

FINAL MINUTES

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY
SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAYS EMERGENCIES AND MONTEREY
COUNTY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE
JOINT POWERS AGENCY**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

*Members are: Maria Orozco (Chair),
Simón Salinas (1st Vice Chair), Jerry Edelen (2nd Vice Chair),
Lou Calcagno (Past Chair), Jane Parker (County representative),
Kimbley Craig (City representative)*

Wednesday, August 3, 2011

***** 9:00 a.m. *****

Transportation Agency Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Orozco called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Board members present: Calcagno, Craig, Orozco, Parker and alternate Chris Lopez for Salinas. Staff present: Bachman, Goel, Hale, Montiel, Muck and Zeller. Others present: Andrew Chesley, San Joaquin Council of Governments, Carl Sedoryk, Monterey-Salinas Transit, Eduardo Montesino, City of Watsonville, John Arriaga, JEA & Associates, Rob Russell, City of Salinas alternate, and Lee Blankenship, Legal Counsel, via video-conference.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Executive Director Debbie Hale announced that Senior Administrative Assistant Elouise Rodriguez is out on medical leave and Administrative Assistant Maria Montiel will be covering in her time off.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Board member Parker and second by alternate Board member Russell the committee voted 5 – 0 to approve consent item 3.1 – 3.2 as follows:

- 3.1 **APPROVED** enclosed minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of June 1, 2011.
- 3.2 **RECOMMENDED** that the Board of Directors approve the evaluation form, procedure and timeline for completing annual evaluation for Executive Director Hale and Counsel Blankenship.

END OF CONSENT

4. **RECEIVED** staff report on budgetary impacts of a proposed shift to a single county metropolitan planning organization and presentation from Andrew Chesley, Executive Director of the San Joaquin Council of Governments on single-county metropolitan planning organization operations and regional collaboration efforts in the San Joaquin Valley.

Debbie Hale, Executive Director, reported that at its strategic planning session and subsequent follow up at its June 2011 meeting, the Transportation Agency Board of Directors directed staff to research the notion of taking on the federal Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) responsibilities that are currently handled by the multi-county Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments. She noted that the purpose of such a shift to a “single-county MPO” would be to improve cost effectiveness by removing duplication of efforts across the agencies and increasing investment in the regional transportation model. In conclusion, Ms. Hale noted that the Santa Cruz County and San Benito County transportation planning agencies are also performing such a review.

Andrew Chesley, Executive Director of the San Joaquin Council of Governments presented on the single-county metropolitan planning organization operations and regional collaboration efforts in the San Joaquin Valley. He noted that the advantages of a single-county MPO include combining MPO, Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and Local Transportation Authority (sales tax). It allows for quicker decision making and facilitates the mix and match of federal, state and local transportation dollars. Mr. Chesley noted that it allows planning efforts to align with local objectives and provides a sense of more local control, shared values and easier communication. In conclusion, Mr. Chesley noted that San Joaquin Valley MPOs would continue to look for ways to voluntarily or contractually coordinate their functions.

Executive Director Debbie Hale reported that staff is in the process of developing a budget for taking the additional workload. Initial estimates are that it would take 1.0 full time equivalent (FTE) staff persons to take over various activities (not including ridesharing) and the level of effort would vary depending on what activities would take place. She noted that Monterey County ridesharing activities would take an additional 0.5 to 1.0 FTE of staff time and would likely need to be funded out of new monies, since the current rideshare grant expires in April 2012 and would require a new funding source regardless of which agency performs the activities. In conclusion, Ms. Hale noted that a formal transition of MPO responsibilities should take place no sooner than the start of the state or federal 2012/13 fiscal year; however, steps toward such a transition, particularly voting by the local governing boards, would need to proceed well before that July/October 2012 date.

5. **RECEIVED** an update on state legislative activities.

Executive Director Debbie Hale introduced John Arriaga, JEA and Associates, who gave an update on state legislative activities. He reported that a majority vote budget was passed on June 15, but was vetoed, and another budget was adopted on June 16 in time for the July 1 deadline. He noted that the main changes from the June 15 budget compared to the adopted budget are \$4 billion in higher projected revenues in 2011-12, with triggered cuts if the money doesn't come in, and 1.06 percentage point sales tax swap that redirects money to local government for Brown's "realignment" plan rather than to the state. He noted that on a positive note, the Gas Tax Swap deal remains intact.

Mr. Arriaga noted that the passage of a budget allows the state to move forward to sell the bonds needed to fund Proposition 1B and other projects. The Governor used his line item veto authority to eliminate funding for 47.5 Caltrans positions to review impacts of local projects (Project Initiation Documents) on the state highway system. In conclusion, Mr. Arriaga noted that the governor also eliminated nearly \$150 million in Proposition 1B appropriations to enhance local transit routes and feeder systems to high-speed rail due to the lack of a comprehensive state rail plan.

Mr. Arriaga also reviewed the recommended positions on proposed bills. He noted that AB 484 (Alejo), which will help Caltrans in mitigation for highway projects by allowing non-profits to use the funding set aside for such mitigation, was merged with SB 436 (Kehoe) and is moving along.

Board member Calcagno asked that staff take a look at other resources to fund the US 101 San Juan Road ("Red Barn") project.

6. **RECEIVED** report on draft agenda for TAMC Board meeting of August 24, 2011.

Executive Director Hale reviewed the August 24, 2011 draft agenda. She reported that the primary items on the agenda are the update on single county MPO issue and "in-kind" match contribution agreements with AMBAG. She also noted that the Board would be asked to review the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan with any changes recommended for incorporation by the Board of Directors in September. She highlighted the consent agenda, noting that the Board would be asked to approve the evaluation forms, procedure and timeline for completing annual evaluation for Executive Director and Counsel. She also noted that the Board would be asked to adopt resolution 2011-12 authorizing federal funding to Monterey-Salinas Transit under the Federal Transit Administration Section 5311.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Orozco adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maria Montiel, Administrative Assistant