SEPTEMBER EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
The MST Board adopted Resolution 2011-07 recognizing Charlie Armbruster, Communications System Manager, as Employee of the Month for September 2010. Charlie Armbruster, Communications System Manager, as the September Employee of the Month. In August, Charlie put forth an extraordinary effort in the planning, development, and deployment of multiple special events and services which include: The Sand City West End Celebration, Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion at Laguna Seca, Bob Dylan Concert at the Monterey County Fair Grounds, and the Pacific Grove Trolley Demonstration Project. While each of these assignments had their own individual challenges, the PG Trolley Demonstration project presented a unique set of technical and operational issues, which Charlie was able to resolve by working closely with MST’s Information Technology Department, and the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

RETIREMENTS
The MST Board recognized Lyn Owens, Director of Human Resources, with a resolution thanking her for nine years of service. Since coming onboard, Ms. Owens transformed MST’s Human Resources Department into a high-caliber department. She has been responsible for saving MST a substantial amount of money by managing best practices in recruitment, employee-benefit administration, and worker’s compensation administration.

The MST Board recognized Darlene “Sue” Jackson, Coach Operator, with a resolution thanking her for 24 years of service. She has received numerous commendations and multiple-years of safe driving. She was also a Union Steward and showed dedication to her job and to her fellow ATU members.

DONATION OF DODGE RAMS
The MST Board authorized the donation of two Dodge vans to the Gil Basketetball Academy in Salinas. The vans will be used to take members of the Basketball Academy to practice, field trips, and community events.

EMPLOYEE-EMPLOYER RELATIONS POLICY
The MST Board approved the amendment to the Employee-Employer Relations Policy. This is due to the reorganization of responsibilities and positions within the agency.
CONSTRUCTABILITY REVIEW CONTRACT
The MST Board awarded a $62,000 contract to AECOM to complete a Constructability Review for the new Monterey Bay Bus Operations and Maintenance Center.

A Constructability Review (CR) is a process where individuals/firms with extensive construction knowledge are used early in a project stage to ensure that the project is biddable, buildable and cost-effective. A CR is a “best business practice” and is an essential and potentially cost saving review process for large construction projects.

TAXI REGULATING CONSULTING SERVICES
The MST Board approved the award of taxi regulation consulting service to GY Investigations and Legal Services, Inc. for the Monterey County Regional Taxi Authority.

The Regional Taxi Authority (RTA) is to contract with MST for the provision of all administrative, licensing, and inspection services necessary to administer the RTA program, including but not limited to the provision of insurance, professional investigators, consultants, accountants, attorneys and transportation experts or other advisors as the RTA Board deems necessary and appropriate.
MST SPECIAL MEDICAL TRIPS PROGRAM CHANGES
The MST Board: 1) conducted a public hearing to receive public comments on the fare
increase for special medical trips program changes; and 2) approved opening the special
medical trips program to the general public and adjust the fare from $15 to $40 per day for
out-of-county medical transportation.

MST provides limited service twice per month to several medical facilities between San Jose
and San Francisco. While not a mandated ADA Paratransit service, this out-of-county
medical transportation is available only to certified RIDES passengers with a roundtrip fare of
$15. Recently, MST has received several requests from area health care providers and
hospitals to open the program to other persons with serious medical conditions. In
discussions with these providers, it appears that ridership would increase from three per
month to eight to 12 per month, which will likely further increase as the program becomes
known to other providers.