

Monterey County Regional Taxi Authority
MST Administrative Offices
One Ryan Ranch Rd., Monterey

MINUTES
April 27, 2015

Present:	Fernando Armenta	County of Monterey
	Tony Barrera	City of Salinas
	Victoria Beach	City of Carmel-by-the-Sea
	Kristin Clark	City of Del Rey Oaks
	Libby Downey	City of Monterey
	Dan Miller	City of Pacific Grove
	David Pacheco	City of Seaside
	David Pendergrass	City of Sand City
Absent:	Mary Ann Leffel	Monterey Peninsula Airport District
Staff:	Carl Sedoryk	General Manager/CEO
	Hunter Harvath	Asst. General Manager/Finance & Administration
	Andrea Williams	General Accounting & Budget Manager
	Lisa Rheinheimer	Director of Planning & Development
	Tom Hicks	CTSA Manager
	Deanna Smith	Executive Assistant/Clerk to the Board
	Alex Lorca	De Lay & Laredo
Public:	Karen Furot	MPD/RTA Administrator
	Roy Graham	TAC Member
	Michael Cardinalli	Salinas Yellow Cab/TAC Member
	John Cardinalli	Salinas Yellow Cab
	Tom Mancini	TAC Member

Apology is made for any misspelling of a name.

1. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of the RTA Chair and Vice-Chair, the board appointed Director Armenta to chair the meeting. Director Armenta called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and roll call was taken. The pledge of allegiance followed.

- 1-1. Roll Call.
- 1-2. Pledge of Allegiance.
- 1-3. Review highlights of the agenda.

Mr. Sedoryk reviewed the highlights of the agenda.

2. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

- 2-1. Conduct Election of new Vice-Chair.

Director Pendergrass made a motion to approve the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee's recommendation for Director Armenta to serve as Vice-Chair of the RTA for the remainder of FY 2015 and was seconded by Director Clark. The motion passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

No public comment.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- 4-1. Minutes of the regular meeting of January 26, 2015.
- 4-2. Minutes of the TAC meeting of March, 12, 2015.
- 4-3. Receive January – March 2015 Financial Statements.

Public Comment – none.

Director Barrera made a motion to approve the consent agenda and was seconded by Director Pacheco. The motion passed unanimously.

5. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

- 5-1. Receive update from RTA staff and the January – March 2015 Report from RTA Administrator.

Mr. Harvath reviewed the RTA administrator's report and summarized the activities of RTA staff over the last quarter.

Director Barrera asked if MST had researched whether the young woman mentioned in incident # 3 of the March incident report was in fact a minor and if MST is obligated to contact Child Protective Services (CPS) if a minor may be in danger.

Mr. Harvath stated that MST investigated the details of the complaint with Salinas Yellow Cab, whose driver was named in the complaint, and was informed that the woman was not a minor. Director Armenta suggested that in any situation in which a minor may be in danger, it is best to inform CPS in case there is a need for intervention.

6. BIDS/PROPOSALS

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

8. ACTION ITEMS

- 8-1. Receive report from March 12, 2015, TAC meeting and provide direction to staff.

Mr. Harvath reviewed the recommendations provided by TAC members at their meeting of March 12, 2015. Minutes of the meeting are included on page 15 of the agenda.

The board discussed the free market nature of Transportation Network Companies (TNC) and the relative benefits of taking a formal position against their business practices. Director Beach suggested that staff provide a comparison between the taxi industry's regulatory standards and those of TNCs so that the public could decide on their own which is safer and more beneficial.

Public Comment

John Cardinalli of Salinas Yellow Cab does not feel that there is much anyone can do to stop Uber from operating, but he does support the board taking a formal position and encouraging local municipalities to place limits on their presence in Monterey County. He supports the TAC recommendation to create specific guidelines for determining whether a new taxicab company applicant can prove a "need and necessity" for additional taxi services in the RTA jurisdiction before being approved for a company permit. He supports instituting a non-refundable application fee.

Close Public Comment

Director Downey made a motion to support the recommendation of the TAC to take no further action on creating or requiring the use of taxicab industry apps or placing a moratorium on new taxicab company applications. The motion was seconded by Director Pendergrass and passed unanimously.

Director Beach made a motion directing staff to return to the board with proposed guidelines for the requirement in Section 22.4.3.3 that new taxicab company applicants must prove "Existing taxicab businesses are not adequately serving the public with respect to taxicab services." The motion was seconded by Director Downey and passed unanimously.

Director Beach made a motion directing staff to return to the board with a proposed non-refundable application fee for new taxicab applicants and was seconded by Director Downey. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Beach made a motion directing staff to return to the board with a proposed informational fact/position sheet comparing the practices of the taxi industry and transportation network companies. The motion was seconded by Director Pacheco and passed unanimously.

Mr. Sedoryk stated that motions two and four may result in a substantial cost to the RTA; therefore, in addition to the requested proposals, staff will return with a cost/benefit analysis for each item to aid the board in making a final decision.

- 8-2. Receive FY 2014 RTA Annual Financial Report and provide direction on RTA start-up fees repayment plan.

Mr. Harvath reviewed the RTA's financial position and recommended that the board approve reimbursing MST the \$178,419 it has advanced to the RTA through 6/30/2014. Staff also recommends the board direct staff to develop a repayment plan for start-up fees paid by member jurisdictions.

Public Comment

Roy Graham asked how MST staff separates the time it spends on RTA-related work from the work spent on the day-to-day business of MST. Mr. Harvath stated that staff allocates time worked on behalf of the RTA with pay codes on their timesheets.

Close Public Comment

Director Barrera made a motion to approve the reimbursement of \$178,419 to MST for funds advanced on behalf of the RTA and directed staff to return with a proposed repayment plan for member jurisdictions that have requested repayment. The motion was seconded by Director Beach and passed unanimously.

- 8-3. Adopt preliminary FY 2016 operating budget and refer to Finance Committee for review and recommendation.

Mr. Harvath presented the draft FY 2016 budget.

Director Pendergrass made a motion to refer the draft FY 2016 budget to the Finance Committee for review and approval by the RTA board at its July 27 meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Barrera and passed unanimously.

- 8-4. Receive and approve the application of Benjamin J. Miller as the Hospitality-Lodging representative to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

Director Barrera asked if members of the TAC understood that they represent their respective constituents within the entire RTA jurisdiction rather than representing the companies they work for. Mr. Harvath stated that the TAC has a good history of representing the interests of their constituents within all jurisdictions, whether they are seniors, persons with disabilities, students, locals, or tourists.

Director Barrera made a motion to approve the application of Benjamin J. Miller, appointing him to serve on the Ad Hoc Technical Advisory Committee as a representative of the hospitality/lodging industry. The motion was seconded by Director Clark and passed unanimously.

9. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

- 9-1. Reports on meetings attended by board members at RTA expense (AB1234).
- 9-2. Board member Comments and Announcements.

Director Beach listened to a radio broadcast featuring an executive at Uber. He defined Uber as part of a larger cultural shift to reduce car travel and believes Uber is part of that shift.

Director Barrera stated that early every morning in Salinas, hundreds of field workers ride in buses to work. These buses are unregulated and probably do not comply with standard safety guidelines.

Mr. Sedoyrk stated that on May 5 the City of Marina will consider joining the RTA. MST staff will be present at the city council meeting to answer questions.

- 9-3. Board member Referrals to TAC or future RTA agendas.

Director Pendergrass requested that RTA staff send a thank you note to Mr. Narigi, who recently resigned from the TAC. He would like staff to send all retiring TAC members thank you notes.

10. CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION ITEMS

- 10-1. KSBW: Monterey taxi drivers: Uber is unfair competition.

11. CLOSED SESSION

12. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

- 12-1. Report on action taken during Closed Session.

13. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Director Armenta adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Prepared by: 
Deanna Smith, Clerk to the Board