

TEHAMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 27, 2013

Present: Commissioners': Steve Chamblin; Gary Strack; Dennis Garton; Bob Williams; and Robert Schmid. Absent: Commissioner Robert Christison. Also present: Gary Antone, Executive Director and Barbara O'Keeffe, Deputy Director-Transportation.

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Chamblin at 8:03 a.m. with introductions.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT:
 - Commissioner Garton announced that at today's Board of Supervisors meeting the Chief of Calfire will be at the meeting for updates on the Deer Creek Fire.
 - Barbara O'Keeffe announced the AB23 for today's meeting.
3. APPROVAL OF JUNE 25, 2013 MINUTES: Motion by Commissioner Strack, second by Commissioner Williams to approve the June 25, 2013 minutes. Carried 5-0 with 1 absent.
4. ACCEPT LIST OF APPLICANTS AND APPOINT INDIVIDUALS TO THE SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (SSTAC) AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO APPOINT REPLACEMENT IF POSITION BECOMES VACANT: Barbara O'Keeffe identified the responsibilities and individuals representing the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC). Board members selected to serve are District 5, Burt Bundy and District 2, Sandy Bruce.

Motion by Commissioner Williams, second by Commissioner Garton to accept list of applicants and appoint individuals to the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC).

Commissioner Garton questioned the responsibilities of the SSTAC and Barbara O'Keeffe answered by saying they review the unmet transit needs and present their recommendation to the Commissioners'.

Commissioner Schmid questioned the 1/4¢ tax available for this process. Barbara O'Keeffe replied by identifying the tax available is from the fuel tax.

Gary Antone added that the process is to insure the public is well aware of transit needs, people unable to be served, and also as a requirement of the Act, we go through the process and be as open and transparent as possible, making service available, where it is reasonable. Once all those activities have occurred, any funding left has the opportunity to be disbursed to local agencies to use for transportation purposes, such as roads. Each of those are specific because the LTF dollars must be used for transit first.

Barbara O’Keeffe answered his question by saying written comments are received and evaluated by SSTAC and reviewed at their meetings, which occur two to three times.

With no further questions, the motion passed 5-0 with 1 absent.

Motion by Commissioner Williams, second by Commissioner Garton to authorize Executive Director to appoint a replacement if position becomes vacant. Motion carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

5. PUBLIC HEARING ON UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS AND ADOPTION OF THE DEFINITION OF “UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS” AND “REASONABLE TO MEET”:
 - A) OVERVIEW OF UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS PROCESS
 - B) ADOPT DEFINITION OF “UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS” AND “REASONABLE TO MEET”
 - C) OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

The public hearing opened at 8:16 a.m.:

- Ann Rennie-Beloit stated she is disabled with no vehicle transportation. With a child and grandchild, the bus is used as much as six times per day, using the bus pass available. Grateful for the bus system for medical appointments and school for the children, but I believe unmet needs are Saturday and Sunday transportation. Events at church cannot be attended due to no operation of the bus after 5 p.m., nor access to the Redding or Chico college facilities and cultural diversity.

Lupe Green, RTR resident, brought survey results and a map of the Rancho Tehama area representing all streets and paved roads. The distance from the front to the back of RTR is approximately 7+ miles. This distance is why many could not utilize the service last year. A survey was taken and 113 surveys were received back requesting bus service.

The Unmet Transit Needs and Reasonable to Meet definitions were read by Barbara O’Keeffe during technical difficulties.

A video was played for the Commission to identify areas of RTR.

Lou Beets, acting President of RTR Community Foundation, discussed the survey taken at RTR. Travel to Corning and Red Bluff, shopping, seeking jobs, and get to work are areas of concern.

Commissioner Strack questioned the 113 responses and the 1400 RTR population. This is only a representation of 10% of the population.

Mr. Beets felt the results were good. We have tried to prove the County cares and we are trying to get this done again.

Commissioner Strack questioned staff if in the previous survey, was there a school bus used, and Staff answered that there was a plan and CalWorks did have a van. As far as an option for coordination, it is a possibility.

Lupe Green added that this was not an option. We have done what has been asked. We have a very poor population, some who have no means of transportation, no phones, internet, and apprehensive of anything official. Many are reluctant to come out. Despite the TRAX budget was \$1,250,000, this year it is \$3,394,000 and yet we have been told there is no money for service. We really do need service out there and appreciate your time.

Irene Miller of Tehama County Community Action Agency, read discussions in the plan for 2014/15. Our Plan is on the website and you can read what we are trying to do to access RTR.

Ann Rennie-Beloit identified ways she is helping the public use the system more efficiently. She requested the group consider a new route for Saturday and Sunday's. Bus drivers have suggested a morning communitor, but if we look at those who leave at 5:00 a.m., this would not be sufficient. The new route could include Corning, Richfield, Red Bluff, Proberta, Los Molinos, Tehama, Dairyville and RTR.

Gail Locke submitted consideration of a route to Tehama County/Shasta Campus.

Roger Estes of Los Molinos suggested modification of Route 3. All busses go in one direction in the morning and the opposite in the afternoon. Every other bus could go in the opposite direction to eliminate waiting or riding the complete route.

Commissioner Garton asked for consideration of Unmet Needs, concerns in Manton and Mineral. No one talks about those people, similar to RTR. Sometime in the future service to Manton and Mineral should be considered.

Commissioner Williams discussed the "reasonable to meet" criteria in ridership. If we are going to get it out there, they have to keep riding it.

Ann Rennie-Beloit returned to comment for someone in the audience that a bench is needed in front of Raley's to safely sit and a cover for protection against the elements.

Bill Evertson, Antelope resident riding Route 2, discussed items that are carried on the bus, including strollers and groceries. I am trying to point out "cubic displacement logistics" to even carry groceries.

With no further comments, the Public Hearing closed at 9:08 a.m.

Commissioner Williams motioned to adopt the definitions of “Unmet Transit Needs” and “Reasonable to Meet”, motion seconded by Commissioner Strack. Motion carried 5-0 with 1 absent.

6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Motion by Commissioner Garton, second by Commissioner Williams to approve the claims in the amount of \$52,773.57. Motion carried 5-0 with 1 absent.
7. ADJOURN: With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:11 a.m.