

TEHAMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING OF OCTOBER 21, 2008

Present: Commissioners': Ron Warner; George Russell; Gary Strack; Charles Willard; Dan Irving; Robert Christison. Also present: Executive Director Gary Antone; Barbara O'Keeffe, Transit Manager.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order with the pledge of allegiance at 8:34 a.m. by Chairman Ron Warner.
2. **APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2008 MINUTES:** Motion by Commissioner Christison and second by Commissioner Irving to approve the September 16, 2008 minutes. Carried 6-0 with 0 absent.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
 - Norm Gruver, Lake California resident, thanked the Commissioners, Staff and Gary Antone of Public Works for the Lake California bridge project. The paving of Lake California Drive is in the works and the community will assist in any way to move this project along.
 - Sherri Shultz of RTR thanked the Commissioners for bringing transportation to the rural areas of the County and Rancho Tehama.
 - Joy Gifford, General Manager Paratransit Services thanked the Commission for adopting the Transit Policy. As of yesterday, 146 rides and 72 year olds were riding the bus.
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - Barbara O'Keeffe introduced John Balenski, District 2 Director.
 - Next meeting December 16, 2008
 - Display of new mini vans at the December meeting along with the adoption of the Coordinated Public Transit Plan.
5. **INTRODUCTION OF NEW CALTRANS PROJECT MANAGER:** Barbara O'Keeffe introduced Steve Rogers, Project Manager of District 2.

Steve Rogers discussed the Los Molinos and South Avenue projects and his past history with Caltrans.
6. **CHANGES TO DRAFT PLAN & PUBLIC HEARING FOR COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT:** Barbara O'Keeffe thanked the Commissioners' and participants in the audience and reviewed the Coordinated Plan.

The plan is critical to be eligible for FTA dollars. There were 23 rural counties that needed to prepare their plans. A consultant was hired by Caltrans to assist in our efforts, and school districts coordinated, such as Corning, to provide service to Rancho Tehama. The Plan is an opportunity to identify what the County can do. Barbara continued review of changes in the draft Plan.

Commissioner Russell questioned what was the source of the “no statutory limitations on school districts.” Historically you could not use buses for anything other than transporting students.

Barbara O’Keefe referred to footnotes on Page 7-6 identifying John Green, California Department of Education, regarding this issue.

Commissioner Russell stated staff will need a legal opinion. The State contributes to the purchase of school buses and they do not like miles put on busses for anything but students.

Sherri Shultz, Director of the Rancho Tehama Rural Association (RTR) said she received responses from those who would like bus service in RTR. They would like to have a TRAX bus for the general population and not mix them with school children. There are 52 miles of road and only 30 are paved. RTR would like to have a bus at the entrance of the ranch for pick up of riders.

Commissioner Irving questioned the issue of transporting students along with general public. The issue could be the school districts decision and not ours. Staff agreed that this needs to be approved by the school district and is only a plan.

Commissioner Strack discussed after school activities that could be tied with people going back from work and commingling.

Barbara O’Keefe added it is an opportunity for TRAX to provide that trip to RTR allowing after school activities for students. This also is documented in the Plan.

Executive Director Gary Antone said that the Plan provides a point of discussion which pulls partners together, to see who can work with who in the community, and to achieve the service we are trying to get in a legal and effective manner.

Commissioner Willard referred to the first page of the document stating the pages say possibilities and not commitment. This does not mean we will do them, but there are possibilities.

Barbara O’Keefe said that Corning and other school districts have shortages of drivers. At times, if a driver is needed, they can call TRAX for an alternate driver.

Commissioner Russell questioned that the requirement is a formulation of this Plan. Are

there any other requirements after the Plan is coordinated to implement this Plan?

Barbara O’Keeffe replied that the Plan must be in place first. There may be update requirements, but we are meeting the current requirements of SAFETEA-LU.

With no other questions, the Public Hearing closed at 9:08 a.m.

7. **RESOLUTION 15-2008 BLUEPRINT FUNDING CYCLE FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009:** Barbara O’Keeffe discussed the award of \$85,000 from the estimated \$159,000 Blueprint application. A supplemental request for funding was encouraged by the Great Valley Center, and staff resubmitted the 07/08 application with minor modifications.

Motion by Commissioner Russell, second by Commissioner Christison to approve Resolution 15-2008 Blueprint Funding Cycle fiscal year 2008-2009.

8. **DISCUSSION OF RE-AUTHORIZATION OF FEDERAL HIGHWAY BILL & AUTHORIZE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN LETTER TO SENATOR BOXER:** Barbara O’Keeffe reviewed the expiration of the SAFETEA-LU. Senator Boxer is Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee. The comment letter allows input for the County and to insure appreciation is given for her efforts and working with RCRC. With the revenue shortfall we need to weigh-in and indexing was discussed. Specific to California, a goods movement program was also discussed due to pollution and damage to roadways. After elections, Senator Boxer will have other meetings.

Commissioner Willard requested the letter be modified to include the City or Agency names on the letterhead.

It was the consensus of the Commission to include this change and staff will modify the document for the Chairman to sign.

Motion by Commissioner Russell to approve the correspondence to Senator Boxer with the above mentioned improvement. Second by Commissioner Strack and carried by those present, 6-0.

Commissioner Russell discussed the varied opinions of flat tax or indexing of the gas tax. It is impressive the number of communities that have decided to add to their taxes in order to improve roads.

9. **RESOLUTION 16-2008 ADOPTION OF TCTC MANAGEMENT LETTER AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:** Motion by Commissioner Russell, second by Commissioner Strack to adopt resolution 16-2008 TCTC management letter and financial statements. Carried 6-0 with 0 absent.

10. **RESOLUTION 17-2008 AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT WITH R.J. RICCIARDI, CPA FOR 2007/2008 TRANSIT AUDIT REPORTS:** The audit was reviewed by Barbara O’Keeffe. R.J. Ricciardi, CPA has completed audits for

the department for several years.

Motion by Russell, second by Commissioner Irving to approve resolution 17-2008 authorizing Executive Director to sign the agreement with R.J. Ricciardi, CPA for 07/08 Transit Audit reports.

11. **LAKE CALIFORNIA BRIDGE PROJECT:** Barbara O’Keeffe discussed the federally funded bridge that is close to completion. The Commissioners thanked those involved and Commissioner Willard thanked Lake California residents for their participation.
12. **RESOLUTION 18-2008 AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL 08/09 PROP 1B DOCUMENTS:** Barbara O’Keeffe discussed the process for submitting the paperwork and thanked those involved.

Motion by Commissioner Christison and second by Commissioner Strack to adopt resolution 18-2008 authorizing submittal 08/09 Prop 1B documents. Carried 6-0 with 0 absent.

13. **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:** Motion by Commissioner Willard, second by Commissioner Russell to approve the claims in the amount of \$89,697. Carried 6-0.
14. **ADJOURN:** With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.