



CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee Executive Minutes

Date: Thursday, December 9, 2010
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Place: Council of Fresno County Governments
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Members Attending:

Shawn Carlson, Public at Large, Chairman
Mary Savala, League of Women Voters, Vice Chair
Thomas Lang, Aquarius Aquarium Institute
John Clements, Kings Canyon Unified School District
Marc Johnson, Sanger Unified School District
Vong Mouanoutoua, Public at Large
Toni Pacini, Public at Large
Michael Sigala, Triangle Associates/Sigala Inc.

Others Attending:

Jeff Markarian, Dedekian Small George & Markarian Accountancy Corporation
Shonna Halterman, City of Clovis
John Downs, Fresno Area Express/Fresno COG
Ken Hamm, City of Fresno
Sherri Martin, Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA)
Tony Boren, Fresno COG
Les Beshears, Fresno COG
Brenda Veenendaal, Fresno COG
Toni Graham, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order by Shawn Carlson, Chairman at 5:07 p.m.

I. Presentations

A. Public Presentations

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the Committee 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

II. Minutes of October 14, 2010 Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting

The minutes of the October 14, 2010 Citizen Oversight Committee were approved by consensus. At this time, the memo from John Clements regarding school bus replacement was added as an agenda item.

During the FCTA Board meeting on December 8, 2010, the School Bus Replacement program was discussed. There is a partnership opportunity available with the San Joaquin Valley Air District that would increase the number of school bus replacements from 12 or 14 (the number FCTA can fully fund) to 28. The item was tabled to a Special Meeting of the FCTA in January as the Board members requested additional information. Sherri Martin, FCTA, gave a brief recap of the FCTA meeting and a rough presentation of the three options she is working on for the Special Meeting (numbers were not exact as she was waiting to hear back from some school districts). After extended discussion, a motion was made by Mary Savala to support the option that would replace 28 buses with both FCTA dollars and the money available through the Air District. Tom Lang seconded the motion with the additional provision that this is a way to maximize funds right now and is not an endorsement of the Air District or matching funds. There were two votes in favor, three opposed and three abstained; thus the motion failed.

III. Fresno Area Express (FAX) Fare Proposal

John Downs (FAX/Fresno COG) introduced Ken Hamm, Director of Public Transportation – City of Fresno, who reported on the proposed fare increase that will go before the City Council on December 16, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. He outlined the new fare schedule and noted that it had been ten years since the last fare increase. Handy Ride would increase from \$0.75 to \$2.50 or a multi-ride pass (42 one-way trips per month) is available for \$60 per month. It currently costs \$28 to operate one one-way trip on Handy Ride. The fixed route fare would be \$1.25 (up from \$1.00) and \$0.60 for riders over 65 or disabled. There is also an unlimited metro pass available that would allow rides on Fresno or Clovis buses. The over 65 rate is currently free but it has been brought to the attention of both the City of Fresno and Clovis that according to Public Utility Code (PUC) disabled riders are to be charged the same rate as a senior rider. FAX has consulted with their legal counsel and it was determined that the free senior rate would need to be changed to bring them in compliance with the PUC. Ms. Savala asked if this can be changed in the expenditure plan. Les Beshears (Fresno COG) pointed out where the provision for changes to the expenditure plan could be found within the expenditure plan document.

IV. Measure C Regional Transportation Plan Update

Les Beshears (Fresno COG) presented this item and gave a recap of the process to add \$82.8 million in new funds to the program. At their November meeting the Fresno COG Policy Board approved the following recommendation for the Measure C Regional Transportation Program, reprogramming SLPP and STIP funding, and forwarding it to the Transportation Authority for consideration on December 8, 2010.

- Program SLPP for the Construction of SR 180 East – Quality to Trimmer and Mountain View in 2012/13.
- Program current STIP for the Landscaping of SR 180 – Hughes to Brawley
- Program current STIP for the Right of Way for SR 180 East – Trimmer to Frankwood in 2013/14.
- Program the Construction Phase of SR 180 Trimmer to Frankwood as the next future STIP candidate. After SR 180 is completed, Veterans Blvd. would be the next project under consideration for STIP funding.

Tom Lang asked about the earliest availability of STIP funding for Veterans Blvd. Mr. Beshears advised that if the estimate of \$15 million per year holds true, Veterans Blvd. would be programmed for Right of Way in 2016/17. Mr. Lang mentioned that the Fresno City Council is voting on a 238-acre development at their December 16, 2010 meeting and the Environmental Impact Report is based on Veterans Blvd. being constructed in 2017.

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

V. Measure C Oversight Committee Local Agency Planned Expenditure Reporting Forms for Fiscal Year 2010-2011

Brenda Veenendaal (Fresno COG) presented this item and Shawn Carlson, Chairman, went through each form and asked if there were any questions. A motion to accept the reports as presented was made by Mr. Lang and seconded by Ms. Savala. A vote was called for and the motion carried with Michael Sigala abstaining from voting on the Sanger report.

VI. Measure C Pass-Through Funds Audits for Fiscal Years 2008 & 2009

Sherri Martin (FCTA) introduced Jeff Markarian of Ward, Dedekian, Small & Markarian Accountancy Corporation. He gave an overview of the process for auditing the Measure C pass-through funds and noted that their audit is performed after the local agency audits are completed. He noted that there were a few opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency. Mr. Markarian passed around copies of the audits performed and Ms. Martin has copies available for any member who would like a copy.

Ms. Martin reported that she would be meeting with Mr. Markarian and Mr. Beshears after the first of the year to discuss a workshop for the local agencies at the end of January. This workshop would provide information useful to the local agencies on the receipt, expenditure and maintenance of Measure "C" funds.

A motion to receive the Executive Summary was made by Mr. Sigala and seconded by Mr. Mouanoutoua. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

VII. Measure C Extension Local Transportation Pass Through Projects and Programs and annual reporting requirements for fiscal year 2009-2010

Sherri Martin (FCTA) presented this item and noted that she had a revised front page for the City of Sanger. These forms were presented to the Authority Board at their meeting on December 8, 2010. Ms. Martin noted that she is waiting for a breakdown on the flexible spending from the City of Kerman.

Ms. Savala brought up the issue of restriping existing bicycle paths as an unacceptable use of Measure "C" funds and mentioned that Mr. Paladino also has a huge issue with this expenditure. Ms. Savala reported that the bicycle advocates will be appealing. Ms. Martin has asked Mr. Paladino to submit something in writing so that Ron Peterson, Executive Director, can address his concerns. Mr. Vong noted that in looking at the Measure "C" Expenditure Plan, restriping would be an eligible expense.

A motion to accept all forms, with the exception of the City of Kerman flexible spending, was made by Mr. Lang and seconded by Mr. Mouanoutoua. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

VIII. Other Business

- A. Items from Staff – Ms. Martin clarified that this committee would like the three options for school bus replacement brought back in January.
- B. Items from Members – There were no items from Members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Boren, Executive Director
Council of Fresno County Governments

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