

**AUSTIN-SAN ANTONIO INTERMUNICIPAL COMMUTER RAIL DISTRICT**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Friday, June 3, 2005

10:00 am

CAPCOG Board Room

2520 S. IH-35, Suite 100

Austin, Texas

**I. Call to Order:**

Notice was duly posted and a Board meeting of the Austin-San Antonio Intermunicipal Commuter Rail District Board was held on Friday, June 3, 2005. Chairman Covington called the meeting to order at 10:19 am.

Chairman Covington thanked the Board and the audience for attending the June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2005 meeting of the Austin-San Antonio Intermunicipal Commuter Rail District Board meeting.

**Participants:**

Sid Covington, Chairman

Tullos Wells, Vice Chairman

Tommy Adkisson

Gonzalo Barrientos

Mariano Camarillo

Gerald Daugherty

Dave Marsh

Al Notzon

Carroll Schubert

Daryl Slusher

Sam Barshop, Fred Harless, Tim Tuggey and Senator Jeff Wentworth were unable to attend. Others participants included Ross Milloy, Bill Bingham, Christina Ybanez (attending in Mr. Tim Tuggey's absence), and Mr. Joe Morris (attending in Senator Jeff Wentworth's absence).

**II. Chairman and Member Comments:**

Dave Marsh thanked Gerald Daugherty for taking care of the CARTS equipment.

Carroll Schubert announced that this would be his last meeting. Schubert said that he was certain that the new mayor and council will appoint a new representative for the City of San Antonio. Schubert also expressed his gratitude for being able to serve on the board.

Daryl Slusher also announced that this would be his last meeting, as well. Slusher also stated that he is thankful to have served on the board for such a very worthy cause.

Vice-Chairman Wells expressed his appreciation for Schubert's and Slusher's efforts. Ross Milloy also added that, from the Staff's perspective, it has been a pleasure to work with Councilmember(s) Slusher and Schubert.

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### **III. Consider Approval of May 6<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Minutes:**

Upon motion by Tullos Wells and second by Gerald Daugherty, the Board unanimously approved the May 6, 2005 meeting minutes.

### **IV. Committee Reports:**

#### **A. Program Management Oversight Committee:**

Mariano Camarillo reported that the PMOC met on May 20<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup> in an effort to prepare for the approaching New Starts Application Deadline (August 15th)(minutes provided to each Member). PMOC recognizes the need for frequent PMOC meetings and will continue to meet at least once every monthly and more often, if necessary, because of the number of decision to be made to allow the consultants to proceed on track.

Chairman Covington urged everyone to attend the planned June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the PMOC.

#### **B. Public Information Committee:**

Dave Marsh reported that there was no PIC meeting this month, but did provide a summary of the PIC meeting from last month. Marsh also briefly discussed the public information material contained in a 3" binder and offered an electronic version to all Board members via Alison Schulze.

Chairman Covington briefly commented on the recent meetings held with Texas Transportation Commissioners.

Ross Milloy reported that more than 3,000 comments were received through the public meetings.

### **V. Status Report on Union Pacific Relocation, by Mario Medina, Director, Multimodal Operations, TxDOT:**

Mario Medina (TxDOT) presented "TxDOT Statewide Freight Study: Central Texas Rail Relocation." The presentation included the following information:

- Railroad Relocations
- Phase I – Austin/San Antonio Corridor
- Phase II – San Antonio bypass
- Phase III – San Antonio
- Conceptual Corridors
- Next Steps

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Mr. Medina reported that discussions with the Union Pacific continued, and he was hopeful that an agreement could be reached.

A lengthy discussion by the Board ensued.

### **VI. Consider selection of Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for FTA New Starts Application:**

Tom Shelton (Carter Burgess) presented "Austin-San Antonio Commuter Rail Project: Alternative Analysis Results – ASAICRD Board of Directors Meeting." The presentation included the following information:

- Project's Purpose and Need:
  - Improve Mobility throughout Corridor;
  - Improve Safety throughout Corridor;
  - Maintain Air Quality Status;
  - Create Multi-Modal Transportation System;
  - Provide Alternative Travel Option; and
  - Create Economic Development Opportunities
- Project History & Initiatives:
  - 1999 Feasibility Study;
  - 2004 Feasibility Study Update;
  - Phase 1 Ridership & Travel Demand Modeling Completed;
  - 2005 Alternatives Analysis to complete remaining FTA New Starts requirements;
  - Economic Development Impact Analysis of Each 14 Stations; and
  - Funding Strategies Investigated
- ASAICRD Board Direction:
  - Assumptions:
- FTA Section 5309 New Starts Program:
  - Programmatic Funding Grant Program
  - Only Federal Funding Program for Fixed Guideway Transit Initiatives
  - Fiercely competitive requiring "Good Projects"
  - 6 Focus Areas:
    - Mobility Improvements;
    - Environmental Benefits;
    - Operating Efficiencies;
    - Cost Effectiveness;
    - Transit Supportive Land Use
    - Other Factors.
- Project's Challenges:
  - A lengthy – prescriptive process;
  - Required to use MPO travel demand models;
  - Priority focus on cost-effective measure;
  - Criteria benefits smaller urban transit projects;

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- Cap at 50% federal funding application;
  - 135 AA projects expected to submit New Starts applications by August 15, 2005.
- Definition & Analysis of Alternatives;
  - Alt #1 – Full Service Plan;
  - Alt #2 – Initial Service Plan;
  - Alt #3 – North MOS;
  - Alt #4 – South MOS;
  - Alt #5 – Alt #2 w/Quarry Market Station;
  - Alt #6 – Alt #4 w/Quarry Market Station;
  - Alt #7 – MOS North 2;
  - Alt #8 – South MOS 2; and
  - Alt #9 – South MOS 3
- Results of Analysis;
  - Evaluation Matrix
- Consultant Team's Recommendations:
  - Adopt Alternative #1 (Georgetown to San Antonio as Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA);
  - Conduct June 17 PMO/Financial Workshop
  - July 8 Board Mtg – Select & Adopt New Starts "Federal Project"
  - Submit New Starts Application by August 15, 2005.
- Next Steps:
  - 06/03/05 – ASAICRD Board – Adoption of the LPA;
  - MPO Actions for LPA Approval:
    - 06/03/05 – SA – BCMPO TAC;
    - 06/15/05 – CAMPO TAC;
    - 06/27/05 – SA-BCMPO Board & Public Hearing;
    - 07/11/05 – CAMPO Board
    - 07/25/05 – SA-BCMPO Board
  - 06/17/05 – PMO Committee Meeting Workshop
  - 07/08/05 – ASAICRD Board adopts New Starts "Federal Project" and Financial Assumptions;
  - 07/15/05 – PMO Committee reviews New Starts Application, Financial Plan, and PMP;
  - 08/15/05 – Submission of New Starts Application and support documents to FTA.

A lengthy discussion by the Board ensued.

Upon Motion by Mariano Camarillo and second by Daryl Slusher to approve the recommendation of the P&PE Team Consultants to move forward with the Locally Preferred Alternative, to include the amendment to add a FM 3009 Station, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

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### **VII. Report on Status of Appointments to the Board and Administration of Oath of Office to Any Newly Appointed Board Members:**

Bill Bingham provided the Board with a copy of S.B. No. 182, concerning board members, telephone and video conferencing. Mr. Bingham reported that there have been ten total re-appointments (four have not yet been appointed). Mr. Bingham also stated that appointments made after September 1, 2005 will be staggered (present appointments will not be affected). Mr. Bingham also reported that the ability to video or teleconference will go into effect at that time. After September 1<sup>st</sup>, tests will be run concerning the video conferencing in Austin and/or San Antonio. Bingham also stated that the Austin-San Antonio Intermunicipal Commuter Rail District Board will be one of the first groups in the State of Texas able to utilize video conferencing for regular board meetings.

### **VII. Legislative Update:**

Mr. Milloy reported that the rail relocation fund passed and the State of Texas is considering how to assemble a \$2 billion fund for such efforts.

### **VIII. Financial Report:**

Mr. Milloy provided the Board with the document entitled, "Reconciliation Detail: Checking Account, Period Ending 05/31/05" for review and reference.

### **IX. Other Business:**

There were no other items of business brought before the Board.

### **X. Public Comment:**

Wilda Won acknowledged the contribution of Ed Kasparik, who passed away this week in California, who was a big supporter of this project and of all transportation projects in Texas. The Board acknowledged Mr. Kasparik's contributions.

### **XI. Adjourn:**

There being no further items of business brought before the Board, Chairman Covington adjourned the meeting at 12:16 p.m.