

## **TEHAMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2000**

Attending: Ross Turner, Rex Roush, George Russell, Larry Stevens, Ron Warner. Absent Charles Willard. Also attending: Barbara O'Keeffe, Transit Manager, Kevin Rosser, Transportation Planner, Gary Plunkett, Executive Director, Gerry Brownfield, Deputy Director of Public Works, Gary Antone and Peter Harvey, City of Red Bluff, Roy Berlinghoff of Laidlaw and Tom Russ, City of Corning and Andrea Hitt-Fields of Caltrans.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chair Ross Turner called the meeting was called to order at 8:03
2. **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER:** The motion was made by Commissioner Russell to approve the minutes of September and October, seconded by Commissioner Warner. Motion carried 4-0 with 1 abstaining and 1 absent.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Vice Chair Ross Turner announced to the Commission that he wanted staff to write a letter of appreciation to Chairman Earl Wintle for all his support and dedication over the past few years. The Commission agreed that it was a good idea.

Barbara O'Keeffe announced that TRAX received first place in the Christmas Parade and she presented a plaque to the Commission. Commissioner Stevens asked how much the entrance fee is for the parades. Barbara said it was an average of \$10.00 dollars. Vice Chairman Turner inquired if we were paying a 2 hour or 4 hour minimum call and if this economically justified. Barbara said that there in no minimum call in and we just incur actual cost. She will bring this back to the Commission in January. Barbara also wanted to thank the Red Bluff City Council for their participation in the TRAX Parade they had 3 Council members riding on the bus.

Barbara O'Keeffe also announced the TRAX First Annual Lighted Homes Tour in Red Bluff on December 13<sup>th</sup> and in Corning on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Barbara stated that this was budgeting on a shoestring and it increases community involvement.

5. **PROGRAM, PLANNING & MONITORING UPDATE:** Kevin Rosser stated that John Garloch of Quincy Engineering attending an RTP guideline update in District 2 and sent us a bill for \$1425. The contractor had only used up 48% of estimated cost for services. Staff stated the most of the monies in the 2000 RTIP submittal was for Rehabilitation. Included in our 2000 RTIP submittal was PPM and transit rolling stock. Brought up, by CTC staff at the last Rural Counties Task Force meeting was that rehabilitation may be removed from the STIP by 2006. CTC staff stated it will not be removed without replacing it with some other kind of vehicle for allowing maintenance and rehabilitation of roads.
6. **FLORES AVENUE PROJECT UPDATES:** Jerry Brownfield, Deputy Director of Public Works, stated that there has been two Project Development Team meetings (PDT), a public meeting, and a resource agency meeting since the last Commission meeting. Items of interest from those meetings, was the introduction of an activity sheet to track progress. Also the scope of work and project cost has been worked out for a new connection report for the I-5 interchange. This will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December. In this report, the highway design manual has two interchange configuration types: Type L2 and the Type L9. The L2 is the basic diamond type interchange and the L9 has loop ramps. If the traffic volume

demands the loops, then that would be the way to go and the study will determine that projection over 20 years.

North State Resources sub-consultant to Omni Means, began a fairy shrimp study on the project sight. They go out every two weeks to see if shrimp are there. This will go on every two weeks until shrimp are found or until August if no shrimp are found.

At the November 29 public information meeting 28 people attended, of which, 14 voiced their support regarding the interchange.

At the Project Development Team meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup> the consultant stated that they hadn't finished the amended project study report. They are going to have the archeological study done by December and by January or February the rest of the reports will be done for the environmental document which will be drafted in March.

In January a monthly newsletter will be sent out to interested parties concerning the Flores Project.

On December 7<sup>th</sup> we met with the resource agencies in Sacramento regarding the project. The purpose was to get a purpose needs statement and an agreement on the alternatives. We presented them with the alternate alignments composite and we highlighted the alternatives we are suggesting. Jerry stated that they were pleased with the progress we are making and they stated that other companies could use our graph as a guideline to do their studies.

7. **APPOINTMENTS TO CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION:** Barbara O'Keeffe discussed the appointment of John Lawson and Kirk Lindsey to the CTC. This is the first time two San Joaquin Valley members are simultaneously on the Commission. The nine commissioners make the decision of transportation funding statewide.

Kevin Rosser asked if any one was interested in being a liaison for the rural counties to contact him.

8. **DISTRIBUTION OF STATE GAS TAX:** Barbara O'Keeffe presented information on the State Gas Tax. The sales tax is approximately one billion dollars per year. The tax began in 1970 and the split of 49% went to cities and counties and 51% went to state. In 1990, a decrease went to cities and counties and the balance to the state. Mileage for state highways is 15,200. Local highway miles are 134,600 which makes it difficult to maintain roads.

The meeting discussion went to Item 9, AB2928.

9. **AB 2928, TRANSPORTATION CONGESTION RELIEF:** Commissioner Turner questioned who is authoring AB2928 and Gary Plunkett answered Assemblyman Torlikson, Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee. The bill took the sales tax on gasoline and put it into transportation for five years. This issue is very important for the transportation industry. The polls have indicated there is a broad support to shifting sales tax on gasoline for transportation purposes.
10. **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP):** Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Warner to adopt by title the Mitigated Negative Declaration for RTP.

Kevin Rosser questioned if the Commission would read the findings out loud. Commissioner Russell answered yes and they were adopted individually. Commissioner Russell proceeded reading the findings individually:

The RTP project is consistent with the County's General Plan:

Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Roush to approve. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

The Commission received no comments on the Mitigated Negative Declaration filed for the TCTC's RTP:

Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Roush to approve. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

The RTP will have no significant effect on fish and wildlife or their habitat with mitigation measures incorporated:

Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Roush to approve. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

The project will not have a significant effect on the environment:

Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Roush to approve. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

1. Adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration filed on the Tehama County Transportation Commission's RTP as meeting the requirements of CEQA and its guidelines. Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Roush to approve and carried 5-0 with 1 absent. .

2. Adopt as the Mitigation Monitoring Plan all agencies abide by the STIP Procedures and Caltrans Local Procedures Manual for Local Projects. Motion by Commissioner Russell, second by Commissioner Roush and carried 5-0 with 1 absent. with those present.

11. CERTIFICATION AND ASSURANCE FOR SECTION 5311 PROGRAMMED BY GREENVILLE RANCHERIA: Barbara O'Keeffe discussed Section 5311 dollars from the Federal Transit Administration. The money is specifically earmarked for Native Americans and the guidelines require the Regional Transportation Agencies provide certification and assurance for programming of this money. Greenville Rancheria in Plumas and Tehama County is responsible for all 5311 projects. Working closely with Caltrans Greenville Rancheria is requesting the Commission certify and assure the programming. Motion by Commissioner Warner to approve the Certification and Assurances. Second by Commissioner Stevens and carried 5-0 with 1 absent. .

Motion by Commissioner Warner and second by Commissioner Stevens to adopt Resolution 35-2000 by state title and waive the reading. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

12. INITIAL DISCUSSION WITH PASKENTA BAND OF NOMLAKI INDIANS REGARDING THE PROPOSED CASINO: Barbara O'Keeffe attended a meeting the Tehama County Flood Control and the Nomlaki Indians regarding the proposed casino planned for Corning. The proposed development will consist of 1500 to 1800 acres with golf course, gaming casino, hotel and restaurant. No information has been received if the land is in trust.

Caltrans District 2, corresponded with Everett Freeman, Tribal Chairman, regarding their traffic study findings. Based on their information, Caltrans informed them the project will not have an immediate impact on the Liberal Avenue interchange; however, the potential for westbound traffic could eventually impact traffic using the southbound I-5/Liberal Avenue off-ramp.

13. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE FISCAL YEAR: Motion by Commissioner Russell to nominate Ross Turner for Chairperson for the period ending June 30, 2001. Second by Commissioner Warner and carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Warner to nominate Rex Roush as Vice-Chair. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

14. AIR QUALITY UPDATE: Kevin Rosser thanked Andrea Hitt-Fields for assisting staff with the meeting. The purpose of the air quality meeting was to understand what was required in the conformity interagency consultation. With regard to projects, principle arterials are the only projects that become entered into the conformity plan. Tehama County has five. The Flores Project, Adobe Road and Wilcox/Nine Mile Hill are in the Plan. Kevin felt the actual conformity for designation for non-attainment will happen possibly in July. The President signed HR 4635 which off-sets this for another year. The plan must be in place by 2002.

15. CORRESPONDENCE: Accepted as presented.

Chairman Turner re-opened Public Comment (9:03 A.M.) for Kevin Rosser, Transportation Planner. Kevin displayed and explained the various books provided to staff by Caltrans for presentation of projects to the Commission. Closed Public Comment at 9:07 A.M.

16. CLAIMS: Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Roush to approve the claims as presented. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

17. ADJOURN: With a brief discussion to confirm January 16, 2001 (8:30 A.M.) as the next meeting date the meeting adjourned at 9:20 A.M.