also an effective congestion management tool that strategically addresses traffic problems by quickly finding and removing disabled or stranded vehicles from the freeway. The \$1 fee has not increased since 1986. According to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the current fee has lost 45% in value. Ms. Chen reported that increasing the Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies fee by \$1 would generate approximately \$360,000 in new revenues annually for Monterey County. The funding could be used to invest in smart technologies to improve roadway operations and implement congestion mitigation strategies that will benefit the motorist.

Board member Salinas noted that proposals to raise revenues are not likely to succeed in this economy and said it is likely that Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies Modernization Bill would not be approved. Board member Parker noted that she is very supportive of this bill and understands the concept, but concurred with Board member Salinas that the timing is difficult. In conclusion, Board member Salinas noted that he would discuss this topic with Assembly member Anna Caballero and asked that Supervisor Parker discuss the bill with Assembly member Bill Monning. The Committee asked staff to keep a “watch” position on this legislation.

7. On a motion by Board alternate Deal and second by Board member Salinas the committee voted 6 – 0 agendas follows:

RECEIVED report on draft agenda for TAMC Board meeting of February 24, 2010.

Executive Director Hale reviewed the draft agenda. Ms. Hale reported that there are two major items on the regular agenda; the budget, the draft work program; and a potential second call for federal stimulus projects. She noted the proposed legislation in the U.S. Congress would require that half of the funding be under contract within 90- days of the bill's passage, so the Board is being asked to approve a cost-sharing proposal should the legislation be passed. In conclusion, Ms. Hale noted that the Transportation Agency is working with County of Monterey and California State Parks Department on a memorandum of understanding regarding Carmel Hill Trail under crossing at Carmel Valley Road. TAMC staff is working with the County to obtain an encroachment permit from the County while working on the MOU so that the project is not delayed.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Calcagno adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant