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EXECUTIVE MINUTES

COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS POLICY BOARD

Date: Thursday, September 30, 2010
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Members Present: Mayor Trinidad M. Rodriguez, City of Kerman, Chair
Mayor Dennis Lujan, City of Selma, Vice Chair
Mayor Harry Armstrong, City of Clovis
Mayor Javier Marquez, City of Firebaugh
Councilmember Rico Aguayo, City of Fowler
Mayor Ashley Swearengin, City of Fresno
Mayor Ramon Dominguez, City of Huron
Mayor Bruce Blayney, City of Kingsburg
Mayor Robert Silva, City of Mendota
Mayor Armando Lopez, City of Parlier
Mayor Mary Fast, City of Reedley
Mayor Amarpreet Dhaliwal, City of San Joaquin
Mayor Victor Ruiz, City of Sanger
Supervisor Judy Case, County of Fresno

Christine Cox-Kovacevich, Caltrans
Janelle Kelley, Legal Counsel
Tony Boren, Executive Director

QUORUM: At the start of the meeting there were 10 members present representing 90.37% of the population and there was a quorum. (Clovis, Firebaugh, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Parlier, Selma and Fresno County). Councilmember Rico Aguayo (Fowler) arrived at 5:41 p.m. (11 members, 90.97%), Mayor Mary Fast (Reedley) arrived at 5:44 p.m. (12 members, 93.72%), Mayor Amarpreet Dhaliwal (San Joaquin) arrived at 5:46 p.m. (13 members, 94.15%) and Mayor Victor Ruiz (Sanger) arrived at 5:59 p.m. (14 members, 96.84%).

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m. by Mayor Trinidad Rodriguez (Kerman).

Fresno COG Sitting As the Transportation Policy Committee

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| A. FY 2010-11 Transportation Funding Claims – [FAWCETT] | Approve |
| B. FY 2009/10 CTAF Apportionments – Fresno COG Resolution 2010-30 [BESHEARS] | Approve |
| C. FY 2009-10 4 th Quarter Progress Report – [BESHEARS] | Accept |
| D. Annual Transportation Development Act (TDA) Allocations [FAWCETT] | Information |
| E. Call for projects FTA Sections 5316 Jobs Access Reverse Commute Program, Small Urban Areas and Section 5317 New Freedom Grant Programs for FY 2009 and 2010 [SOBRADO] | Information |
| F. San Joaquin Valley 511 Oversight Committee and http://www.511sjv.org Update [SOBRADO] | Information |
| G. 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment | Information |

Member Agencies: The cities of Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma & Fresno County

- Update [GARZA]
- H. Airport Land Use Commission Update – Draft Fresno County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan for Fresno-Yosemite International Airport - 45 day review [FAWCETT] Information
 - I. High-Speed Rail Update [THOMPSON]
 - 1. Key Findings from Recent Research on High-Speed Rail in California Information
 - 2. Letter Supporting Early Construction of the Fresno to Bakersfield Segment of the High-Speed Train System Information
 - J. Measure C Update –
 - 1. Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) Administrative Report [FAWCETT/SOBRADO] Information

For a complete summary of these items, please see the September 30, 2010 Annotated Agenda.

A motion was made by Mayor Armstrong (Clovis) and seconded by Mayor Lujan (Selma) to approve all Transportation Consent Items. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Measure C Amendment # 1- PUBLIC HEARING [VEENENDAAL]

Ms. Veenendaal (Fresno COG) presented this item and summarized the process that has taken place thus far. The Measure C Amendment #1 was released for 45-day review and comment on July 9, 2010. Mayor Rodriguez (Kerman) opened the Public Hearing and asked Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Harding for their comments. Mr. Calhoun commented that \$25,000,000 is too large of an amount to transfer to the High Speed Rail Facilities Program. He would like to see more money put into public transit. Mr. Harding opposes the \$25,000,000 transfer to High Speed Rail due to the projected number of trains per hour and the noise that these trains will generate. Mr. Perea, representing Fresno Works, asked for support for the High Speed Rail Maintenance Facility due to the number of jobs that will be created. Mayor Rodriguez (Kerman) closed the Public Hearing and asked for comments from the Board.

There was extended discussion amongst the Board members with acknowledgment from Mayor Swearingen (Fresno) that Dr. Calhoun is correct in his observation that public transit is in high demand and is underfunded. Supervisor Case (Fresno County) commented that alternative transportation is needed to move California forward. Mayor Blayney (Kingsburg) is not supportive of High Speed Rail in its current form; however, reminded the Board that this Amendment is about the Maintenance Facility and not the actual rail line.

Ms. Veenendaal commented that there was an error in the Action portion of the Annotated Agenda and it should read, "The Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee and Fresno COG staff recommend approval of Amendment #1 to the Measure "C" Extension Expenditure Plan." A motion was made by Mayor Lujan (Selma) and seconded by Mayor Dhaliwal (San Joaquin) to approve Amendment #1 with staff correction. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

B. Amendment #1 to FY 2010-11 Overall Work Program Work Element 150 [THOMPSON]

Mr. Thompson (Fresno COG) presented this item, asking for funding of a study of 26 miles of San Joaquin Valley Railroad corridor from the Tulare County line to Fresno within Fresno County. The study would complement similar information being developed for the San Joaquin Valley Railroad corridor in Tulare County. Staff recommends the retention of Railroad Industries Incorporated to perform the study as they are currently working on the study in Tulare County and could begin immediately in order to present their findings to COG Committees and Policy Board during the month of October. There is a need to move quickly on a potential regional response to the impending abandonment of the corridor in Tulare County and its potential abandonment in Fresno County and elsewhere.

Supervisor Case (Fresno County) commented that she has met with Fresno COG staff, Tulare County elected officials and Tulare County Association of Governments and this study will help understand how this will affect our businesses located along the smaller railroad lines. Mayor Blayney (Kingsburg) asked if this could be a two-step process whereby the need for the study

would be determined first and then if there is a need, the study would continue. Mr. Boren (Fresno COG) commented that Rail America is currently picking up rail lines in Tulare County; however, they are interested in partnering on a grant for lines in Downtown Fresno. Mr. Boren directed them to the City of Fresno as they would be the appropriate Agency to submit the grant. Ms. Cox-Kovacevich (Caltrans) commented on the impact the abandonment of short-haul lines would have on our Valley highways.

A motion was made by Mayor Lujan (Selma) and seconded by Supervisor Case (Fresno County) to approve FY 2010-11 OWP Amendment #1. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

C. Blueprint Update

1. Blueprint Related Funding - Prop. 84 – Resolution 2010 -29 [TWEBSTER]

Ms. Steck (Fresno COG) presented this item and noted a grant application was submitted at the end of August to the Strategic Growth Council for \$2,500,000 of Proposition 84 funds to support the ongoing, unfunded portion of the SJV Regional Blueprint, the development of Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and the implementation of SB 375. As the lead applicant for this effort, the Council of Fresno County Governments Policy Board must pass a resolution in accordance with the requirements of the Proposition 84 Planning Grant Program.

A motion was made by Mayor Silva (Mendota) and seconded by Mayor Blayney (Kingsburg) to approve Resolution 2010-29. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

2. Valleywide Blueprint Contract Extension with Great Valley Center [STECK]

Ms. Steck (Fresno COG) presented this item and asked for approval of extending the contract with Great Valley Center for an additional six months, specifically for hosting and building a Toolkit component for the website www.valleyblueprint.org. The money to fund the extension is available from the reserves in the Blueprint's 4th year grant.

A motion was made by Mayor Dhaliwal (San Joaquin) and seconded by Mayor Fast (Reedley) to approve the contact extension, on behalf of the Valley MPOs, to continue work with the Great Valley Center on developing the Valley Blueprint website, not to exceed \$18,000. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

3. SJV Blueprint Awards [STECK]

Ms. Steck (Fresno COG) presented this item and announced the winners of the awards which will be presented by the Regional Policy Council at the Fall Policy Conference luncheon on October 7, 2010 in Modesto.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

QUORUM: Mayor Swaengin (Fresno) left the meeting at 6:19 p.m. There were 13 members present representing 44.17% of the population and there was a quorum.

D. SB 83 (Hancock) Update [GARZA]

This item was presented by Ms. Garza (Fresno COG) wherein she summarized the bill and how it allows countywide transportation planning agencies to place a measure before county voters to authorize a vehicle registration fee (up to \$10). The bill requires that the fees collected be used only to pay for programs and projects bearing a relationship or benefit to the owners of motor vehicles paying the fee and are consistent with a regional transportation plan. Ms. Garza also mentioned that San Francisco has paid \$120,000 so far to get a measure on their ballot.

Supervisor Case (Fresno County) asked who would pay for the ballot initiative. Fresno COG could pursue according to legislation and would bear the cost. Mr. Boren (Fresno COG) highlighted that Fresno County has over 600,000 registered vehicles, so this could mean over \$6,000,000 for the area if this was pursued.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

E. SB 375 Update [CAI]

Ms. Cai (Fresno COG) presented this item and summarized the process that took place to arrive at greenhouse reduction targets for the Fresno County region suggested to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) in May 2010. In early August, the CARB released staff recommendation that was substantially higher. Despite testimony from the Valley to lower the targets, the CARB adopted a 5% reduction for 2020 and a 10% reduction for 2035 at their September 23, 2010 meeting. There is concern that even though these are placeholders and will not be finalized until 2014, it will be very hard to get any sort of reduction if the placeholders are left at this unattainable level. In addition, the Valley representative on the CARB (who is not an elected official) did not convey the lower targets voted on at the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control Board meeting to the CARB.

This was an information/discussion item. A motion was made by Mayor Lujan (Selma) and seconded by Mayor Dhaliwal (San Joaquin) to direct staff to draft a letter, using strong language, to the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control Board representative as well as to the Governor, that the Valley needs to be accurately represented and this is best done with a representative who is an elected official. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

F. Fresno COG 2011 One Voice Kick Off – Call for Projects [STECK]

Ms. Steck (Fresno COG) presented this item and mentioned the deadline for project submittal has been moved back to November 19, 2010, in order to see what happens at the mid-term elections. There might be some changes in what projects the different jurisdictions want to pursue.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

G. Caltrans Report [CALTRANS]

Ms. Cox-Kovacevich (Caltrans) presented this item and reported that the State still does not have a budget. If there is not a budget by the end of October, they will have to notify contractors that they won't be able to make payments to them.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

Fresno COG Sitting As the Council of Fresno County Governments Policy Board

III. REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

A motion was made by Mayor Blayney (Kingsburg) and seconded by Mayor Silva (Mendota) to reaffirm all actions taken while sitting as the Transportation Policy Committee. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

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| A. August 26, 2010 Policy Board Development Workshop Executive Minutes | Approve |
| B. Change to Fresno COG Employee Healthcare Plan [BOREN] | Approve |
| C. Monthly Legislative Update [GARZA] | Information |
| D. SJV Regional Policy Council Report [STECK] | Information |
| E. Strategy Research Institute Update [Manross/BOREN] | Information |
| F. Regional Clearinghouse [SOBRADO] | Approve |

	Project	Applicant
1.	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Early Head Start Expansion Refunding Application	Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission
2.	RHS 514 Loan	Corporation for Better Living

3.	USDA Rural Development, Wastewater Program	City of Orange Cove
4.	USDA Rural Development, Drinking Water Program	City of Orange Cove
5.	USDA-RD-HCFP-HPG-2010: Housing Preservation Grants	Self-Help Enterprises

For a complete summary of these items, please see the September 30, 2010 Annotated Agenda.

A motion was made by Mayor Blayney (Kingsburg) and seconded by Mayor Dominguez (Huron) to approve all Administrative Consent Items as outlined above. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley – Partnership Board Member Nomination [BOREN]

Mr. Boren (Fresno COG) reported that the Fresno COG has been asked to recommend to the Partnership Executive Committee three nominees for Board membership to fill the seat that has been held by Mayor Swearengin and asked for nominations.

Councilmember Aguayo (Fowler) nominated Mayor Dhaliwal (San Joaquin); Mayor Lujan (Selma) nominated Mayor Armstrong (Clovis) who declined the nomination; Mayor Blayney (Kingsburg) nominated Supervisor Case (Fresno County); and Mayor Armstrong (Clovis) nominated Councilmember Lynne Ashbeck (Clovis). These three names will be forwarded to the Partnership Executive Committee not using any priority ranking at the suggestion of the Board.

B. Follow Up from Board Development Workshop [BOREN]

Mr. Boren (Fresno COG) presented this item and summarized the decisions made at the August Board Development Workshop. The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) meeting will be conducted prior to the Council of Fresno County Governments Policy Board Meeting (tonight was the first time for this change), Public Presentations moved to the end of the Board Meeting, political candidates will no longer be able to address the Board, and any issues that come up outside the transportation/planning areas normally addressed by the Board would need to go back to the Member Councils/Boards for direction prior to any action by Fresno COG Board.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

C. California Consulting LLC Report [SAMUELIAN]

Steve Samuelian of California Consulting gave a verbal report on his consulting activities for the COG during the month. He reiterated the fact that the State does not have a budget. He will participate in a conference call Friday, October 1. The nomination for Darius Assemi to the California Transportation Commission has been withdrawn. He also highlighted the fact that there had been 15 grant announcements in the last month or so.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

1. Letter to California State Legislature regarding State Budget and Economic Development [BOREN] – Handout

Mr. Boren (Fresno COG) reported that this was an item that came out of the August Board Development Workshop, whereby staff was directed to draft a letter to send to the Governor and others regarding how the lack of a State budget is affecting the Valley and our ability to conduct business.

B. Items from Members

There were no items from Members.

VII. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the COG on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the COG on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.**

There were no public presentations.

Fresno COG Sitting As the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Authority

VIII. ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT

A. AVA FY 2009-10 Third Quarter Summary Status Report [THOMPSON]

Mr. Thompson (Fresno COG) presented this report. He plans to have a final report for the FY 2009-10 at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Mayor Lopez (Parlier) and seconded by Mayor Dominguez (Huron) to accept the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement FY 2009-10 Third Quarter Summary Status Report as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to the Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Agency Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren, Executive Director

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Attachment A

Observers and Non-Members
COG Board Meeting
September 30, 2010

Steve Samuelian, California Consulting, LLC
Juan Garza, California Consulting, LLC
Jeffrey Webster, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
Lynn Gorman, Fresno County
Scott Anderson, The Penstar Group
Leta Cravaglia, The Penstar Group
Brian Calhoun, Public Citizen
Loran Harding, Public Citizen
Henry Perea, Fresno County
Dave Spaur, Merced County EDC
Ron Peterson, FCTA
Bruce Rudd, City of Fresno
Steve Smith, FCDCC
Les Beshears, Fresno COG
Barbara Steck, Fresno COG
Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Brenda Veenendaal, Fresno COG
Melissa Garza, Fresno COG
Clark Thompson, Fresno COG
Lauren Dawson, Fresno COG
Kathy Chung, Fresno COG
Todd Sobrado, Fresno COG
Kai Han, Fresno COG
Marla Day, Fresno COG
Toni Graham, Fresno COG