

TEHAMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 20, 2001

Present: Chairman Ross Turner, Commissioners' Ron Warner, George Russell, Rex Roush, and Larry Stevens. Also present: Barbara O'Keeffe, Transit Manager, Tim Bollman Transportation Planner, Gary Plunkett, Director of Public Works, Jerry Brownfield, Deputy Director of Tehama County Public Works, and Michael Lydon, Engineer of Tehama County Public Works. Absent: Commissioner Charles Willard.

1. CALL TO ORDER AT 8:30 A.M.
2. MINUTES: Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Stevens to approve the minutes of February 20, 2001. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Venita Philbrook left Trails brochures for the Commissioners before the meeting began. Chairperson Turner mentioned that he will re-open public comment upon Venita Philbrooks return.

Barbara O'Keeffe announced that Tim Bollman is the new Transportation Planner for Tehama County Public Works.

Chairman Turner mentioned that the Public workshop on Draft CEQA document for Flores Road Access project will be April 10th at 6:00 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barbara O'Keeffe announced the next meeting for TCTC will be held Wednesday April 25th at 8:30 A.M.

4. FLORES ACCESS ROAD PROJECT DELIVERY TEAM UPDATE:
Jerry Brownfield handed out the action Item list and referred to item number 29 in which the consultant submitted the draft Initial Study and the Mitigated Negative Declaration to the Project Delivery Team for our review. After the teams review, our comments were put as item number 30. Item number 31 we incorporated the comments and a draft is to be sent to the State Clearing House and to the public for a 30 comment period which ends April 30th.

A Public Meeting will be held on April 10th. The consultant will present the draft to the TCTC on April 25, the City of Corning on March 27th, the City of Red Bluff and Board of Supervisors on April 3rd. Commissioner Warner asked if the City of Tehama was to be incorporated into this meeting schedule. Jerry Brownfield was happy to comply and Commissioner Warner would get back to Jerry for a meeting time.

Staff has reviewed the CEQA document and we have found fairy shrimp on Gordon's property. We have the option of buying into a mitigation bank to buy vernal pool areas. The cost of that

land is \$70,000 per acre. As far as environmental, we are going to reach the same problems with the new interchange as we are with the access road.

Commissioner Russell asked if we are waiting for approval from the federal government to proceed with either the access road project or the interchange project. He wondered when we expect to hear from them.

Jerry Brownfield stated that there has been a change in personnel. George Wishman left, Mafoud Licha has left and now R.C. Slovensky has taken their places. We have to give him the same information all over again and it causes a delay.

Commissioner Russell asked who makes the final decision on this project. Is it the Transportation Commission, the federal government or the Board of Supervisors?

Jerry Brownfield stated that the Board of Supervisors has the final decision as they are the sponsoring agency for the county project. TCTC has to approve the funding allocation.

Mike Lydon said that we have to look at this as we can decide where we want to spend our money but the federal government has the right to say where they want to spend their money so the federal government must agree with us in the selection of the route.

Chairperson Turner asked for consensus from the Commissioners that when we receive the report from R.C. Slovensky that also a copy be sent to Doug Ose in hopes of getting his support. There was consensus from the Commissioners.

5. PROJECT, PLANNING AND MONITORING UPDATE:

Barbara O’Keeffe mentioned that the required Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) which is due in September has new guidelines adopted which are consistent with SB 45. TCTC is asking the consultant to work very closely with the Cities and the County so that all STIP project funding activities will be tracked including programming the state funds, tracking the federal dollars, allocations, and the timely use of funds.

Commissioner Warner asked if the City of Tehama had been contacted by the consultant. Barbara thought that the consultant was in contact with Mike Byrd. Kevin Rosser has been in contact with John Garloc with Quincy Engineering and the Cities and County should be receiving a draft of the project monitoring spreadsheet soon.

6. LETTER OF APPRECIATION FROM PETER HARVEY:

A letter of appreciation from Peter Harvey was read to the Commission by Tim Bollman.

7. TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION:

Barbara O’Keeffe announced that there are two assembly bills AB 227 and AB 321. Both are similar and address the lack of funding to the cities and counties for maintenance. There is a grass roots effort by the County’s, Cities and Chamber of Commerce and other organizations to make sure that gas tax funding stays permanently in the transportation investment account. Barbara said it is early in the legislative session and bills are subject to change. Staff will keep the Commission informed.

8. DISTRIBUTION OF ADDITIONAL LOCAL TRANSPORTATION FUND (LTF)
RESOLUTION (6-2001):

Barbara O’Keeffe said that 69% Local Transportation Funds (LTF) have been received. The attached resolution authorizes the distribution of LTF in excess of the budgeted amount as well as in excess of the amount requested by the Claimants. Motion was made by Commissioner Warner to adopt Resolution 6-2001, Distribution of Additional Local Transportation Fund. Second by Commissioner Stevens. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

9. FILING CLAIMS RESOLUTION (7-2001)

The motion was made by Commissioner Russell to adopt resolution 7-2001, filing claims, Second by Commissioner Warner. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

10. METS UPDATE

Barbara O’Keeffe stated that there was a luncheon for the METS drivers to thank them for their dedication and to discuss safety issues. Staff stated that the volunteers were more comfortable receiving recognition for their efforts in an informal manner. The drivers also enjoyed the opportunity to visit with each other. The METS drives asked that the reimbursement form be updated for convenience. As of April 2nd Diane Kane will take over as Office Assistant II for the METS program.

Barbara O’Keeffe brought to the Commissioners attention that on Monday March 5th, a volunteer driver suddenly became ill while transporting a patient. The driver pulled off the road and while doing so hit a sign post. The driver’s vehicle was towed and he refused medical transport by the ambulance. CHP did fill out a report and encouraged him to go to St. Elizabeth Hospital.

Chairman Turner asked if the driver signed a waiver form refusing service from the ambulance. Barbara O’Keeffe stated that she will investigate this and bring the information back to the Commission.

Commissioner Stevens stated that in reading the report, it was noted that the tow truck driver took the METS patient home and questioned if staff had sent a note of thanks to the tow truck driver for going above and beyond the call of duty.

Barbara O’Keeffe acknowledged that the patient had sent a note of thanks.

Chairperson Turner asked that the Commission, by consent, approve an authorization for staff to send a note of thanks on official letterhead. The Commission agreed.

11. WARRANT REGISTER BY CLAIMANT
Motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to approve the Warrant register. Seconded by Commissioner Roush. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

12. CLAIMS
Motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to approve the claims. Seconded by Commissioner Roush. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

13. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:12 A.M.