

TEHAMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 20, 2002

Present: Larry Stevens; George Russell; Ross Turner; Ron Warner and Charles Willard. Absent: Rex Roush.

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry Stevens at 8:30 a.m.
2. APPROVAL OF JUNE 18, 2002 MINUTES: Motion by Commissioner Turner and second by Commissioner Warner to approve the June 18, 2002 minutes. Carried 5-1 with 1 absent.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT:
  - ▶ Gary Plunkett announced the CTC moved the preliminary engineering for the Flores Avenue project to a year after money was programmed for construction in the STIP. This is another example of the CTC's unwritten policy to prove that local agencies cannot deliver projects. He expressed his opinion that they are resentful of power lost as a result of SB45 which requires the CTC to develop guidelines. The Legislature did not intend for these guidelines be as specific and as complex as they are. The CTC's policies are delaying projects affecting project delivery.
  - ▶ Gail Locke discussed the METS program in today's packet. Due to her time schedule, she needed to express to the Commission her concerns before she had to leave. Ms. Locke said the criteria is 19-years old and restrictive. Changes and limitations in funding should be examined by the SSTAC as well as revisit criteria and possible funding partnerships with other agencies. Presently, those that use METS have the criteria of "no other means to be transported to their doctor." Maybe we do need to charge, but I would like to examine what other counties are doing and possibly get around that.
  - ▶ Commissioner Russell suggested Ms. Locke send correspondence regarding this issue and it be agendaized again due to the informational item in today's packet.

With no further comments from the public, the public comment period was closed at 8:37 a.m. and Item No. 13 was presented next.

13. DISCUSSION OF MET's PROGRAM: Commissioner Russell commented that going along with Ms. Locke's comments, the most important thing to realize is the economic implications shortage of funds. There is no guarantee of the budget this year or next. It is ironic that no agencies have come forward with overture to help in funding sources.

Barbara O'Keeffe, Transit Manager, presented to the Commission the consideration of changing the MET's program from a free program, to those that qualify, to a flat fee program for all. Another consideration is to have individuals pay perhaps \$5.00 within the County and \$10 for rides outside the County. There will be consideration for seniors, the disabled, and for those who have appointments more than two to three times a week for such things as, dialysis, radiation, physical therapy and chemotherapy.

Commissioner Willard suggested to the Chair that this item be referred to the SSTAC Committee and they come back to the Commission with a report.

It was a consensus of the members to do such.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ▶ Change in September 17, 2002 meeting time to 8:00 a.m.
- ▶ Introduction of Jeff Schwein, new Transportation Planner for TCTC
- ▶ CTC scheduled to take action on all STIP Amendments October 2-3

5. FLORES AVENUE UPDATE: Gerry Brownfield, Deputy Director & Project Manager for Public Works, reviewed special handout information regarding the project.

Commissioner Russell discussed the delay in this project and the CTC decision. “We should be fighting with every means at our disposal and tell the CTC you cannot do this to us.” The project is important to our community. Without every effort possible, Commissioner Russell stated he would not vote to approve any change. This project needs to be completed and benefit the County. If the College is interested in this site, then we should move along to complete this within reason.

Gerry Brownfield reviewed the Flores Avenue Project and the delays due to the CTC decision. Review of the August 14<sup>th</sup> PDT meeting and decisions made:

- ▶ North State Resources delineated wetlands, direct or indirect impact
- ▶ Mitigate four-acres and indirect 27 acres
- ▶ More property along the Coyote Creek for mitigation area. 200 potential acres.
- ▶ Map of actual area of mitigation areas will be presented at next TCTC
- ▶ Meeting with Fish & Wildlife regarding schedules and costs
- ▶ Correspondence from Ray Anchordoguy regarding his willingness to participate in mitigation of his property which would require the establishment of a conservation district.
- ▶ Kinner property owner also willing to participate in onsite mitigation.

Gerry Brownfield reviewed the Time Schedules presented in the packet for:

- ▶ New Concept Report
- ▶ Engineering & Environmental Services Minimum Schedule
- ▶ New Connection Minimum Time Schedule

Commissioner Turner questioned if a quarterly update would be more advantageous to this Board. Gerry Brownfield answered that this could be right due to the meetings for mitigation.

Gerry Brownfield reviewed the Time Schedules & Costs/Funding presented in the packet for:

- ▶ New Connection Report draft and completion
- ▶ FHWA Review/Approval
- ▶ Draft/Final Environmental Document
- ▶ Plans & Specifications
- ▶ Advertise contract and award

- ▶ Costs \$5 million on existing program funds
- ▶ Costs \$6 million to complete the job
- ▶ Costs still in range of funding

Susie Price, City of Red Bluff, commented that correspondence needs to be sent by TCTC to the CTC formally requesting in writing their decision.

Commissioner Willard agreed that staff has the direction to accomplish this.

Bill Moule of the Red Bluff Chamber of Commerce expressed his concern with regard to the completion date of this project. Two problems with this CTC driven project from the beginning, was Mr. Moule's belief that the CTC has anything more than a recommendation on how to maneuver the funds until "Tehama County gets their act together." Mr. Moule suggested to the TCTC they recommend to the Board of Supervisors that "we have our act together and absolutely under no circumstances are you going to allow that to happen. This project needs to move ahead." The college, Mr. Moule continued, has selected that site as its number one alternative. Mr. Brownfield needs to be able to put pressure on these people thru the Board of Supervisors and the TCTC.

Commissioner Willard added, the state is short on money and it will carry over to next year.

Commissioner Russell suggested that writing a letter would be appropriate and as a member of this Commission would do all he could to get this modified.

It was the consensus of the TCTC that staff send correspondence to the CTC regarding their action of "moving the PS&E, asking for a technical adjustment and it is an error." The correspondence will be brought back for consideration and action.

Even though this item was marked as an action item on the agenda, informational only on the item, there was no motion.

6. TAC RECOMMENDATION REGARDING FLORES AVENUE CONSTRUCTION FUNDS: Commissioner Willard motioned that this item be postponed and focus on expediting the response or inquiry to Caltrans regarding the programming for the Flores Project. Second by Commissioner Turner and suggested a status report be given at the October meeting. Motion carried 5-0 with 1 absent.
7. TAC RECOMMENDS AN RTIP AMENDMENT: Commissioner Willard motioned that this item be postponed and focus on expediting the response or inquiry to Caltrans regarding the programming for the Flores Project. Second by Commissioner Turner and suggested a report be given at the October meeting on the status. Motion carried 5-0 with 1 absent.
8. RE-AUTHORIZE OF TEA-21 AND POTENTIAL DEMO PROJECTS: Kevin Rosser, Environmental Planner stated, the last time the re-authorization came around for the TEA, it took 2-years from the time people issued potential projects (such as Flores) to the time it was actually authorized. Now we are within an 18-month window between now and the next time it is authorized. The TAC has 6-projects listed and

requests the Commission identify any projects not listed or any concerns related to demo projects.

Commissioner Willard motioned that given the requirements that we are looking at, the South Avenue Interchange and the South Main Street Interchange is a potential for positive work, if restructured. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

9. **PLANNING, PROGRAMMING & MONITORING UPDATE:** Kevin Rosser, Environmental Planner, discussed the update of Quincy Engineering as requested by the Commission. Quincy Engineering has invoiced \$92,756 and \$72,313 is remaining. It was stated that the remaining funds are not expected to be used. The new Transportation Planner will be dedicated to this project.

It was questioned by Commissioner Turner where the remaining funds will be allocated. Staff answered that in the budget, there is a significant decrease in 2% PPM monies to the consultant and those monies are being used to pay the salary of the new Planner.

10. **ADOPTION OF THE 2002/2003 FINAL BUDGET:** Mark Moses Assistant Director of Public Works - Administration, reminded the TCTC that the action on this item will approve the first 4-pages of the items presented for Administrative Budget (LTF, STA, RSTP, OWP & Administration). Transit Operations will be reviewed by this Commission and make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for their approval on September 17, 2002. Mr. Moses proceeded to review the budget information.

Commissioner Turner questioned if the short funding included VanTrans. Examining the budget \$143,310.13 to Red Bluff and nothing from City of Corning, the City of Red Bluff is basically paying for the whole program. Mark Moses answered that 50% is paid by the City of Red Bluff and 50% by the County.

Continued discussion of eliminating the program proceeded and Barbara O'Keeffe answered that there is a focus on providing the fixed route service, increased fixed routes within Red Bluff, and the shifting of ambulatory, able people to TRAX versus VanTrans. Staff is currently working with the City and County on the schedule. This will be brought back to the Commission at a later date.

Commissioner Turner questioned that if the \$143,310.13 paid by Red Bluff/County, would no longer be pulled out, will it go into the General Fund and allocated to transportation? Mark Moses answered that this was discussed with City Manager's previously, and no decision has been made as yet.

Chairperson Stevens said that any entity, whether the City of Red Bluff or the City of Corning, that transit is a county-wide project. The object eventually is to increase ridership with TRAX, serving more of the County. As time goes along, public transportation is important. From the prospective of having the City of Red Bluff end up with a large bill, if you ride VanTrans you know that it goes into county areas and brings them into the City. They get off the main route, they take TRAX. As we go through this whole process, remember the person that is ambulatory, but to what extent. If not able to get to a TRAX stop, they need other transportation. We do not want to forget these riders.

Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Warner to adopt the final 2002/2003

budget. Motion carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

11. **SECOND PUBLIC HEARING AND UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS FINDINGS ADOPTION:** Chairman Stevens opened the second public hearing for unmet transit needs at 9:55 a.m. With no testimony, the public hearing was closed at 9:55 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Turner to waive the reading and adopt Resolution 21-2002 and accept as presented. Second by Commissioner Warner. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

Motion by Commissioner Warner and second by Commissioner Willard to rescind Resolution 17-2002. Motion carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

12. **SALE OF THREE COUNTY TRANSIT VEHICLES:** Motion by Commissioner Turner and second by Commissioner Willard as to the sale of three county surplus transit vehicles in accordance with county policy, to the Board of Supervisors.

Motion by Commissioner Willard to recommend that any party purchasing the vehicles is required to paint vehicles as a method of removing existing logos and transit names AND recommend that funds from sale of these vehicles be used to purchase a hydraulic bus lift and to provide the matching funds for the RTSGP grant vehicle by the City of Red Bluff. Second by Commissioner Russell and carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

14. **CLAIMS/WARRANTS FOR JUNE AND JULY:** Motion by Commissioner Willard and second by Commissioner Turner to: approve June Warrants \$365,147.10; June Claims \$616.98; July Warrants \$342,440.11 and July Claims \$646.02. Motion carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

15. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.