

CTSA Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 30, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Ronn Rygg called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. in the conference room of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County.

Present:	Andy Cook Ronn Rygg Maureen McEachen Genie Jimenez Kathleen Murray-Phillips Kasuko Wessendorf Melissa McKenzie Monique King	TAMC Transportation Planner United Way Monterey County VNA Alliance on Aging (Alternate) DSES-AAA Interim, Inc. (Alternate) Carmel Foundation Interim, Inc.
Absent:	Rena Weaver Wyant Nancy Budd	Blind & Visually Impaired Center ITN Monterey County
Staff:	Tom Hicks Cristy Sugabo Lance Atencio	CTSA Manager Senior Mobility Specialist MV Transportation

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Minutes of the regular meeting of November 28, 2012.

Member Kathleen Murray-Phillips made a motion to approve the minutes as amended on the consent agenda, and was seconded by member Andy Cook. The motion carried unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

4.1 MST Staff presented a recognition award to member Maureen McEachen. The recognition award was adopted by the MST Board of Directors recognizing Ms. McEachen for her service on the MST Mobility Advisory Committee from January of 2011 to December of 2012 and because of her considerable contribution in assisting MST in selecting a contractor to provided MST RIDES and Senior Shuttle services as well as other MST small bus and trolley services.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 Committee Chair Ronn Rygg presented an appreciation award to retiree RIDES reservationist Geri Flagler for her dedication as RIDES reservationist for 15 years. Ms. Flagler was not at the meeting so the award was accepted by MV Staff Lance Atencio.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 The committee was informed of member Brandy Abend's membership resignation.

In addition, MST Staff informed the committee that MAC membership decreased to nine from its original fifteen members. The current members unanimously agreed to promote membership recruitment to members of the public, and amongst their own agency staff. Member Andy Cook reminded the Committee that there were specific membership categories that must be observed.

7.2 Member Kathleen Murray-Phillips requested Staff for more information on how to receive MST retired vehicle donation. (*Staff provided follow-up information*).

8. SUBJECT ITEM FOLLOW-UP

8.1 MST Staff informed the committee that route 21 is no longer operating via the Highway 68 corridor. Route 21 has been replaced with Route 56 and 82 operating under grant ending in September. The route is primarily designed to serve students, and military passengers.

8.2 TAMC Staff Andy Cook presented the received comments from the Unmet Needs Process public hearing. At the next meeting, Mr. Cook will report back to the committee which of the received comments are reasonable to meet, and to discuss the process in identifying unreasonable unmet needs based on the SSTAC adopted criteria.

9. SUBJECT ITEM REQUEST

9.1 Committee Chair Ronn Rygg asked to discuss membership term and election of officers at the March MAC meeting.

10. REPORTS

10.1 Lance Atencio, MV Staff announced that MV was awarded the five year contract from MST to operate the MST RIDES program and along with other MST services. The contract will be effective July 2013.

Mr. Atencio also stated that MST's goal is to replace four to five vehicles that have over 300,000 miles. This will improve service.

10.2 Tom Hicks, MST Staff informed the committee that the City of Pacific Grove will soon start distributing senior taxi vouchers for their residents. The vouchers will be distributed at the following locations: Pacific Grove Library, Pacific Grove City Hall, and the Sally Griffith Senior Center. Further, Mr. Hicks reminded the committee that the City of Salinas is still waiting for city budget approval to start the senior taxi voucher program.

Mr. Hicks informed the committee that Staff has started implementing taxi voucher expiration dates. The date is stamped on the taxi voucher to prevent participants from hoarding the vouchers and for more efficient accountability.

Mr. Hicks reminded the committee that the Taxi Voucher Program at the Carmel Foundation, Montecito Senior Complex

(Salinas), and Casanova (Monterey) is still operating. The Taxi Voucher Program is currently offered to the senior communities that have no nearby bus stop as a result MST fixed-route cutbacks.

Mr. Hicks informed the committee that the MST Board of Directors directed Staff to publish a Requested for Proposals for cab companies interested in leasing accessible taxis. The cab companies must first be registered with the Regional Taxi Authority of Monterey County, and meet all regulatory requirements. In addition, prior to operating MST's accessible taxis, cab companies will need to go through MST sponsored three hour training for passengers with special needs.


11. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APPRECIATION

11.1 Mr. Hicks announced to the committee that The Amalgamated Transit Union, which represents Monterey-Salinas Transit's (MST) drivers and other transit-worker unions have asked the United States Department of Labor to withhold federal transit funding from MST and other public transit operators throughout California. The Amalgamated Transit Union's action is in response to concerns with the recent adoption of the 2013 Public Employees Pension Reform Act (AB 340) by the California state legislature and Governor Jerry Brown. In the event the federal government agrees to the Amalgamated Transit Union's request to withhold federal operating and capital grant funds from MST, the agency would be forced to implement emergency measures to reduce its bus service by approximately 30%, to a level that can be supported only by passenger fares and state grant assistance.

12. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chair Ronn Rygg adjourned the meeting at 2:15p.m.

PREPARED BY _____
Cristy Sugabo

APPROVED BY  _____
Tom Hicks