

TEHAMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2002

Present: Commissioners': Larry Stevens; George Russell; Charles Willard; Ron Warner and Ross Turner (8:26 a.m.) Absent: Rex Roush.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry Stevens at 8:12 a.m.
2. Approval of August 20, 2002 minutes: Motion by Commissioner Willard and second by Commissioner Warner to approve the August 20, 2002 minutes. Carried 4-0 with 2 absent.
3. Public Comment: None
4. Announcements:
  - Bus Shelters have been installed in Corning, Los Molinos, and Tehama Transportation Planning Grants due to Caltrans November 1, 2002  
CTC is scheduled to take action on all STIP Amendments October 2-3  
October 1, Tuesday at 8:00 am is the next Commission meeting (Board meeting for 3rd Tuesday in Oct. was canceled)
5. MET's Program: Barbara O'Keeffe informed the Commissioners it was the opinion of the SSTAC that they would like to see a sliding scale with regard to MET's and self certification of income level needed. They requested information on: the number of denials and projected increase if current ineligible were eligible to use the service. The two major issues are funding and eligibility criteria. Regarding funding, partnership with other agencies could be developed. SSTAC feels the eligibility criteria is too restrictive and has identified individuals below the national poverty level who would be unable to pay for the service.

SSTAC will meet in October after the Commission meeting. They may have recommendations in November.

Commissioner Russell appreciated the phone survey reaction to changing the free service. The program is needed and hopefully through voluntary contributions and self-certification, it will continue. He also stated that other programs do self-certification and it will decrease paperwork and staff time.

Chairman Stevens commented on the volunteer drivers and an adverse effect with increased service. At present, staff acknowledged this is an issue to be discussed at the SSTAC. One of the transit divisions goal is to recruit five new volunteers on an annual basis which was achieved in the 01/02 Fiscal Year.

Commissioner Warner would like to see safeguards to prevent abuse of the system.

Commissioner Willard added that one thing that should be examined in the survey would be, what is the end destination as a way of targeting and defraying cost. Identify those individuals that go to radiation, dialysis and possibly partner with those facilities. The 5013c would not be the way to go.

Commissioner Turner entered.

6. VanTrans Transition Meeting with the City of Red Bluff: Barbara O’Keeffe informed the Commission of the August meeting with, Susie Price, Larry Stevens, Gary Plunkett, Bill Brashears and Paratransit representatives, with regard to VanTrans transition. Information was shared and the goal of the meeting was to gain understanding of the expectations of the City and the information that would be helpful. Increased routes in Red Bluff with half-hour loops and bring the cost to \$.50 were discussed. Increased fares in phases could cause the public to seek a less expensive ride, but is it the desire of the Commission to say the service is no longer available to the public?

Commissioner Willard stated that the system has been modified since its conception. At this point, we are moving towards a new view of integrated transportation covering the range of MET’s, VanTrans, and Paratrans should be done.

Commissioner Turner added the economic implications indicate a termination date be set. Presently, we are subsidizing two entities to provide the same service.

7. 2001/02 Year End Reports for MET’s TRAX and VanTrans: In October, Barbara O’Keeffe informed the Commission that the alternative performance criteria will be brought back before the Commission for review. Points discussed regarding the year end reports were: TRAX is up by 3%; VanTrans has significantly decreased in trips; MET’s usage is about the same.
8. 2002/03 Budget Resolution: Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Turner to approve the 02/03 Budget Resolution 22-2002 and waive the reading. Carried by those present 5-0 with 1 absent.
9. Salt Creek Overflow Bridges on State Route 99E: Commissioner Willard addressed the Commissioners and discussed a meeting with Caltrans District 2 concerning three small, narrow bridges with striping on the side for walking approximately 18 inches. Though Caltrans felt there was no reason for concern, Commissioner Willard presented a letter for secondary construction consideration in hopes this would bring about safer pedestrian travel. Commissioner Willard motioned to approve the correspondence be sent to Brian Crane, District Director of the Department of Transportation as presented. Second by Commissioner Warner and carried 5-0 with 1 absent.
10. GIS Update: Dorothy Watkins of the Public Works Department, updated the Commission on the various areas the GIS mapping is assisting departments. Implementation of the GIS system in Corning, Department of Agriculture, DWR Northern and Central District, Assessor’s Office, Flooding and bridge weight limits. Much has been accomplished and the data will be an asset to the County. Ms. Watkins did point out that data for the west side of the County needed to be completed.

Commissioner Willard inquired as to the estimated cost. Staff estimated a range of \$40,000 to \$50,000.

11. Flores Avenue Update: Gerry Brownfield, Deputy Director, reviewed what was discussed at the PDT September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. FHWA commented “we are moving too fast” and wanted us to consider more alternatives. Under the NEPA process, you must examine the least impact alternative. We started this process in 2000 with the Corps of Engineers, presented to them our Purpose & Need and had a pre-application meeting. A,B,C,D, and E alternatives were presented and some were eliminated. The Corps requested re-examination of sites to find better alternatives. Due to the Anchordoguy property being agriculturally farmed, it would always have vernal species, no matter how many studies are done. Another meeting with FHWA is scheduled and in three months a second step pre-application meeting will be scheduled with the Corps. Presentation of the two alternatives and concurrence for mitigation of wetlands will be requested so that we can return to the Board of Supervisors for a decision.

Commissioner Turner questioned the status of the new connection report and staff answered it has been submitted to Caltrans for review.

12. Claims: Motion by Commissioner Turner and second by Commissioner Warner to approve the Claims of \$128,595.02 as presented. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.
13. Adjourn: With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:23 a.m.