

SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING FOR THE
METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM (MTS),
SAN DIEGO TRANSIT CORPORATION (SDTC),
AND SAN DIEGO TROLLEY, INC. (SDTI)

May 5, 2005

MINUTES

A. ROLL CALL

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. Committee members present: Toni Atkins, Bob Emery, Jerry Rindone, Ron Roberts, and Leon Williams. Ex Officio member present: Shirley Kaltenborn.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rindone moved approval of the minutes of the April 21, 2005, Executive Committee meeting. Mr. Emery seconded the motion, and the vote was 5 to 0 in favor.

C. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. MTS: Mission Valley East (MVE) Light Rail Transit (LRT) Project – Update on the Status of Start-Up Activities (CIP 10426.1)

Mr. Wayne Terry, SDTI Vice President of Operations, reviewed the MVE Start-Up Status Report. He advised the Committee that San Diego has the second largest light rail system in the U.S. He also reported that an inspection of the MVE line was conducted the week of April 25, one discrepancy was noted in the dampers, and new dampers have been ordered. He stated that the Fire Marshall should be issuing the Certificate of Occupancy late this week or early next week. He provided an update on the status of general tasks and the status of the conversion of station platforms to accommodate the new S70 low-floor cars. He also provided the Committee with a status report on the start-up tasks being handled by various SDTI departments. Mr. Terry reported that system safety tasks are ahead of schedule and are a very important part of the certification process.

In response to a question from Mr. Rindone, Mr. Jablonski reported that the Governor and Secretary of Transportation have been invited to the opening ceremony, and staff is following up with their offices to maintain a high visibility for this event. He also reported that a complete list of marketing events taking place between now and July 8 will be presented at the next Executive Committee meeting. Mr. Rindone suggested that former Board members be invited to the opening ceremony.

Mr. Jablonski stated that there will be a number of tours of MVE prior to the opening, including for MTS board members, SANDAG Board members, and employees. He

stated that MTS has asked SDSU for permission to run an ad in the Aztec newsletter thanking seniors who are graduating for their patience through the construction phase of this project and offering light refreshments if they wish to visit the SDSU station after the graduation ceremony.

Mr. Jablonski advised the Committee that a master list of invitees will be provided in the near future. Mr. Jablonski confirmed for Mr. Rindone that all city managers and their respective city council and senior staff members will be invited. Chairman Williams requested that former FTA officials who were involved in securing the funding for MVE be invited to the opening ceremony.

Mr. Jablonski reported that regular conference calls with Siemens continue, and delivery of trolley cars is on schedule. He stated that work is still ongoing to deal with compatibility issues between the new S70 and SDTI's SD-100 trolley cars. He explained that in a mixed consist when the SD-100 is a lead car, there are compatibility problems related to the deployment of the low-floor ramps as well as verbal and visual station announcements that are required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Mr. Jablonski advised the Executive Committee that Judy Leitner has been selected as Interim Director of Marketing and Communications. He added that she has been part of the team that has been working on public relations and marketing for MVE.

Action Taken

Mr. Rindone moved to receive the report on the status of start-up activities and related construction elements on the MVE line extension. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion, and the vote was 5 to 0 in favor.

2. MTS: Amendment to MTS Administrative Code Granting the CEO Authority to Change Benefits and Create a Unified Human Resources Policy Manual for the Employees of the MTS, SDTD, and SDTI (ADM 150.3, PC 30100)

Mr. Jablonski stated that this item was being presented to the Committee as part of an ongoing goal to combine the companies currently under the MTS umbrella into one company. Mr. Jablonski explained that there are currently three different benefit plans, and employees working for MTS, SDTC, and SDTI with differing levels of benefits are working side by side. He added that MTS's Human Resources Department has to administer all three of these plans. He advised Committee members that this issue has been discussed with the Ad Hoc Transition Subcommittee, and it was agreed that it should be brought to the Executive Committee and ultimately to the Board. Mr. Jablonski stated that the amendment being proposed would move MTS from having an elaborate administrative code to the development of a very extensive Human Resources manual. He stated that it would give the CEO the authority to create a common benefit plan between the three agencies.

Mr. Rindone stated that new employees are being hired as MTS employees. Mr. Jablonski stated that he hoped to have 80 to 90 percent of the benefits the same between the three agencies with employees being "grandfathered" where a commonality of benefits cannot be reached. Mr. Rindone stated that, while refinements can be made

within the benefit structure, an employee's total compensation package should not be negatively impacted by benefit changes that are made through this process. Mr. Jablonski stated that, for the most part, the process needs to be viewed in that way. In response to a comment from Ms. Kaltenborn, Mr. Jablonski discussed how adjustments could be made to the pension plan program that would follow the precept as stated by Mr. Rindone regarding the total compensation package. Mr. Jablonski confirmed for Ms. Atkins that this discussion does not relate to employees in a bargaining unit. Mr. Jablonski stated that he would report back to the Board at whatever level is requested by the Board. Mr. Stumbo briefly described the changes being recommended with regard to the acceptance of gifts with a value under \$50.

Action Taken

Mr. Rindone moved to forward a recommendation to the Board of Directors to amend the MTS Administrative Code to authorize the CEO to modify and unify benefits levels for all three agencies and create a unified Human Resources Policy Manual. Ms. Atkins seconded the motion, and the vote was 5 to 0 in favor.

3. MTS: I-15 Bus Rapid Transit Operations (CIP 11481)

Mr. Jablonski advised Committee members that there seemed to be some indecision on the part of SANDAG staff members and the Transportation Committee regarding who will operate Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) services in the I-15 corridor. Mr. Jablonski briefly reviewed the reasons that MTS should operate this service including that this service would be provided within MTS's jurisdiction. He also stated that it would be cumbersome for people who use the service to go to North County Transit District (NCTD) for public hearings on service changes, and that this service needs to be integrated with express service, feeder routes, etc. and function as a whole unit. He stated that MTS would lose opportunities for schedule efficiency and coordination if this service were operated by NCTD. Mr. Emery stated that MTS should take an assertive stand regarding MTS's operation of this service. Mr. Jablonski stated that a resolution will be placed on the Board agenda for May 12, 2005. He distributed a draft resolution for the Committee's consideration. Mr. Rindone suggested that the resolution, once approved by the Board, be forwarded to the SANDAG Transportation Committee and Board of Directors. The draft resolutions were collected.

In response to a question from Ms. Atkins, staff explained where MTS service currently enters into NCTD's jurisdiction. Mr. Rindone suggested that this information be included in the agenda item to make the point that MTS operation of BRT in the I-15 corridor would follow current practice.

Action Taken

Mr. Emery moved to reaffirm MTS's interest in and authority to provide service for Interstate 15 bus rapid transit operations and forward Resolution No. 05-03 to the Board for approval. Mr. Rindone seconded the motion, and the vote was 5 to 0 in favor.

D. REVIEW OF DRAFT MAY 12, 2005 BOARD AGENDA

Recommended Consent Items

6. MTS: Rural Bus Maintenance Services Contract – Exercise Carryover Months
(OPS 930.05, PC 30207)

Recommend that the Board of Directors authorize the CEO to exercise the three carryover months allowable under the current contract (MTS Document No. B0374.2-03 – Attachment A of the agenda item) with Laidlaw Transit Services, Inc., for rural bus maintenance and support services. The extension of the carryover months would run from July 1, 2005, through September 30, 2005.

7. MTS: Historic Austrian (Vienna) Streetcar Vehicles (OPS 970, PC 30102)

Recommend that the Board of Directors authorize the CEO to execute an agreement to transfer ownership and possession of three Austrian vintage streetcar vehicles to the San Diego Electric Railway Association (SDERA) in accordance with Policy No. 33 (Attachment A of the agenda item).

8. MTS: Sorrento Valley Coaster Connection/Sorrento Valley Caltrans Mitigation Services Contract – Exercise Carryover Months (OPS 920.5, PC 30118)

Recommend that the Board of Directors authorize the CEO to exercise up to six carryover months allowable under the current contract (MTS Document No. B0369.2-03) with Laidlaw Transit Services, Inc. for Sorrento Valley Coaster Connection services. The extension of the carryover months would run from July 1, 2005, through December 31, 2005 (Attachment A of the agenda item), and would be awarded contingent upon funding from the Air Pollution Control District.

Recommended Consent Items

There was no discussion of Recommended Consent Items.

Recommended Board Discussion Items

There was no discussion of Recommended Board Discussion Items.

E. REVIEW OF SANDAG TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

TransNet Independent Transit Planning Review: Mr. Jablonski reported that San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy requested, in a May 14, 2004 letter, that SANDAG conduct an "Independent Transit Planning Review" (ITPR). He added that SANDAG is currently in the process of doing that and has selected members for a peer review panel. He advised the Committee that he was concerned because SANDAG's draft Initial List of Issues and Consultant Tasks, which will be incorporated into the scope of work for the consultant study, makes no reference to MTS's Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA). He stated that it is important for the COA to be recognized in the ITPR process to ensure there is no duplication of effort and to ensure that no conflict is created. He called the Board's attention to a copy of Mayor Murphy's letter and

referred to item no. 2, which requests that MTS and NCTD undertake a system-wide analysis of its transit systems. Ms. Lorenzen pointed out that the ITPR was a contingency on the TransNet resolution.

Mr. Emery stated that conflict between the ITPR process and the MTS system-wide analysis should be avoided. Mr. Mark Thomsen, MTS Senior Transportation Planner, pointed out that the ITPR is being approached from a land-use standpoint, which differs from the approach taken during a COA. He added that the ITPR also looks at different projects in isolation, while the COA looks at the system as a whole. Mr. Thomsen distributed a memorandum identifying issues that pertain to the planning review and its relationship to the COA. Attached to the memorandum was SANDAG's agenda item on this matter. Mr. Jablonski referred to page 3, item 4 of that agenda item, which states that "BRT is assumed to be equivalent to the trolley in both service and supporting facilities and amenities." He stated that this sounds like a system-design issue, which duplicates the COA. He stated that the COA should be part of the peer review process so they are aware of the COA and its processes, which are being done in collaboration with SANDAG. He stated that the scope of work should be revised to recognize that a COA is being done by MTS and identifying its objectives, issues, and study approach, etc. Chairman Williams pointed out that the study should consider the capacity of rail vs. BRT to carry passengers.

F. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER BUSINESS

There were no Committee Member Communications or Other Business.

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

H. NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 19, 2005 in the Executive Conference Room.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Williams adjourned the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

Chairman

Attachment: A. Roll Call Sheet

gailwilliams/minutes