

MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, May 21, 2003
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Place: Madera County Government Center,
Board of Supervisor Chambers

Members Present: Chairman Frank Bigelow, Supervisor - Madera County
Vice Chair Gordon Skeels, Councilman - Madera County
Al Ginsburg, Councilman - City of Chowchilla
Gary Gilbert, Supervisor - Madera County
Ronn Dominici, Supervisor – Madera County
Harlen Rippetoe - Unincorporated Valley
Darwin Shebelut, Incorporated Area

Members Absent: Jon Norby, Eastern Madera County

MCTA Staff: Patricia S. Taylor-Maley, Executive Director
Lester Koga, Planner I
Derek Winning, Planner I
Tricia Stone, Receptionist

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Public Comment

This portion of the meeting is reserved for person(s) wishing to address the MCTA on items within the jurisdiction but not on this agenda.

There was no Public Comment.

III. Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2003

Upon, motion by Director Skeels, and seconded by Director Dominici, to approve the March 26, 2003 Executive Minutes as written. A vote was called and the motion carried.

IV. Administration

A. 2003-2004 Annual Work Program

The 2003/04 Annual Work Program has been prepared pursuant to adopted Authority procedures and the draft document was circulated to members in March 2003. The document before the Authority for consideration was updated to reflect the Department of Finance population estimates for May 1, 2003 and several minor project adjustments as requested by member agencies. This document is adopted at this time in order that the agencies may proceed on projects beginning July 1, 2003. The AWP is scheduled for amendment at the first Authority meeting after July 1, 2003 in order to accurately reflect carryover balances for each agency.

Action: Upon motion by Director Shebelut, seconded by Director Nabors to approve 2003/04 Annual Work Program. A vote was called and the motion carried.

B. *FY 2003/04 MCTA Operations Budget*

The 2003/04 MCTA Operations Budget provides for staff services, office facilities, memberships, and travel required in the conduct of the Authority's business. Annual revenues are fixed at 2% of annual proceeds. Unexpended budget reverts to the unallocated balance and are available for allocation to the agencies in the succeeding program year.

Action: Upon motion by Director Gilbert, seconded by Director Skeels to approve 2003/04 MCTA Operations Budget. A vote was called and the motion carried.

C. *Efforts to Reduce the Vote Threshold to Adopt or Renew Local Sales Tax Measures*

As you are aware, there are numerous pieces of legislation introduced to lower the vote threshold. They include those that the Authority has previously supported, such as ACA 7 (Dutra) which simply lowers the threshold from 2/3 to 55%. Other measures include ACA 9 (Levine), which is a so-called flip-flop changing the 2/3 vote requirement for special taxes dedicated for a specific purpose to a majority vote and increasing the threshold for general taxes to a 2/3 vote. There is also ACA 14 (Steinberg) and SCA 2 (Torlakson) which authorize lowering the vote threshold to majority vote, but only if a portion of funds are utilized for other purposes such as housing, open space community improvements under ACA 14 (Steinberg) and similar provisions under SCA 2 (Torlakson).

All of the measures require a 2/3 vote in the Legislature. Thus far they have been receiving committee approval but have not been taken up for a vote on either Senate or Assembly floor where Republican votes would be required for passage. There are no indications at this time that there are sufficient Republican votes for any of these measures and at this point in time it remains highly unlikely that any of these measures can be approved by the Legislature.

In addition to these efforts, the Silicon Valley Manufacturer's Group has raised funds to collect signatures to place a measure on the November 2004 State Ballot. Recent polling suggests that the measure with the greatest chance of success is one that increases the threshold to 2/3 for general taxes and lowers it to a majority vote for special taxes for a specific purpose.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

D. *Focus on the Future 2003 - Conference*

The Self-Help Counties – "Focus on the Future 2003" Conference will be held this year in the Huntington or Newport Beach area from October 19, 2003 (evening) through the afternoon of October 21, 2003. There will be a reception on Sunday, October 19, 2003 to kick-off the conference. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

IV. *Miscellaneous*

A. *Items from Staff*

Patricia Taylor-Maley, Executive Director, took this time to introduce MCTC's new staff member to the Board; Lester Koga, Transportation Planner I.

B. *Directors Reports*

No reports from Directors.

V. *Adjournment*

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Next meeting set for July 23, 2003
Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia S. Taylor-Maley, Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Authority