

JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE  
METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM (MTS),  
SAN DIEGO TRANSIT CORPORATION (SDTC), AND  
SAN DIEGO TROLLEY, INC. (SDTI)

October 27, 2005

Board of Directors Meeting Room, 10th Floor  
1255 Imperial Avenue, San Diego

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. A roll call sheet listing Board member attendance is attached.

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Emery moved to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2005, Board of Directors meeting with those corrections. Mr. Ewin seconded the motion, and the vote was 11 to 0 in favor.

3. Public Comments

*Chuck Lungerhausen:* Mr. Lungerhausen spoke in favor of purchasing additional low-floor trolley cars and retrofitting of stations to accommodate them as soon as possible. He also thanked Mr. Monroe for the compliment of considering him as an at-large MTS board member at the last Blue Ribbon Committee meeting. He stated that he thinks MTS has one of the best systems in the country.

*Don Stillwell:* Mr. Stillwell asked when information on the routes affected by the Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) will be available to the public. He stated it would be helpful to have this information prior to the public community meetings MTS is holding to review the COA. He also expressed concern that interested parties may have difficulty reaching some of the meeting locations by bus. Mr. Jablonski stated that information on the proposed service changes will be available in the near future. He added that MTS will be holding 18 public meetings over a 20-day period, and the service information will be available before those meetings commence.

*Bill Brenza, Allied Gardens Community Council, Navajo Planner, and Community Planners Advisory Committee on Transportation (COMPACT):* Mr. Brenza stated that he has been in contact with Mr. Don Stillwell regarding Route Nos. 13 and 14. He stated that he had letters from COMPACT, Kaiser Permanente, and the Allied Gardens Community Council requesting a reevaluation of service changes to Route Nos. 13 and 14 because of the negative impact the service changes have on elderly riders who are trying to access medical services at Kaiser. He also stated that he had a letter from Councilmember Jim Madaffer presenting a petition from

over 300 people who support the reevaluation of this service change. He requested that buses stop in front of Kaiser on Zion for at least some trips during the day.

4. Employee Awards

Distinguished Service Awards were presented to Train Operator Eleanor Soriano, Train Operator David Reddie, Controller Greg Pettit, and Security Officer Isiah Alexander. These four San Diego Trolley employees were recognized for working as a team to prevent the injury or death of a two-year-old boy who darted onto the train tracks at Convention Center Station. They also ensured that the child and his mother were delivered for safe keeping into the hands of the San Diego Police Department. They were recognized for their swift action and proactive stance in dealing with this situation. Mr. Jablonski advised the Board that the Police Department referred to these employees as true heroes. Chairman Williams stated that this should make the public proud of its public employees.

CONSENT ITEMS *(Taken Out of Order)*

6. MTS: Adoption of 2006 MTS Executive Committee and Board of Directors Meeting Schedule (ADM 110, PC 50101)

Recommend that the Board of Directors adopt the 2006 Executive Committee and Board of Directors Meeting Schedule (Attachment A of the agenda item).

7. SDTC: Bus Parts – Contract Award (OPS 960.2)

Recommend that the Board of Directors authorize the MTS Chief Operating Officer – Bus to execute multiple three-year contracts with two 1-year options (SDTC Doc. No. B04-010) to the following contractors who were the lowest responsive, responsible bidders (see Bid Summary – Attachment A of the agenda item) in their respective groups: (1) Miramar Ford Truck Sales for Group B (Bendix air brake parts) at a total contract amount not to exceed \$280,766.56; Group C (brake drums and shoes) at a total contract amount not to exceed \$498,177.92; and Group F (aluminum wheels) at a total contract amount not to exceed \$97,465.26; (2) San Diego Friction Products (Wetmore's) for Group D (Brake Pro brake linings) at a total contract amount not to exceed \$594,584.33; and (3) MCI Service Parts, Inc. for Group E (shocks and air suspensions) at a total contract amount not to exceed \$289,520.91.

8. MTS: Liability Claims Analysis Report (ADM 140, PC 50633)

Recommend that the Board of Directors receive the Liability Claims Analysis Report (Attachment A of the agenda item) for MTS, SDTC, and SDTI.

Recommended Consent Items

Mr. Rindone moved to approve Consent Agenda Item Nos. 6, 7, and 8. Mr. Monroe seconded the motion, and the vote was 12 to 0 in favor.

5. Closed Session Items (ADM 122)

The Board convened to Closed Session at 9:19 a.m.

- a. MTS: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (b)  
(One Potential Case)
- b. MTS: CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS PURSUANT TO  
CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.8. Property: Grossmont Center  
Station Parking Lot. Assessor Parcel Nos.: 490-22-39, 490-200-40, and 490-270-23.  
Agency Negotiators: Tim Allison, R. Martin Bohl, Gerry Trimble, and Tiffany Lorenzen.  
Negotiating Parties: Fairfield Residential, LLC, and City of La Mesa. Under Negotiation:  
Instructions to Negotiators will include Price and Terms of Payment.

The Board reconvened to Open Session at 10:32 a.m.

Oral Report of Final Actions Taken in Closed Session

Ms. Lorenzen reported the following:

On Item 5a, the Board received a report from staff and gave direction to staff and counsel.

On Item 5b, the Board received a report from agency negotiators and gave direction to agency negotiators.

The representative from the City of La Mesa, Mr. Ewin, was excused from the discussion of Item 5b because the City of La Mesa is a negotiating party.

62. Board Member Communications (Taken Out of Order)

*Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Showcase Project – San Diego State University (SDSU) to Centre City*: Mr. Monroe advised the Board that SANDAG's Transportation Committee has decided to change this MTS-approved project from a BRT project to a rapid-bus project (que jumpers, fewer bus stops, etc.) because of problems encountered in getting approval for dedicated traffic lanes for BRT. He stated that this action clearly dilutes MTS's intent for this project. He requested that this item be placed on a future Board agenda for discussion. He also suggested that the four MTS Board members who sit on the Transportation Committee meet to discuss this matter and decide if they should take a strong position about the Board's intent for this project and its importance as a showcase project. He suggested that position possibly be presented to both the SANDAG Transportation Committee and Board.

*Coca-Cola Partnership*: Ms. Paulina Gilbert, MTS Community Relations Coordinator, called attention to promotional items at each Board member's place. She also reported that MTS and Coca-Cola partner on many projects including a new item memorializing the Mission Valley East (MVE) opening. She then introduced Mr. Charles Simpson, Coca-Cola, to present this item. He called attention to the six-packs of small coke bottles at each member's place and stated that this is the first time in history that Coca-Cola has endorsed public transportation on one of its products. He stated they are already getting calls from around the world requesting this item. He added that they will be for sale at Albertsons, Vons and Ralphs as well as other stores around the city. Ms. Atkins thanked Mr. Simpson for appearing before the Board and spoke in favor of the partnership. She also stated that it was good corporate strategy for Coca-Cola to be affiliated with public transportation.

*Margaret Williams:* Chairman Williams introduced his wife, Margaret, a former schoolteacher, and recognized her efforts on behalf of children and for the support she has given him over the years.

## NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no Noticed Public Hearings.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

30. MTS: DART, Minibus Fixed-Routes 961-965, Sorrento Valley Coaster Connection (SVCC), and Sorrento Valley Caltrans Mitigation Shuttle Services – Competitive Bid Contract Award (OPS 980.8, 980.9, PC 50751)

Mr. Jablonski advised the Board that Air Pollution Control District (APCD) funding was approved by the County Board of Supervisors with no issues. He stated that full funding was approved for the next three years.

Susan Hafner, MTS Director of Multimodal Operations, reviewed the procurement process that was used for this contract, the price bid summary, and the budget impact. She also provided the Board with information regarding the vehicles that will be used to provide the service and the alternative fuel requirement. She added that all four bidders meet all the requirements of the Request for Proposals (RFP). She further stated that this is the first time that MTS has combined this particular group of services. Ms. Hafner advised the Board that the Scope of Work allows the flexibility to adjust these services based on the results of the Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA).

In response to a question from Mr. Monroe, Scott Transue, MTS Assistant Transit Operations Specialist, reported the following subsidies for these services for FY 2004: Route Nos. 961-965 - \$1.79; DART - \$10.67; Sorrento Valley Coaster Connection (SVCC) - \$3.13; and Caltrans Mitigation Shuttle (implemented July 04) - \$5.40. Mr. Jablonski pointed out that service changes that will be made as a result of the COA will be staged throughout the spring, summer, and fall of next year, and this contract will be adjusted accordingly. Mr. Monroe stated that he wanted to ensure that the Board is not restricted by contracts from following through with the COA. He stated that performance indicators should be presented whenever service-related information is presented to the Board. Ms. Hafner pointed out that the Board is only being asked to approve the provider of the service, not the service parameters, at this time and reiterated Mr. Jablonski's statement that the contract provides the flexibility needed to implement COA results.

### Public Comment

*John Webster, General Manager, National City Transit and President of National City Chamber of Commerce:* Mr. Webster expressed concern over how the COA might affect these services, some of which provide transportation to National City residents.

### Action Taken

Mr. Emery moved to authorize the CEO to execute an agreement with Southland Transit, Inc. for the operation of (1) Rancho Bernardo and Scripps Ranch Direct Access to Regional Transit (DART) services; (2) Minibus Fixed-Routes 961-965; (3) Sorrento Valley Coaster Connection;

and (4) Sorrento Valley California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Mitigation services. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion, and the vote was 13 to 0.

31. MTS: Federal Legislative Representation (LEG 470, PC 50121)

MTS Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Paul Jablonski reviewed the structure of past legislative representation contracts. He stated that, in the past, MTS has had a dual contract with North County Transit, and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) has had a separate contract. Mr. Jablonski then reviewed the process that was used to select Blank Rome. Mr. Jablonski stated that MTS's existing contract with Thomas Walters and Associates, Inc. was extended and now expires at the end of the year after current appropriation activities are completed in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Jablonski advised the Board that the congressional delegation always asks for information on regional priorities when they meet with transit officials from San Diego. He stated that addressing these types of questions with two different lobbying firms involved has been difficult. He stated that the three agencies will jointly agree on the legislative agenda and process and have Blank Rome carry that message forward. He stated that Blank Rome has a strong background in defense and now Homeland Security, a developing area of opportunity for funding. He stated that Blank Rome recently merged with Peter Peyser, a firm recognized within the transit industry as being a very good lobbyist. He stated that the evaluation committee felt this would be a very good combination of background and experience. He added that this contract can be terminated if Blank Rome is not providing adequate/effective services.

Mr. Jablonski advised the Board that the cost to MTS for the first year of this contract is \$36,000 compared to last year's cost of \$72,000 for Thomas Walters. He added that SANDAG is paying 50 percent of the cost for the contract, and MTS and NCTD are each paying 25 percent. He stated that the cost will really depend on how many hours are expended on behalf of each organization. Mr. Roberts stated that economizing on this contract will not be beneficial to MTS if the firm is not providing effective services. Mr. Jablonski stated that Blank Rome representatives will be in San Diego in the near future to meet with SANDAG, MTS, and NCTD, and he will be meeting with them to present MTS's agenda and ensure that they can provide the needed services. In response to a question from Mr. Jones, Mr. Jablonski stated that MTS staff members will have direct access to Blank Rome staff members. Also in response to a question from Mr. Jones, Mr. Jablonski stated that MTS will ensure that it receives its share of Blank Rome's time. He added that there is a conflict of interest clause in the contract under which Blank Rome would contact all three agencies if a conflict develops. The agencies would then work to resolve these issues. He added that there will be regular contact between MTS and Blank Rome, and they will appear annually before the Board to review their efforts on MTS's behalf and to discuss legislative issues.

In response to a question from Mr. Lewis, Mr. Jablonski stated that this is an innovative contract that is being watched by other agencies across the country. He added that it is therefore to Blank Rome's benefit to perform effectively. He added that joint agendas have been used by our region in the past and have done very well. He also stated that it is impossible to get a lobbyist with experience that has no current affiliations with other transit properties. He stated that having members of your congressional delegation in positions on the Appropriations Committee can be a critical factor in getting funding allocations.

Action Taken

Mr. Emery moved to (1) receive this report regarding activities pursuant to the procurement of joint federal legislative representation services; (2) authorize the CEO to allocate \$36,000 to be funded from the MTS Consultant budget line item for legislative representation to cover MTS's one-year share of the joint SANDAG, North County Transit District, and MTS contract with Blank Rome Government Relations, LLP (Peter Peyser, Senior Principal) beginning on November 1, 2005; and (3) authorize the CEO to terminate the Washington, D.C. Representation Services contract (MTS Doc. No. G0548.0-00) with Thomas Walters and Associates, Inc. prior to December 31, 2005. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion, and the vote was 13 to 0 in favor.

REPORT ITEMS

45. SDTI: Padres Baseball 2005 Year-End Summary (OPS 970.12)

Mr. Tom Doogan, SDTI Special Events Coordinator, provided the Board with an overview of the Padres Baseball 2005 Year-end Summary. He provided information on the service levels, attendance & ridership statistics, gate percentage by game, manual ticket sales, and cost recovery. He stated that SDTI experienced a marked increase in the use of ticket vending machines, which reduces the need for ticket booths and the expenses associated with providing that service. He also stated that additional LRV and wayside maintenance personnel had to be brought in 2004, but were not needed this year. He also discussed resource issues and reported that staff is working with the Padres to get more accurate projections for game attendance so that trolley resources can be matched accordingly. He stated that SDTI incurred unnecessary expense because attendance projections were overstated by the Padres. He added that next year SDTI will be implementing local control of announcements at Old Town due to the complexity of service at that station.

Mr. Doogan clarified for Mr. Monroe that the cost recovery information was for only seven games, and that it is more meaningful to look at cost recovery for the entire season. He stated that staff will definitely be looking for ways to decrease expenses. In response to a question from Mr. Young, Mr. Doogan stated that extra security guards assigned to this special service provide crowd and traffic control. Mr. Doogan stated that staff has discussed traffic control with the San Diego Police Department, and they feel that trolley security officers are better able to provide traffic control at the track crossing. In response to a question from Mr. Lewis, Mr. Doogan stated that the staff overtime associated with the provision of this service should no longer be necessary as SDTI has become close to fully staffed. He stated that there was a staff shortage problem created by the opening of Mission Valley East.

Mr. Jablonski advised the Board that the availability of parking is the biggest single contributor to the decrease in trolley ridership to Petco Park.

Action Taken

Mr. Rindone moved to receive this report for information. Mr. Selby seconded the motion, and the vote was 12 to 0.

60. Chairman's Report

There was no Chairman's Report.

61. Chief Executive Officer's Report

*MVE Award:* Mr. Jablonski reported that the Women's Transportation Seminar gave MTS's Mission Valley East project first place in their 2006 Transportation Innovation Award Program.

62. Board Member Communications (Continued)

*Parking Expansion for Grossmont College:* Mr. Ewin stated that, in order to expand Grossmont College campus, they will be required to provide an additional 500 to 800 parking spaces. He stated that the estimated cost for doing so is \$19 million to \$28 million. Mr. Ewin asked if there was any way to enhance public transit to the college. Mr. Lewis stated that service to the campus, which is in El Cajon, arrives shortly after the start of classes, which causes many students to seek other methods of travel. Mr. Jablonski stated that he would have MTS's Planning Department review service to Grossmont College to see if they can identify any actions that would help obviate the need for that type of investment in parking.

63. Additional Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

There were no additional public comments.

64. Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is Thursday, November 10, 2005, at 9:00 a.m. in the same location.

65. Adjournment

Chairman Williams adjourned the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

---

Chairman  
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System  
Filed by:

Approved as to form:

---

Office of the Clerk of the Board  
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

---

Office of the General Counsel  
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

Attachment: A. Roll Call Sheet  
gail.williams: MINUTES - Board 09-22-05