

FINAL MINUTES

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

*Members are: Frank Sollecito. (Chair),
Lou Calcagno (1st Vice Chair), Steve Villegas (2nd Vice Chair),
Dave Potter (Past Chair), Simón Salinas (County representative),
Sue Kleber (City representative)*

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

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

Transportation Agency Conference Room
55-B Plaza Circle, Salinas

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Sollecito called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members present: Calcagno, Kleber, Salinas, Villegas and alternate Lee for Potter. Staff present: Bachman, Goel, Hale, Muck, Rodriguez, Watson, and Agency Counsel Blankenship. Others present: Brigid McGrath Massie, and Paul Schlesinger, via telephone.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- 3.1 **APPROVED** minutes from the Special Executive Committee meeting of February 20, 2009.
- 3.2 **REVIEWED** draft 2008 Annual Report.

END OF CONSENT

4. **COMMITTEE PHOTO:**
The Committee took a group photo.
5. **RECEIVED** update on state and federal legislative activities. Paul Schlesinger, TAMC Federal Legislative Advisor with Alcalde and Fay, reported that the fiscal year 2009 appropriations, contained in the recently passed omnibus bill, included \$475,000 each for MST bus acquisition and the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail. He reported on the submittal of requests for fiscal year 2010 appropriations for the US 101 San Juan Road project, the Caltrain Extension to Monterey County project, and the trail. Mr. Schlesinger also noted that later this year the federal government will begin discussing the next transportation authorization bill, through which

TAMC will be requesting funds for the US 101 San Juan Road project, the Highway 68 Holman Highway project, and authorization for construction on the two rail projects.

6. **RECEIVED** update on federal stimulus funding. Executive Director Debbie Hale reported that she and Board member Rubio met with California Transportation Commission Commissioner Bob Alvarado and discussed how to obtain stimulus funds for the US 101 San Juan Road and Highway 1 Salinas Road projects. She noted that Commissioner Alvarado supported both projects, predominantly the Highway 101 interchange project.

Ms. Hale reported that if state legislation implementing the federal stimulus bill passes, the Board would have more control over the funds. If the legislation passes, about \$10 million could be programmed to the Highway 101 San Juan Road project or the Highway 1 Salinas Road project, and if legislation does not pass, staff will need to keep trying to persuade the state to allocate funding to these projects. Todd Muck, Principal Transportation Planner, reported if any American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds remain after pursuing the Salinas Road and San Juan Road interchange projects, staff recommends programming any remaining funds to local projects, such as the Tier 2 list of projects presented at the Board of Director's February 25, 2009 meeting. He also noted that \$745,000 in stimulus funding is targeted toward TEA enhancement projects such as bicycle projects.

7. **RECEIVED** report on agenda for TAMC Board meeting of March 25, 2009, including goal-setting session. Executive Director Debbie Hale reviewed the draft agenda. She reported that the Board would receive report on status of federal infrastructure stimulus funds and would be asked to provide direction to staff on project priorities. Ms. Hale highlighted the consent agenda, noting the following reports: Annual Report, Freeway Service Patrol contracts, On call Consultant construction management program, planning grant for a 511 system and reclassification of restaurant developments in the regional fee program as "retail" and use of reduced trip rates recommended by the Agency's traffic engineering consultant.

Agency Counsel Blankenship noted that the Board meeting would be held at the Salinas Community Center.

Brigid McGrath Massie reported on the input received by the Agency board members on the Agency goals and objectives. Ms. Massie noted that the board members focused on funding, productivity/ progress and staff's role. She highlighted the following one to three-year goals and objectives: Aggressively pursue all available Federal, State and local funding options to initiate transportation development projects; Prioritize funding to maximize timely construction of high priority projects on State highways, rail, rapid transit corridors, local streets and roads; and lastly continue the engagement and involvement of the Board becoming the conduits of communication, advocacy and involvement between the member agencies, the community and staff.

8. CLOSED SESSION:

The Committee held a closed session on: Pursuant to Government Code section §54957, the Executive Committee will confer concerning employment of the Agency's Executive Director and **RECONVENED** in open session: Board Chairman Sollecito reported that the Executive Committee met and discussed Executive Director Hale's three year contract extension and noted that the contract would be brought back for public approval.

Chairman Sollecito adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elouise Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant