1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Armenta called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. in the Monterey-Salinas Transit Conference Room.

Present: Karen Sharp  City of Carmel-By-The-Sea
       Kristin Clark  City of Del Rey Oaks
       James Ford  City of Marina
       Libby Downey  City of Monterey
       Vicki Stilwell  City of Pacific Grove
       Sergio Sanchez  City of Salinas
       Thomas Mancini  City of Seaside
       Fernando Armenta  County of Monterey
       Lisa Senkir  City of Gonzales (Ex-Officio)

Absent: None

Staff: Carl Sedoryk  General Manager/CEO
       Lyn Owens  Director of Human Resources
       Hunter Harvath  Director of Administration
       Michael Hernandez  Chief Operating Officer
       Robert Weber  Dir. Transportation Services
       Sonia Bannister  Office Administrator
       Tom Hicks  CTSA Manager
       Tonja Posey  Human Resource Supervisor
       William Morris  Contract Transportation Manager
       Mark Eccles  Director of IT

Others: Dave Laredo  DeLay & Laredo
        Heidi Quinn  DeLay & Laredo
        Scott Taylor  IT Specialist
        Tony Byrd  Coach Operator
        Don Gilchrest  Thomas Walters & Associates
        Jim Fink  Salinas resident

*Apology is made for any misspelling of a name.*

A moment of silence was held in the memory of the late Supervisor Jerry Smith.
2-2. – 2-9. CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda items consisted of the following:


2-3. Disposal of property left aboard buses.


2-6. Adopt 2008 meeting calendar.

2-7. Claim rejection.

2-8. Authorize Chair to appoint ad-hoc Nominating Committee.

2-9. Authorize the sale of retired vehicles.

Director Downey moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Director Stilwell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 10:07 a.m. to discuss matters dealing with the Monterey-Salinas Transit Corporation.

The Board reconvened the regular Monterey-Salinas Transit Board meeting at 10:15 a.m.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mark Eccles, Director of Information Technology, introduced Scott Taylor, IT Specialist, as MST Employee of the Month for December 2007. Since being hired in September 2006, he has played an integral role in the configuration of the Marina Transit Exchange and the implementation of the FAMIS accounting system. Scott has been working with the Fleet Manager and the Maximus Project Coordinator on the configuration of the Maximus system. During these projects, he has worked on rebuilding systems as well as providing computer support. Scott has consistently maintained a positive attitude and is well liked by his fellow co-workers. He has continually proven to be an asset to MST and the Information Technology Department.
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Fink, Salinas resident, made a clarification to the minutes regarding removing stops along Highway 101. He wants the Board to rescind the decision to remove bus service to 12 stops on line 29 along the Highway 101 corridor.

When the line 53 is discontinued in January, he would like to see that bus in the afternoon continue to operate as a line 21 serving Portola and Creekside. He also requested that MST seal the bus windows shut. Regarding the timetables, he would like to see the time on timetables listed as approximate according to traffic conditions. He wished the Board Happy Hanukah and Merry Christmas.

5-1. – 5-2. BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Board accepted and filed the MST RIDES Advisory Committee Minutes – October 22, 2007; and the MST Facilities Committee Minutes – November 19, 2007.

6. BIDS/PROPOSALS

None.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

8-1. RIDERS & NON-RIDER SURVEY

Public transit agencies regularly conduct passenger and non-passenger surveys to gauge opinions of customers and to find out information about those individuals who do not currently take public transit. This data can then be used to improve services for existing passengers as well as to increase ridership by marketing MST more effectively to non-riders. The last comprehensive passenger and non-passenger surveys were conducted in the fall of 2005.

The core goal of the current rider survey is to assess customer satisfaction and to develop a demographic profile of the typical rider. The core purpose of the non-rider is to: 1) assess awareness of MST and its offerings; 2) gauge perceptions from non-riders; and 3) identify possible barriers to the use of public transit through the service area.

A majority of MST riders are currently happy with the service provided by MST.

Mr. Fink would like to see service to Hollister. There is no connector service between King City and Paso Robles.

Director Sanchez would like staff to release the survey stats to the media.
Director Mancini moved to receive the 2007 MST Attitude and Awareness Survey and the 2007 MST On-Board Passenger Survey. Director Downey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

9-1. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Mr. Harvath, Director of Administration, reported that the recommended legislative program for 2008 is consistent with MST’s mission to lead and advocate and deliver quality public transportation. The 2008 Legislative Program will be presented to state and federal legislators and will guide MST positions on legislative matters throughout the year. The Legislative Program is also used as a guideline for supporting, opposing, or watching legislation when time does not permit official MST Board action on specific legislation.

On the state level, staff will be working with legislators to enable MST to enforce a no-smoking policy around the buses. There is considerable amount of text in this year’s Legislative Program about protecting funding sources against state raids as well as implementation of a new Transportation Bond fund.

With regards to the state legislative program, Director Downey wanted to add hybrid vehicles to item 2S.c. “Introduce and/or support legislation creating a pilot program to fund the conversion of public transit buses and support vehicles to hybrid and bio-fuel powered engines.

Director Mancini moved to adopt the Monterey-Salinas Transit 2008 Legislative Program. Director Ford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

10-1. – 10-4. REPORTS & INFORMATION ITEMS


Mr. Sedoryk reported that ridership in Salinas had a slight drop possibly due to the loss of jobs in the area.

11. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director Downey does not support sealing bus windows.

Director Armenta would like staff to develop a Referral Log, similar to a report used by the County Board of Supervisors, which will be used to track requests made by the Board.
12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

13-1. CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session to meet with legal counsel regarding conference with labor negotiators and potential litigation.

Upon returning to Open Session, General Counsel Laredo provided a status report regarding labor negotiations with ATU. No reportable action was taken by the Board.

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Armenta adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m. in the memory of the late Supervisor Jerry Smith.

Prepared by: ____________________________

Sonia AR Bannister