

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
Board of Directors**

**Thursday, December 20, 2007
Board of Supervisors Hearing Room
105 East Anapamu Street, 4th Floor
Santa Barbara, CA**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Wallis called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

Members Present: Salud Carbajal, Supervisor, First District; Janet Wolf, Supervisor, Second District; Brooks Firestone (SBCAG Vice-Chair), Supervisor, Third District; Joni Gray, Supervisor, Fourth District; Joe Centeno, Supervisor, Fifth District; Lupe Alvarez, Mayor, City of Guadalupe; Marty Blum, Mayor, City of Santa Barbara; Larry Lavagnino, Mayor, City of Santa Maria;; Jim Richardson, Councilmember, City of Solvang; Jonny Wallis (SBCAG Chair), Councilmember, City of Goleta

Members Absent: Joe Armendariz, Councilmember, City of Carpinteria; Dick DeWees, Mayor, City of Lompoc; Russ Hicks, Councilmember, City of Buellton

Staff Present: Jim Kemp, Executive Director; Stephen VanDenburgh, Deputy Director Programs; Michael Powers, Deputy Director Planning; Fred Luna, Transportation Engineer; Brittany Odermann, Transportation Planner, Terry Contreras, Board Clerk; Kevin E. Ready, Sr., Senior Deputy County Counsel; Pat Mickelson, Caltrans District 5 Representative, Aileen Loe, Caltrans District 5 Representative

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Wallis called for the pledge of allegiance.

3. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board recessed to a closed session at 8:35 a.m. to hold a discussion regarding a confidential personnel matter.

4. REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Senior Deputy County Counsel Kevin Ready stated that no reportable action had been taken and the item would be brought back to the board on January 17, 2008 for further consideration.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of minutes for November 15, 2007 Board of Directors meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes. Motion: Carbajal, Second: Richardson with the change that Supervisor Wolf did not participate in closed session item.

Motion carries: 7-0-3 (Supervisor Gray, Mayor Blum, Mayor Alvarez abstain)

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

A. TRAVEL TRENDS REPORT

Receive Travel Trends report and authorize distribution to interested parties.

Scott Wenz, representing Cars Are Basic, addressed the board stating that the automobile is green transportation of choice.

Motion to approve Travel Trends report and distribute to interested parties. Motion: Gray; Second: Blum

Motion carries 10-0

B. PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

Authorize submittal of joint grant application with SLOCOG for State Blueprint Grant Funds for pilot study of Santa Maria Valley in conjunction with SLOCOG Community 2050 Program.

Motion to continue item to Board meeting of January 17, 2008 so staff may contact the county and city staff and make sure there has been communication with the elected officials about the project.

Motion: Lavagnino, Second: Alvarez

Motion carries 10-0

C. CLEAN AIR EXPRESS FARE INCREASE

Adopt a resolution increasing Clean Air Express fares to the following effective February 1, 2008: monthly pass from \$135 to \$140, 10-Ride pass from \$45 to \$50, single ride pass/cash fare from \$6 to \$7; monthly pass to \$150 effective January 1, 2009.

D. UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS

Receive summary of Unmet Transit Needs outreach process for 2008 and set public hearing on unmet transit needs for January 17, 2008 10:00 AM time certain in Santa Maria.

E. STATE TRANSIT ASSISTANCE (STA) FUND ALLOCATIONS

Adopt a resolution allocating \$2,263,946 in State Transit Assistance (STA) funds to local claimants for Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

F. FTA 5311 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS

Approve the Program of Projects for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Non-Urbanized Area Transit funds (Section 5311) in Santa Barbara County for FY 07/08.

G. RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

Adopt a resolution of appreciation for former SBCAG board member Hawxhurst.

H. PROJECT PROGRAMMING DATABASE CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Approve a contract amendment to extend consultant, Ecointeractive, Inc. services for one-year at a sum not to exceed \$25,000 for programming and maintenance of the on-line project-programming database EZTrak.

I. BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2008

Approve SBCAG Board of Directors regular meeting schedule for 2008.

J. STATUS REPORT ON CONDITION OF LOCAL BRIDGES

Receive a status report on the condition of local (non-highway) bridges in Santa Barbara County

K. REGIONAL HOUSING BUILD-OUT CAPACITY

Receive report on estimated residential build-out capacity under local land use plans.

Motion to approve Consent Items 6C-6K (Items 6A and 6B pulled from consent calendar). Motion: Gray Second: Blum

Motion carried 10-0

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Scott Wenz, representing Cars Are Basic, addressed the board on telephone surveys and their accuracy.

8. RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

Adopt a resolution of appreciation for outgoing board members Wallis and Richardson.

Motion to adopt resolution of appreciation for Chair Wallis. Motion: Gray, Second: Carbajal.

Motion carried 10-0

Motion to adopt resolution of appreciation for Councilmember Richardson. Motion: Gray, Second: Firestone

Motion carried 10-0

PUBLIC HEARINGS

No public hearings scheduled.

ACTION ITEMS

9. ROUTE 154 OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

- A. *Authorize the Executive Director to solicit construction bids for the Route 154 Operational Improvements project pursuant to the Public Contract Code.*
- B. *Authorize the Executive Director to award the construction contract to lowest responsible bidder, provided that the bid amount does not exceed \$6,457,220.*
- C. *Authorize the Executive Director to establish a contingency fund for implementing construction that shall not exceed \$807,861.*
- D. *Authorize the Chair to execute a cooperative agreement with Caltrans for the construction.*
- E. *Authorize the Executive Director to sign a Letter of Agreement with the California Highway Patrol for enhanced construction zone enforcement services (COZEEP) at a cost not to exceed \$80,000.*

Motion to approve staff recommendations A through E with direction to staff to send a letter to Caltrans regarding SBCAG concerns in using local funds for construction zone traffic safety enhancement program. Motion: Firestone, Second: Lavagnino.

Motion carried 10-0

10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Approve SBCAG Public Participation Plan.

Motion to approve SBCAG Public Participation Plan. Motion: Centeno, Second: Carbajal

Motion carried 10-0

11. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2008

Elect Board Chair and Vice-Chair for 2008.

Motion to nominate Supervisor Firestone as board chair for 2008 and Mayor Alvarez as Vice-Chair. Motion: Centeno, Second: Lavagnino

Motion carried unanimously. 10-0

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

A. *Receive report on update of Regional Transportation Plan*

B. *Authorize chair to approve amendments to contract with Rincon Associates, Inc to prepare environmental impact report for 2008 RTP revising the scope of services, increasing the contract budget by an amount not-to-exceed \$9,743 and extending the contract term to August 31, 2008.*

Motion to authorize amendments to contract with Rincon Associates, Inc to prepare EIR for 2008 RTP. Motion: Carbajal, Second: Wolf

Motion carried 10-0 (Councilmember Armendariz, Councilmember Hicks, and Mayor DeWees absent)

INFORMATION ITEMS

13. 2008 STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (30 minutes)

Discuss programming proposal for the 2008 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding cycle.

Under public comment Scott Wentz of Cars are Basic requested excess funds be given back and that bikeway projects be taken out of the program. Supervisor Gray requested that staff provide information on bike usage.

Discussion only; therefore no action was taken. Item will be presented for board action at the January 17, 2008 meeting.

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS

LOSSAN Board Meeting of December 12, 2007.

Supervisor Carbajal reported that he along with Councilmembers Roger Horton, Grant House and Helene Schneider attended the December 12 LOSSAN board meeting to present On-TRAC: A Plan of Transit/Rail Action for Commuters. The plan received unanimous support from the LOSSAN board. Supervisor Carbajal suggested that SBCAG receive an On-TRAC presentation from the city at a future meeting.

Mayor Blum reported that On-TRAC has been presented to the City of Goleta, City of Carpinteria, VCTC, and the County of Ventura. All agencies voted to support the plan. The City of Ventura will also be receiving a presentation. She also agreed that SBCAG needs a presentation as well.

Jim Kemp reported that Ventura County and Caltrans are supporting the Surfliner scheduled changes to make it more commuter friendly.

A list of intercity rail capital projects proposed for the Prop 1 B Transit program was provided and the LOSSAN Board voted to support the list which includes projects on the three intercity rail corridors that Caltrans operates using Amtrak service. There are significant investments in the Pacific Surfliner corridor particularly in the Los Angeles Union Station area which will benefit the entire corridor.

Subcommittee of LOSSAN board have been meeting and discussing two issues: the on-time performance of the Pacific Surfliner trains, and the need to improve the customers riding experience.

LOSSAN board approved 2008 meeting schedule.

Under Public Comment, Scott Wenz, representing Cars are Basic, stated he does not believe the On-TRAC plan is an economical or a good alternative.

Supervisor Carbajal reported on the December 13 Coastal Express Steering Committee meeting. The Coastal Express ridership has increased annually since 2001. The steering committee recommended that the current MOU be revised to add a new member from to add a member from both Ventura and Santa Barbara County.

15. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jim Kemp reported on the following three items.

1. County of Santa Barbara received a 3.1 million dollar grant for the Vanpool Agricultural worker program. They are in the process of recruiting and doing background checks on the prospective drivers.
2. SBCAG has been holding public meetings on the Regional Housing Needs Allocation process. Also, staff is currently working on a methodology with local agency staff for going through allocation. Public meetings are being held to get a sense of which issues the public believe are most important in the preparing the plan that will be brought back to the board in February.

3. SBCAG is in the process of scheduling the draft Measure D presentations with all the city councils, also organizations and business groups. The City of Guadalupe has already received a presentation. Input is being sought on the draft plan to determine if changes are needed to increase support before placing the renewal measure on the November ballot.

Mr. Kemp also introduced new SBCAG employees Aubrey Spilde and intern Raymond Beltran.

16. CALTRANS DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Aileen Loe, Caltrans District 5 Representative, reported that the Board received in their packet a copy of the Caltrans monthly report with information about ongoing and upcoming construction projects.

17. COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Richardson thanked CHP Lieutenant Olson for responding to his concerns with tailgating and speeding on SR 154.

18. ADJOURN

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Santa Maria.