

AGENDA ITEM: A-1

DATE: June 21, 2012

ACTION: APPROVED

SYNOPSIS MINUTES - MORRO BAY PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING –MAY 23, 2012
VETERAN’S HALL – 6:00 P.M.

Chairperson Makowetski called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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| PRESENT: | Matt Makowetski | Chairperson |
| | Ron Burkhart | Vice-Chairperson |
| | Bill Olson | Board Member |
| | Richard Rutherford | Board Member |
| | Stephen Shively | Board Member |
| STAFF: | Rob Livick | Public Services Director |
| | Janeen Burlingame | Management Analyst |

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER
MOMENT OF SILENCE / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chairperson Makowetski opened public comment period.

Susan Macdonell, General Manager of Morro Bay Transit and Trolley, explained the recent senior rider training which was a big success. Macdonell also explained the operating hours of the trolley season which starts this Saturday. Times will be Saturdays from 11am -7pm and Sundays from 11am – 6pm and on holidays from 11am – 6pm. The trolley will operate until Labor Day from Friday to Monday. Schedules are available at the Visitors Center, the Transit office and City Hall. Macdonell also explained that Morro Bay Transit is operating from 6:25am to 5:45pm Monday through Friday. Call-a-Ride is \$2.50 a ride and is available by calling 772-2744 between the hours of 8am -10am to make a pickup appointment.

Chairperson Makowetski closed public comment period.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A-1 Approval of Minutes of February 16, 2012 - Recommendation: Approve minutes.

MOTION: Rutherford moved to approve the February 16, 2012 minutes. The motion was seconded by Shively and carried unanimously. (5-0).

A-2 Director’s Report/Information Items - Recommendation: Receive and file.

Rob Livick reviewed the Director’s Report with Boardmembers discussing water rates including a breakdown of water sources from State water versus wells and also the costs expended to date on the Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade project. Burlingame reviewed the Transit, Trolley, and Call-A-Ride programs and services with Boardmembers. Boardmembers continued discussion with staff on the City’s storm water system and where it discharges as well as the timing of 2012 Street Rehabilitation work program and the Collection Systems sewer section 6 repair work.

A-3 Morro Bay Citizens Bike Committee Memo dated April 23, 2012 – Recommendation: Receive and file.

Makowetski asked Livick to clarify the memo's discussion of Dynegy not wanting to grant an easement for the bike path to the Embarcadero until 2016. Livick clarified that the 2016 date may occur earlier due to the recent announcement of Dynegy closing.

MOTION: Burkhart moved to accept the consent calendar items. The motion was seconded by Shively and carried unanimously. (5-0).

OLD BUSINESS

B-1 Update on Transit Issues Regarding Regional Transit Authority North Coast Route Changes, Estero Bay Transit Proposal and FY 2010/2011 Transportation Development Act Audit – Recommendation: Receive and file.

Burlingame presented the staff report discussing the TDA 10-11 audit and the major changes that have occurred to RTA Rt. 11 specifically the restoration of hourly connections from Los Osos to Morro Bay. Burlingame clarified that because of these North Coast route modifications, the Council of Governments is withdrawing the Estero Bay proposal and it is no longer being put forth for consideration.

Boardmembers discussed the RTA changes and fare box recovery with staff:

- The audit in regard to the fare box ratio. Burlingame noted a change in the parking in lieu funds was made to the audit that was submitted to the Council of Governments. This was due to a difference in interpretation of State law between the auditor and the SLO Council of Governments relating to non-fare revenue allowed. The City is in compliance even with not including parking in lieu funds.
- Fare increases not as high as ridership increase. The City is required to honor regional and senior VIP passes where the City does not receive 100% fare recovery, which has caused the number of riders to increase at a higher rate than the fare increase.
- RTA schedule of hours are now extended into the evening.
- Fare increase and the need to increase revenues and lower expenses. The farebox ratio is an annual assessment. The City is close to the 10% and looking at ways to increase number of riders like changing Call A Ride policy to include all members of the public, making timely connections with RTA, and eliminating barriers to riding.

NEW BUSINESS

C-1 Request from the Morro Bay Citizens Tree Committee for Potential Listing of Landmark Trees - Recommendation: Review and Forward Recommendations to the City Council.

Livick presented the staff report, reviewing the procedure for listing of a landmark tree and noted that staff is seeking review and potential approval by PWAB to forward onto the City Council.

Livick explained both the average maintenance costs for tree trimming are on average \$400 a year and also the Tree Committee's evaluation of the 10-15 tree locations. The current City ordinance does not require proactive maintenance and this would not require an increase in maintenance costs but rather a better prioritization. This only applies to trees in the street right of way. One of the goals is to declare landmark trees regardless of public or private property.

Chairperson Makowetski invited Taylor Newton, Tree Committee member, to speak.

Mr. Newton stated the process is designed so anyone could nominate a tree in the City's public right of way for a landmark tree designation.

Boardmember Shively asked Newton if the different maintenance needs of trees are considered. Newton stated the idea is to have trees that people can agree are valuable. A regular maintenance schedule will be maintained to avoid additional costs. These are all City trees which already currently require maintenance.

Boardmember Burkhart asked if future designation requests will go before PWAB. Livick clarified that the ordinance requires that it go to PWAB first for recommendation to City Council.

Newton added that we need to determine what trees we want for the long term and how do they represent our heritage. In order for a citizen to get a tree to be declared a landmark tree, the first step is to contact Rob Livick, Public Services Director via email. Tree committee meetings are open to the public and are held at the Community Center.

MOTION: Shively moved to approve the recommendation in the staff report by Rob Livick and forward it to the City Council. The motion was seconded by Burkhart and carried unanimously. (5-0).

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Livick reviewed with Boardmembers future agenda items to include the street sweeper contract and maintenance staff will be present.

Boardmember Olson asked about the issue of bikes on Colman drive and the Class I bike path. The road is too narrow to handle cars and bikes but yet still see bikes on this section and emphasized better signage to direct bicyclists to take the bike path. Livick stated he will talk to the Bike Committee to make it safer for both bikes and cars. Livick suggested some advisory signs to better direct bicyclists to the bike path could be added.

Livick stated the next PWAB meeting will also include a concept plan for revisions to the rock parking lot in order to receive public input.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m. to the next scheduled meeting to be held at the Veteran's Memorial Hall on Thursday, June 21, 2012, at 6:00 p.m.