

TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCY  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Executive Minutes – June 15, 2009

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Alternates</u>	<u>Present Member/Alternate</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Allen Ishida	Walter Stammer, Jr.	<u>M/A</u>	Tulare County-Dist. 1
Pete Vander Poel	William Cushing	<u>A</u>	Tulare County-Dist. 2
Phil Cox	Bill Whitlatch	<u>M</u>	Tulare County-Dist. 3
Steve Worthley	Ray Millard	<u>M</u>	Tulare County-Dist. 4
Mike Ennis	Judi Gibbons	<u>M</u>	Tulare County-Dist. 5
Terry McKittrick	Joey Morales	<u>A</u>	City of Dinuba
Jack Allwardt	Ted Macaulay	<u>M</u>	City of Exeter
Paul Boyer	Mike Santana	<u>M</u>	City of Farmersville
Pamela Kimball	Steve Velasquez	<u>M</u>	City of Lindsay
Felipe Martinez	Pete Martinez	<u>M</u>	City of Porterville
Richard Ortega	Phil Vandegrift	<u>M</u>	City of Tulare
Bob Link	Jesus Gamboa	<u>M</u>	City of Visalia
Rudy Mendoza	Raul Gonzalez, Jr.	<u>M</u>	City of Woodlake
Bill McKinley	J. Michael Lane	<u>M</u>	Member-at-Large
Bob Zimmerman	Bob Stocker	<u>M/A</u>	Member-at-Large
Tom Sparks	Gil Jaramillo	<u>M</u>	Member-at-Large
Malcolm Dougherty	Jim Perrault	<u>A</u>	Caltrans

STAFF

Ted Smalley	Executive Director	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Elizabeth Wright	Senior Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Eddie Wendt	Associate Regional Planner		TCAG
Marvin Demmers	Associate Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Ben Giuliani	Senior Regional Planner		TCAG
Mark Hays	Associate Regional Planner		TCAG
Ramon Lara	Associate Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Christine Chavez	Regional Planner		TCAG
Jason Waters	Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Vicenta Jaimez	Office Assistant		TCAG
Colleen Potts	Secretary III	<u>P</u>	TCAG

## **I. Call to Order & Welcome**

The Transportation Policy Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Ennis at 1:00 p.m. on June 15, 2009

Chair Ennis extended a welcome to William Cushing, Alternate Member, Tulare County-District 2.

Chair Ennis requested that Item III-G be pulled from the consent calendar and moved to Action/Discussion items.

Upon motion by Member Ortega and seconded by Member Martinez, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved to move item III-G from Consent to Action/Discussion.

## **II. Public Comments**

None

## **III. Transportation Consent Calendar**

### **Request Approval of the Transportation Consent Calendar (Items III-A through III-F)**

- A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Reaffirm 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No. 9**
- B. Information: Draft 2009-10 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) and Draft State Transit Assistance Fund (STA) Apportionments**
- C. Action: Adoption of Resolutions: State and Federal Governmental Advocacy Services Contract Renewals for Fiscal Year 2009/10**
- D. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve the Nomination and Reappointment of Members to the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)**
- E. Action: Ratify Letter of Support for Central Valley Transportation Center**
- F. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Amending the Agreement with Pressley and Associates, Inc. to conduct additional work for the Tulare County Association of Governments Fiscal Audit for fiscal years (FY) 2007/08 and 2008/09**
- G. Information: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Project Update**
- H. Information: High Priority Project Update**

Upon motion by Member Ortega and seconded by Member Martinez, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the Transportation Consent Calendar Items III-A through III-F.

#### **IV. Transportation Action/Discussion Items**

##### **A. Presentation: TCAG's Make a Difference in Air Quality Essay/Poster Contest Winners 2008/2009**

Ms. Wright provided awards to the contest winners and recognized the sponsors.

##### **B. Presentation: Transportation Partnering with Resource Management Agency Redevelopment**

Bill Hayter presented on projects and explained the benefits of transportation partnering.

##### **C. Presentation: Rail Advisory Committee**

Pam Kimball provided an educational rail presentation that explains the importance of preserving rail.

##### **D. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Selection of Consultant for Preparation of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the 2010 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)**

Mr. Smalley discussed the resolution to select a consultant to prepare the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the 2010 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Four firms submitted proposals. Through set scoring criteria staff recommends that the Board choose VRPA.

Discussion ensued over scoring criteria.

Upon motion by Member Ortega and seconded by Member Link, the Board unanimously approved the resolution to select VRPA to prepare the EIR for the 2010 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

##### **E. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Selection of Consultant to Perform the 2010 Triennial Performance Audit of TCAG and the Local Transit Agencies**

Mr. Demmers discussed the resolution to select a consultant to perform the 2010 Triennial Performance Audit of TCAG and the Local Transit Agencies. Four firms submitted proposals. None of the firms were local. Through set scoring criteria staff recommends that the Board choose PMC.

Upon motion by Member Martinez and seconded by Member Mendoza, the Board unanimously approved the selection of PMC to perform the 2010 Triennial Performance Audit of TCAG and the Local Transit Agencies.

##### **F. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Selection of Preferred 511 Implementation Alternative**

Chair Ennis requested that this item be pulled and brought back to the Board once more information is collected.

## **G. Action: Adoption of Resolution: 2008/2009 Unmet Transit Needs Findings**

Mr. Demmers provided information for the resolution to approve the 2008-09 Unmet Transit Needs Findings. Mr. Demmers detailed a list of “Unmet Transit Needs Reasonable to Meet,” “Unmet Needs Found Not to be Reasonable to Meet” and “Not an Unmet Need But is Requiring Other Action”. Mr. Demmers stated that some of the items listed under “Not an Unmet Need But is Requiring Other Action” are an issue of the public not understanding how the public transportation system works. TCAG will be working with community members to provide substantial outreach to rural communities.

Upon motion by Member Cox and seconded by Member Worthley, the Board unanimously approved the resolution for the 2008/2009 Unmet Transit Needs Findings

## **H Action: Adoption of Resolutions: Positions on Proposed Legislation**

Ms. Wright provided details on four proposed legislation.

Senate Bill 406 (DeSaulnier) -Metropolitan Planning Organization’s (MPO) are in support of SB SB 406 (DeSaulnier) if amended to require the state to impose fees. The League of California Cities opposes this bill stating that MPO’s should not impose taxes.

Discussion ensued over members concern for raising taxes.

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Martinez, the Board unanimously voted to stay neutral on Senate Bill 406 (DeSaulnier)

ACA 15 (Arambula)-Reduces the voter approval threshold for special taxes to 55%. Staff recommends supporting this to benefit the region.

Discussion ensued over the percentage and asked that it be supported if amended to 60%.

Upon motion by Member Ishida and seconded by Member Allwardt, the Board voted to support ACA 15 (Arambula) if amended to 60%. Member Martinez opposed ACA 15 (Arambula).

Assembly Bill 949 (Logue) has been pulled.

SB 716 (Wolk) This bill would redefine “rural areas” and would affect many of our surrounding counties. If passed these counties would no longer be able to use Local Transportation Funds (LTF) for streets and roads.

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Martinez, the Board unanimously voted to oppose SB 716 (Wolk).

**I. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Redetermination of Conformity for the 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No. 3 and RTP Amendment No. 1**

Ms. Wright provided details for the resolution for redetermination of conformity for the 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No. 3 and RTP Amendment No. 1. San Joaquin Council prepared Amendment No. 10 to their 2009 FTIP and 2007 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Amending No. 4. San Joaquin added a capacity increasing project to their RTP which triggered a valley-wide conformity analysis. TCAG is not making any other transportation planning changes at this time.

Upon motion by Member Ishida and seconded by Member Zimmerman, the Board unanimously voted to adopt the resolution to Redetermination of Conformity for the 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No. 3 and RTP Amendment No. 1

**J. Information: Update on Proposed San Joaquin Valley Railroad (SJVR) Rail Abandonment**

Vice Chair Kimball, Member Sparks and Alternate Member Stocker provided a presentation and update on the SJVR abandonment.

The presentation will be provided to all member agencies. Mr. Stocker included that support from elected officials is important and asked for assistance in training the agencies.

The Business Plan should be received by Craig MB before the next TCAG Board meeting. It includes many good recommendations.

**K. Information: Status of State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Allocations and 2008 STIP Update**

Mr. Smalley provided a status of the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Allocation and 2008 Update. At the last STIP meeting they voted to amend the STIP to include shifting money around for Plaza Drive and Road 180 and was approved by the CTC. This change includes placing 16 million dollars in funding on Road 180 phase 2009/10 and Plaza Drive funds to 2010/11, at the request of the city and county, to accommodate construction schedule.

The City of Visalia received allocation for the Packwood Creek trail project. They withdrew their request for extension.

The CTC meeting was overshadowed by the budget. There is a lot of uncertainty and there is potential to suspend, borrow or take away transportation dollars. The status of Prop 42 is uncertain. The latest information is that it would not be suspended, however, information changes rapidly. We have 50 million in programming funds on Road 180 and Plaza Drive construction that could be affected if Prop 42 is suspended.

## **L. Caltrans Monthly Report**

Mr. Perrault provided a Caltrans update.

Winners for the Safe Route to School program will be announced in July. Mr. Perrault said to contact him if there are any questions.

Route 198, six lane widening project is being advertised today and the application deadline is August 5th. Construction should start in September and will take two to two and a half years to complete.

Route 99, Goshen to Kingsburg, is in the last stages of design. The right-away is scheduled to begin in January 2010 and will go to construction in July or August of next year.

Stage 1C of the Mooney Boulevard project is almost completed. They hope to have it completed before the holidays.

## **M. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Formation of the Tulare County High Speed Rail Committee**

Mr. Waters provided information for the resolution for the formation of the Tulare County High Speed Rail Committee (TCHSR Committee). Member agencies requested that TCAG form the TCHSR Committee. It will consist of two elected representatives from the City of Tulare; the City of Visalia and the County. The focus is to help ensure a station stop within Tulare County and other issues pertinent to high speed rail.

Upon motion by Member Ortega and seconded by Member Martinez, the Board unanimously voted to adopt the resolution to approve the formation of the Tulare County High Speed Rail Committee (TCHSR Committee)

## **N. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve the formation of the 2010 Census Complete County Committee (CCC)**

Ms. Pilegard provided information for the resolution to form a 2010 Census Complete County Committee (CCC). This Committee is for Census outreach and fiscally is very important.

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Ortega, the Board unanimously voted to adopt the resolution to approve the formation of the 2010 Census Complete County Committee (CCC)

## **V. REQUEST TO REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Upon motion by Member Mendoza and seconded by Member McKinley, the Board unanimously reaffirmed all actions taken while sitting as the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee.

**VI. Association Consent Calendar**

**Request Approval of the Association Consent Calendar (Items VI-A through VI- B)**

- A. Action: Minutes of May 18, 2009 Board Meeting
- B. Action: Summary of May 14, 2009 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- C. Information: Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) 2008-09 Third Quarter Report

Upon motion by Member Ishida and seconded by Member Link, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the Association Consent Calendar.

**VII. Association Action/Discussion Items**

- A. Information: Blueprint and Regional Targets Advisory Committee (RTAC) Update

Ms. Wright provided information for the Blueprint and Regional Targets Advisory Committee (RTAC).

RTAC continues to meet twice a month to discuss factors for setting greenhouse targets for the state's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO). They will be making recommendations in September of this year. Staff will share information as it is provided.

The eight Valley COGs are having their first annual Blueprint awards program. Awards will be handed out at the Fall Policy Conference scheduled October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. They will be using the 12 principals for the Blueprint as criteria for the awards.

**B. Closed Session**

Nothing at this time

**VIII. Correspondence**

None

**IX. Other Business**

**A. Information: Items from Staff**

1. Mr. Smalley informed the Board that the Caltrans Obligation Report indicates that Tulare County has done very well and has over 102% of projects obligated. Mr. Smalley suggested that agencies continue with projects until Caltrans directs otherwise.
2. Mr. Smalley informed the Board that, due to being busy in retirement, J. Michael Lane resigned as a TCAG alternate.
3. Mr. Smalley informed the Board of the sad news of Kirck Lindsey's passing.

**B. Information: Items from Board Members**

1. Information: Tulare County Water Commission.

Mr. Ishida provided an update on the Tulare County Water Commission. The next meeting is scheduled Monday at the BOS at 4:00 p.m. There is a great deal of support for the disadvantaged communities, however, funding is unclear. Mr. Ishida suggested that cities in Tulare County rally support for the water issues in our region. Fresno County is going to Washington D.C. for this reason. While they haven't requested letters of support, Mr. Ishida stated that, in his experience, it's good to go with resolutions showing support. He suggested that letters of support be sent to Fresno County.

**C. Request from Board Members for future agenda items**

None

**ADJOURN AS THE TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS AND  
CONVENE AS THE TULARE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY.**

TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

TULARE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

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Phil Cox	Bill Whitlatch	<u>M</u>	Tulare County-Dist. 3
Steve Worthley	Ray Millard	<u>M</u>	Tulare County-Dist. 4
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Jack Allwardt	Ted Macaulay	<u>M</u>	City of Exeter
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Jason Waters	Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Vicenta Jaimez	Office Assistant	<u></u>	TCAG
Colleen Potts	Secretary	<u>P</u>	TCAG

**X. Transportation Authority Consent Calendar**  
**Request approval of the Authority Consent Calendar (Item X-A- X-B)**

A. Action: Minutes of May 18, 2009 Authority Meeting

B. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Amending the Agreement with Pressley and Associates, Inc. to conduct additional work for the Measure R Fiscal Audits for fiscal years (FY) 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 (**Pages 155 - 158**)

Upon motion by Member Ortega and seconded by Alternate Member Morales, the Tulare County Transportation Authority unanimously approved the Authority Consent Calendar.

**XI. AUTHORITY ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Amendment No. 2 to the 2008 Measure R Strategic Work Plan**

Mr. Smalley provided information to the Board to adopt a resolution to amend No. 2 to the Measure R Strategic Work Plan. Amendment No. 2 is necessary to keep the Avenue 416 Bridge project on schedule. Caltrans has been asked to release funding for design and Caltrans has indicated a bridge construction list will come out within the next two months. To keep the project on schedule it has become necessary to advance money to the County. Staff is proposing to advance \$1.8 million in fiscal year 2008/09 and \$2.2 million in fiscal year 2010/11 of Measure R funds for design to match the federal funding of the Avenue 416 Bridge project.

Upon motion by Member Worthley, and seconded by Member Mendoza, the Tulare County Transportation Authority unanimously approved the adoption of resolution to Amendment No. 2 to the 2008 Measure R Strategic Work Plan.

**B. Information: Measure R Update**

Mr. Lara provided a Measure R update. Fiscal year 2008/09 Measure R allocations have been received and distributed from July through May. Allocations in the amount of \$1,971,700.00 were received in the month of May. Overall, \$22,070,587.61 has been received for the current fiscal year compared to \$22,619,625.77 at this time last year. A final clean-up report will be received.

**C. CLOSED SESSION**

**XI. Authority Action/Discussion Items**

**A. Information: Measure R Update**

Mr. Lara provided a Measure R update. Allocations in the amount of \$1,946,323.13 were received for the month of March. Overall, \$18,620,087.41 has been received for the current fiscal year compared to \$18,936,799.81 at this time last year. Measure R funds have now been significantly impacted by the economy. Staff is looking at ways to supplement the decrease and to keep projects on track.

**B. Closed Session**

**XII. Other Business**

**A. Information: Items from Staff**

None

**B. Information: Items from the Board**

None

**C. Information: Requests from Board Members for future agenda items**

None

**XIII. Adjourn**

Adjourn as the Tulare County Transportation Authority at 3:05 p.m. The next TCAG/Transportation Authority Board meeting will be held July 16, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the City of Tulare/Claude Meitzenheimer Community Center, 830 South Blackstone St., Tulare, CA 93274