

TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCY
 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Executive Minutes – January 25, 2010

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Alternates</u>	<u>Present</u> <u>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>M</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	Mark Wallace	<u>M</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> </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	Vacant	<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
Brian Everson	Sharri Bender-Ehlert	<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	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Marvin Demmers	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Ben Giuliani	Senior Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Mark Hays	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Ramon Lara	Associate Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Roberto Brady	Associate Regional Planner	<u> </u>	TCAG
Christine Chavez	Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Jason Waters	Regional Planner	<u>P</u>	TCAG
Michal Mierzwinski	Accountant II	<u> </u>	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 January 25, 2010.

II. Public Comments

None

III. Transportation Consent Calendar

Request Approval of the Transportation Consent Calendar (Items III-A through III-C)

- A. Action: Adoption of Resolutions: Approve the Transportation Development Act (TDA) claims for the City of Lindsay and the City of Tulare for Fiscal Year 2009-10**
- B. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Reaffirm 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment No. 18**
- C. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Appoint Members to the TCAG Rail Advisory Committee**
- D. Information: County of Tulare Transit Infrastructure Plan**
- E. Information: 2010 Unmet Needs Public Hearing Dates**
- F. Information: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Project Update**

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

IV. Transportation Action/Discussion Items

- A. Presentation: Allensworth High Speed Rail (HSR) Maintenance Facility

Mr. Lee provided a presentation on a High Speed Rail (HSR) Maintenance Facility in Allensworth. Mr. Lee requested support.

- B. Public Hearing: 2010 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)

Mr. Wendt opened the public hearing. There were no public comments and the hearing was closed.

- C. Action: Adoption of Resolution: 2010 Regional Transportation Improvement Plan (RTIP)

Mr. Wendt provided information on the 2010 (RTIP). As a requirement of the California Transportation Commission, a list of projects must be submitted to CTC by February 12th for inclusion into the STIP. Due to projects being over-programmed and less taxes revenues, the CTC requested that projects be reduced by 30 percent. Mr. Wendt went over the details of the projects and delays. Mr. Smalley added that the valley has worked together, along with Caltrans, to strategically move projects around to be in a position for potential stimulus money.

Upon motion by Member McKittrick and seconded by Member Link, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee approved the 2010 Regional Transportation Improvement Plan RTIP. Member Martinez opposed.

- D. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve submission of an appropriations request in the FY 2011 Federal Appropriations Bill

Mr. Giuliani provided details on the recommended projects to be submitted for the 2011 Federal Appropriations Bill. The amount of the proposed request totals \$1.5 million to be used on SR-198 corridor improvements and SR-198/Plaza Drive Interchange.

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Mendoza, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee unanimously approved the submission of an appropriations request in FY 2011 Federal Appropriations Bill.

- E. Action: Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update and provide direction for potential greenhouse gas mitigation measures

Mr. Giuliani provided a list of strategies that TCAG supports and has been using to address potential greenhouse gas mitigation measures and, as an example, the steps Fresno COG has used to address this issue. Mr. Giuliani requested suggestions to include in the final RTP. Members commented that they agree with the steps being taken by staff.

- F. Information: Legislative Update

Ms. Wright provided a legislative update. A presentation was provided at the workshop regarding the "Main Street Jobs Bill" (Stimulus 2). Ms. Wright provided information on the Governors State Budget proposal that would have a negative impact on transportation funding. Staff will be following the state budget and will report back to the Board.

- G. Information: Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) CalVans a public transit agency

Ms. Chavez provided information on a draft JPA with CalVans. A JPA will enable TCAG to have representation on the CalVans Board. Among other benefits, participating in CalVans will benefit TCAG by helping to improve air quality. Ms. Chavez invited Ron Hughes to speak on the benefits of CalVans and a JPA. Mr. Hughes added that there will be no additional costs by obtaining a JPA. County Counsel is in the process of reviewing the JPA. Ms. Chavez will bring the JPA back to the Board when approved by County Counsel.

- H. Information: Rail Update

Mr. Sparks provided a rail update. The Negotiation Team met with Rail America and Patriot Rail. The meetings exceeded their expectations and further discussion is anticipated. Mr. Stocker stated that a formal business plan is needed that includes such topics as reimbursing Measure R funds. Mr. Sparks added that staff is working on an RFP and it should be completed soon. Mr. Smalley added that staff is working with the Rail Advisory Committee to use Federal funds and there are strict guidelines. Member Ishida added that, while Fresno State did a great job, a consultant is needed to work on the business plan.

- I. Information: High Speed Rail Update

Mr. Waters provided a High Speed Rail update. Staff and elected officials in Kings and Tulare counties continue to work together to secure a regional station in Kings County. Three station scenarios were presented to the High Speed Rail Authority. Due to its proximity to Highway 198 and 43, the preferred location seems to be the "Central Station". The Authority continues to look at different station scenarios and will be working with TCAG and local staff as the process continues.

- J. Information: Air Quality Update

Ms. Wright provided the deadlines and requirements for Rule 9410-Employer Based Trip Reduction and the Environmental Protection Agency proposed new ozone limits.

- K. Information: Caltrans Monthly Report

Ms. Bender-Ehlert provided a Caltrans update. Good news, all ARRA local funds have been obligated. Bad news, about only half of the projects has been awarded. The Federal Government is looking for projects to go to construction. It is suggested that this might be why the language is changing in the second stimulus bill.

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

Upon motion by Member Mendoza and seconded by Member Vander Poel, 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-C)

- A. Minutes of December 14, 2009 Board Meeting
- B. Summary of December 10, 2009 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- C. Local Clearing House Review, L.R. 2010-01: Ducor Community Services District water system

Upon motion by Member Worthley and seconded by Member Link, Item VI-A through VI-C of the Association Consent Calendar was approved. Member Boyer abstained from item VI.-C.

VII. Association Action/Discussion Items

- A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Appointment to the Tulare County Water Commission

Ms. Wright provided background on the need for an appointment to the Tulare County Water Commission.

Member Mendoza volunteered to be a member on the Tulare County Water Commission.

Upon motion by Member Martinez and seconded by Member Vander Poel, the Association unanimously appointed Rudy Mendoza to the Tulare County Water Commission.

VIII. Correspondence

None

IX. Other Business

- A. **Information: Items from Staff**

Chair Ennis approved staff's request to move the Sequoia bus project update to the February workshop.

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

Member Ishida provided an update on the Water Commission. There is a lot of information to sort out before support can be given to the proposed water bill. The Water Commission meets today at 4:00 p.m. in the BOS Chambers. Everyone is welcome. Member Mendoza stated that there was "standing room only at the water meeting today". Member Ishida added that it is important that all cities and county discuss the topic of water and the new bill.

- 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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Terry McKittrick	Joey Morales	<u>M</u>	City of Dinuba
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Richard Ortega	Phil Vandegrift	<u>M</u>	City of Tulare
Bob Link	vacant	<u>M</u>	City of Visalia
Rudy Mendoza	Raul Gonzalez, Jr.	<u>M</u>	City of Woodlake

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X. Transportation Authority Consent Calendar

Request approval of the Authority Consent Calendar (Item X-A through Item X-B)

- A. Action: Minutes of December 14, 2009 Authority Meeting
- B. Action: Ratify and approve access agreement with San Joaquin Valley Railroad (SJVR) for the purpose of negotiations re: the sale of the SJVR properties
- C. Information: Measure R Update

Upon motion by Vice Chair Kimball and seconded by Member McKittrick, the Tulare County Transportation Authority unanimously approved the Authority Consent Calendar.

XI. AUTHORITY ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Adopting Amendment No. 2 to the Measure R Expenditure Plan

Mr. Lara

Upon motion by Member Ishida and seconded by Vice Chair Kimball the Tulare County Transportation Authority voted to approve the Resolution adopting Amendment No. 2 to the Measure R Expenditure Plan. Member Vander Poel and Member Link opposed.

- B. Information: Santa Fe Trail Connection Update

Ms. Chavez provided an update on the Santa Fe Trail Connection. TCAG staff and RRM Design have been working together to address landowner concerns. A draft policy document has been reviewed by officials and presented to the landowners as an overview. A meeting hosted by the Tulare County Farm Bureau was held on December 14. A website on www.tcmeasurer.com has been set up for the Santa Fe Trail. A Public Workshop has been planned for January 28th. Ms. Chavez encouraged interested persons to attend.

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

Adjourn

Adjourn as the Tulare County Transportation Authority at 2:37 p.m. The next TCAG/Transportation Authority Board meeting will be held **Thursday, February 18, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.** at the Board of Supervisors Conference Rooms A & B, County Civic Center, Administration Building, Visalia, CA 93291