1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Armenta called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. in the MST Conference Room.

Present:  Karen Sharp  City of Carmel-By-The-Sea
         Maria Orozco  City of Gonzales
         John Huerta, Jr.  City of Greenfield
         James Ford  City of Marina
         Libby Downey  City of Monterey
         Alan Cohen  City of Pacific Grove
         Sergio Sanchez  City of Salinas
         David Pendergrass  City of Sand City
         Patricia Stephens  City of Soledad
         Thomas Mancini  City of Seaside
         Fernando Armenta  County of Monterey

Absent:  Susan Kleber  City of King
         Kristin Clark  City of Del Rey Oaks

Staff:  Sonia Bannister  Office Administrator/Marketing & Sales Specialist
        Angela Dawson  Accountant
        Mark Eccles  Director of Information Technology
        Gretchen Faus  Customer Service Representative
        Mike Gallant  Planning Manager
        Kelly Halcon  Director of Human Resources
        Hunter Harvath  Asst. General Manager/Finance & Administration
        Michael Hernandez  Asst. General Manager/COO
        Tom Hicks  CTSA Manager
        Steven Judd  Planning Intern
        Theodore Kosub  Executive Assistant to the GM/CEO
        Carl Sedoryk  General Manager/CEO
        Zoe Shoats  Marketing Analyst
        Robert Weber  Director of Transportation Services
        Kathy Williams  General Accounting Manager

Others:  John Cardinalli  Yellow Cab
        Steve Cardinalli  Yellow Cab
        Andy Cook  TAMC
        Jim Fink  Citizen
        Alvin Edwards  City of Seaside
2. CLOSED SESSION

The closed session was moved to the next agenda meeting of January 10, 2011.

3. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

4. CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda items consisted of the following:


4-3. Disposal of property left aboard buses.

4-4. Minutes of the regular meeting of November 8, 2010.


4-6. Approve the purchase of one medium size.

4-7. MST MAC appointment.

4-8. Adopt proposed CY 2011 Agenda schedule.

4-9. Purchase particulate filters for Trolleys.

4-10. Conflict of Interest Code.

4-11. Claim rejection - Bolger.
4-12. Adopt Resolution of Appreciation for Tom Mancini.

4-13. Receive opinion of General Counsel regarding procurement of Taxi Administrator Services.

4-14. Memorandum of Understanding with San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority.

Vice-Chair Pendergrass moved to approve items on the consent agenda and was seconded by Director Orozco. Item 4-13 was pulled for further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Scott Phillips, felt that the RFQ process for the Taxi Administrator was flawed and asked for a response to the questions contained in his letter. He thought Counsel’s response letter was inadequate in addressing all of his concerns.

David Laredo, General Counsel, gave an opinion of the Taxi Administrator RFQ procurement process. He stated the process was fair and conflict did not exist under any standard of the law. Further, the RFQ notice period was sufficient.

Director Sanchez moved to approve item 4-13. Director Ford seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

5. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Carl Wulf, Facilities/Capital Projects Manager, presented Paul Lopez, Facilities Technician, as the December 2010 Employee of the Month. He was recently recognized with 9 years of safety on the job and has received Attendance Awards almost every year of his employment. Paul Lopez was traveling westbound on Highway 68 on November 15, 2010 when he witnessed an accident that caused a vehicle to careen off the highway into a nearby ditch. As a firefighter climbed into the van to administer first aid, the van caught fire and Paul assisted in the rescuing of the driver from the wreckage. His quick and heroic actions should be commended.

Carl Sedoryk, General Manager/CEO, presented Tom Mancini with a Resolution of Appreciation for his service as an MST Board member. MST staff thanked Mr. Mancini for his many years of stewardship and commitment to public transportation.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Fink commented that line 55 needed some timing improvements and said he was pleased to learn about the new Line 83 Fort Hunter Liggett-Paso Robles Express. He also spoke to the importance of public transit integration in the Bay Area as a whole. Finally, he expressed concern for clipper tickets and Caltrain.

Bob Parks inquired about potential wage freezes and asked board members to reconsider any proposal that froze wages.
7. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

8. BIDS/PROPOSALS

None.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9.1 Public Hearing – Proposed MST fare structure revisions.

Director Downey asked if smart cards could utilize a distance based fare formula. Staff stated that this was not yet possible with existing smart card technology.

Director Ford asked if a smart card could be used to buy another bus pass. Staff’s response was that the smart card was not intended to purchase other passes.

Director Pendergrass asked if buses would still take cash under the proposed system. It was noted that buses would still be able to process cash.

Director Ogelsby asked if there was a course of action if a rider lost his bus pass. Each smart card has a unique serial number that allows for card replacement.

Director Sharp asked if pass days were contiguous under the new system. Under the new system, the period of validity for each card is contiguous. For example, a seven-day pass would be good for seven days from the first date of use. Director Sharp asked where the new smart cards would be available for purchase. Staff responded that initially the passes would be available at three MST office locations, Rabobanks and all locations currently offering MST passes.

Director Pendergrass asked what would happen if a new fare box machine went offline. Staff responded that an alternate bus would be dispatched to replace a bus with a malfunctioning farebox.

Director Sharp asked if the farebox company was reputable and reliable. Staff believed so. She also asked if customers could consult with customer service reps if they had confusion over the new fare system. Customer service representatives are available to answer customer questions.

Director Huerta suggested the possibility of adding smart card vending machines in South County cities.

Rene Leonard expressed concern over the proposed fare structure revisions and thought weekend service could be improved.

Dolores McDaniel expressed frustration with lack of service to the MST office located at One Ryan Ranch Rd and believed her costs would increase under the new system.

Bob Parks thought the fare structure was not revenue neutral and needed minor tweaking. Doug Wallace thought MST service was excellent and the proposed elimination of transfers was a good idea.

Kim Mitchell stated that she could not afford fare increases and thought the shocks in several buses were sub-par. She also believed that MST buses ran too late in the evening.

John Cardinali thought MST service was terrible and thought the new fare structure was unacceptable.
Jim Fink thought MST should consider regional tie-ins to San Francisco area transit service, but was supportive of the new fare structure.

Director Sanchez made a motion that approved the proposed fare structure revisions and called for continued consultation with riders in the community. The motion was seconded by Director Ford and carried unanimously.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Approve the purchase of one Suburban Coach

John Cardinalli thought there was no need to purchase another bus and that MST was simply wasting money.

Director Huerta motioned for approval and Director Pendergrass seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

11.2 CSUMB University Pass Program

Hunter Harvath gave an overview of the proposed CSUMB Pass Program. Megan Tolbert, CSUMB staff, expressed support for the program and read a letter from Diane Harrison that supported implementation of the program. Dean Kennedy, CSUMB staff, stated that 2000 students lived on campus and Residential Life was excited about the partnership with MST.

Director Stephens thought the program should get underway as soon as possible because the beginning of the school year was rapidly approaching.

Director Sharp was interested in seeing the program launch effectively. As such, she suggested extra resources if staff could not handle the additional workload.

Carl Sedoryk thought the program could be implemented in a timely manner if staff was given that direction from The Board.

Megan Tolbert offered CSUMB help to implement the Pass Program in a timely manner.

Director Pendergrass moved for approval with the caveat that CSUMB would help MST implement the program. The motion was seconded by Ian Oglesby and passed unanimously.

11-3. Adopt 2011 Legislative Program Presentation

Don Gilchrest, MST federal lobbyist, gave a brief update of legislative issues that could affect MST at the federal level. He thought there would be several challenges and opportunities for transit once the new congressional session gets underway.
Chairman Armenta asked how much federal money had been directed to MST. Carl Sedoryk responded that MST had utilized approximately 12 million federal dollars. He commented that without the funding, costs would be significantly higher while service levels would be markedly lower.

John Arriaga, MST state lobbyist, gave a brief update of legislative issues that could affect MST at the state level. Like Mr. Gilchrest, he believed there were several opportunities and challenges for transit under the new legislative session. Mr. Arriaga also pointed out the precious budget situation the State of California is facing for the upcoming session.

Chairman Armenta suggested a more proactive approach should be taken in regard to legislative issues. It was suggested that the Legislative Committee should meet more frequently, at least several times a year, to stay abreast of legislative issues.

**Director Ford moved to approve the 2011 Legislative Program and Director Downey provided a second. The motion carried unanimously.**

**12. REPORTS & INFORMATION ITEMS**


The Board was informed of letters concerning donations of vehicles, opinion of Counsel regarding a Regional Taxi Authority (RTA) Environmental Impact Report, Department of Census Urban Zone Designation and a MST Public Information Act Request.

**13. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS**

Director Downey asked that staff respond to Scott Phillips concerns regarding the RTA RFQ.

Chairman Armenta suggested the possibility of forming a special committee that would work with area universities and community colleges. He proposed a committee made of MST Board members, community college board members/regents and elected officials.

**14. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Carl Sedoryk announced that the next Board of Directors Meeting would start at 9:30 am, while the next HR Committee meeting would start at 9:00 am.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Armenta adjourned the meeting at 12:33 p.m.

Prepared by: ______________________________

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