

**San Benito County  
LOCAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING**

**September 20, 2007 2:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chair Dias, Director Marcus, and Director Pike,

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Deputy County Counsel, Shirley Murphy; Executive Director, Lisa Rheinheimer; Transportation Planning Manager, Mary Dinkuhn; Administrative Services Specialist, Kathy Postigo; Transportation Planner, Veronica Lezama; Transportation Planner, Betty Li; Secretary, Monica Gomez

**A. Certificate of Posting**

*Upon a motion duly made by Director Marcus, and seconded by Director Pike, the Directors unanimously acknowledged the Certificate of Posting.*

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 1. Approve LTA Meeting Minutes dated August 16, 2007**
- 2. Approve MV Monthly Report for August 2007**

*Upon a motion duly made by Director Marcus, and seconded by Director Pike, the Directors unanimously approved Item's # 1, # 2 from the Consent Agenda.*

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

- 3. Approve LTA Claims Report dated August 1, 2007 to August 31, 2007**

*Upon a motion duly made by Director Marcus, and seconded by Director Pike, the Directors unanimously approved Item #3.*

- 4. Receive Update and Presentation on the Short Range Transit Plan and Provide Comments to Local Transportation Authority Staff**

Transportation Planner Betty Li provided an update and Power Point presentation of the 2007 San Benito County Short Range Transit Plan (refer to LTA Agenda packet for handouts).

Ms. Li reviewed the five service options under discussion as follows:

- a) Keep the current system,
- b) Revert back to the 2004 system,
- c) Reduce service to two Fixed Routes and Dial-A-Ride,
- d) Expand service by realigning current routes and adding one Fixed Route, and

e) Operate only Dial-A-Ride and elimination of Fixed Routes.

Ms. Rheinheimer pointed out that the service option with the highest fairbox recovery is option (d) and the option with the lowest fairbox recovery is option (e).

Ms. Rheinheimer mentioned that staff would like to schedule a special meeting to allow the Board members more time to review the different options with staff.

The Board members stated that they would like to have the entire LTA Board present for comments.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Joe Thompson**  
**Tres Pinos, CA**

Mr. Thompson stated that the financing data is not explained in generally accepted accounting principles that businesses are required by the corporation's code and the federal and state taxing regulations authorities use. This serves as a great disadvantage to small rural counties like San Benito County.

**Lieutenant Eddie Escamilla**  
**Sheriff's Department**

Lieutenant Escamilla requested that the LTA Board consider extending an additional fixed route to the County Jail and Juvenile Hall. Lieutenant Escamilla stated that in the twelve years that he has worked for the County Jail he has observed that many people that travel to the Jail/Juvenile Hall travel by foot. Lieutenant Escamilla stated that service option (e) seems to be the best fit for his request because the route extends out towards the airport.

Chair Dias closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

The Director's were in support of Lieutenant Escamilla's request.

Ms. Rheinheimer stated that staff will contact Board members to schedule a special meeting to review the Short Range Transit Plan.

**5. Approve Amendment No. 2 to Contract with Moore & Associates to Extend Expiration Date from September 30, 2007 to June 30, 2008**

Transportation Planner Betty Li reported that Amendment No. 2 to Contract with Moore & Associates will extend the current expiration date of September 30, 2007 to June 30, 2008 to allow adequate time for the completion of the Short Range Transit Plan and plans for implementation and marketing of the preferred service recommendation. Ms. Li noted that the extension does not have a financial impact on the contract.

Staff recommended that the Board approve Amendment No. 2 to the contract with Moore & Associates.

*Upon a motion duly made by Director Marcus, and seconded by Director Pike, the Directors unanimously approved Item #5.*

**6. Approve Contract with MV Transportation, Inc. for County Express Transit Operations**

Transportation Planner Betty Li stated that the current contract with MV Transportation Inc. expired on June 30, 2007 and the Local Transportation Authority exercised three one-month extensions that will expire on September 30, 2007. The proposed new operations contract is for three years and will not exceed \$2,737,418. The contract will expire on September 30, 2010.

Ms. Li stated that staff reviewed five proposals, and interviewed all firms in August 2007. LTA staff negotiated with the top two firms to reach a best and final offer. LTA staff recommends MV Transportation, Inc.

Directors Marcus and Pike stated that in the future they would like to see all the competing proposals especially when the contract is over \$2 million.

Director Dias inquired if changing routes will affect the contract dollar amount.

Ms. Rheinheimer stated that there is a clause in the contract which states that the routes may be changed by a certain percentage without affecting the contract.

Ms. Rheinheimer introduced President of MV Transportation Kevin Klika, who took a few moments to address the Board.

Mr. Klika stated that he understood there is room for improvement and informed the Board that they have his commitment to better service and provided some background information about MV Transportation. Mr. Klika stated that the contract allows for a 20% change without having to renegotiate the contract. MV Transportation has increased drivers wages and will provide classes and training to improve customer service. MV will provide a webcam, real-time on-time web based tracker, which allows staff the capability to see where buses are at all times. Mr. Klika stated that this service is unheard of in small rural counties.

Mr. Klika introduced his staff who will work to provide better customer service and increase ridership; Manager Tony Mercado, Regional Manager Bill Lewis, and Vice-President of Public Relations Nikki Frenney.

There was discussion between the Board and Mr. Klika.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Joe Thompson  
Tres Pinos, CA**

Mr. Thompson stated that the LTA Board should vote against extending the contract for three years because it will be a burden on San Benito County taxpayers.

Chair Dias closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Ms. Rheinheimer explained the reasons why the other proposals were not selected by staff.

Director Marcus inquired if staff has notified the other firms of the results and asked if staff is certain that there is no potential dispute over the results.

Ms. Rheinheimer stated that all firms have been notified and she also offered to provide them a debriefing of what went well and what didn't go well.

Director Marcus and Director Pike reiterated that in the future they would like to see all the proposals and results.

Mr. Klika stated that he understood the Board members concerns; however he noted that MV Transportation does offer a satisfaction guarantee and they are the only company who allows that in their contract. Mr. Klika stated that the guarantee has been in the contract for the last two terms and if something were to occur, the Board has that option to fall back on.

*Upon a motion duly made by Director Pike, and seconded by Director Marcus, the Directors unanimously approved Item #6.*

#### **ADMINISTRATION ISSUES:**

- 7. Fiscal Year 2006/2007 Budget Report**
  - a) Receive Year End Budget Report**
  - b) Approve Budget Adjustments for Year End Closing June 30, 2007**

Administrative Services Specialist Kathy Postigo provided the Fiscal Year 2006/2007 Budget Report. Ms. Postigo stated that expenditures have increased from 04/05 due to depreciation in 06/07. Staff performs a review of the line item expenses to adjust line items to the budget at the closing of the fiscal year.

Ms. Postigo reviewed the budget transfers and expenditures with the Board.

There was discussion amongst the Board members and Ms. Postigo regarding some of the line items.

*Upon a motion duly made by Director Pike, and seconded by Director Marcus, the Directors approved Item # 7.*

*Upon a motion duly made by Director Dias, and seconded by Director Pike, the Directors unanimously voted to adjourn the LTA meeting.*

**ADJOURN TO LTA MEETING ON THURSDAY OCTOBER 18, 2007 at 2:00 P.M.  
AGENDA DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 10, 2007 AT 12:00 P.M.**