

SAN JOAQUIN REGIONAL RAIL COMMISSION

Meeting of March 7, 2008

STAFF REPORT

Item: 4.1	Description: Minutes of February 1, 2008
Action	Staff: Ms. Mortensen

SAN JOAQUIN REGIONAL RAIL COMMISSION

MINUTES

For the Meeting of February 1, 2008

The regular meeting for February 1, 2008 of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission was held at 8:00 am at the Robert J. Cabral Station, 949 East Channel Street Stockton, CA 95202

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Chairman Restuccia called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioners Present: Harris, Sayles, Ruhstaller, Haggerty, Blalock
Chairman Restuccia,

Ex-Officio Members Present: Tom Dumas (Caltrans) Steve Dial (SJCOG)

2. Public Comments

Alan Purves reported on the effort by the Caledonians to attract enough ridership to warrant a special train for the August 30th 2007 Scottish Games. The approach will include a 3-month period for advance sign-ups and allow ample time to determine the viability of a special train.

3. Presentations and Recognitions

Thomas Reeves, Coordinator of Strategic Developments and Communications introduced new staffmembers D'Andre Berry and Brennen Buttram.

Chairman Restuccia called Operations Supervisor John Giovannoni up to the front of the room to be recognized and receive a certificate of achievement for his outstanding and creative efforts in turning an ACE shuttle problem into a very innovative solution.

4. Consent Calendar:

All items listed immediately below will be acted upon under one vote unless specifically requested to be removed from the Consent Calendar by a member of the Commission, a member of staff, or a member of the public.

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4.1	Minutes of February 1, 2008	ACTION
4.2	Rail Commission/ACE Monthly Expenditure Report	INFORMATION
4.3	Monthly ACE Fare Revenue	INFORMATION
4.4	ACE Ridership	INFORMATION
4.5	ACE On-Time Performance	INFORMATION
4.6	Approve Resolution for Caltrans Planning Grant Application (Amended from previous submittal)	

Staff pulled item 4.2 "Monthly Expenditure Report". Nila Cordova, Director of Fiscal Services, Facilities and Administration noted that an old report was included in the packet by mistake. She directed the Board's attention to the correct sheets that had been handed out.

M/S/C (Haggerty/Harris) to approve the Consent Calendar. Passed and Adopted by the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission on the 1st day of February, 2008 by the following vote to wit:

Ayes: 6 Harris, Ruhstaller, Sayles, Haggerty, Blalock, Chairman Restuccia,

Noes: 0

Abstain: 0

5. Short Term Improvements to ACE Shuttle Services (Information Only)

Jim Stoetzel, consultant to the Rail Commission on the ACE Corridor Analysis, reported on several near-term improvements that were identified in the study to improve the shuttle connections. Mr. Stoetzel recapped the efforts of Mr. Giovannoni, and outlined operational improvements that are being made in the Tri Valley to allow buses to pick up passenger in the parking lot, rather than across the street, and moving the pick-up location at the Dublin/Pleasanton BART station a little closer to the station entrance. These improvements were having an immediate positive effect on ridership and will likely continue growing as the modified services were advertised.

6. Approve SJRRC/ACE Fiscal Year 2007/2008 Capital Budget Amendment #1

Mr. Baxter reported on several administrative adjustments to the annual budget, including:

- \$950,000 increase to ACE Signal Project due to aggressive project work by UPRR
- \$200,000 increase for additional studies, engineering efforts and cost estimates for the ACE Corridor Analysis
- \$250,000 increase to include the final 10% retention payment on the newest ACE locomotive
- \$1,400,000 reduction to the Mid-Life Overhaul item due to holding off on the project until a joint effort with Dallas Area Rapid Transit can be arranged, to take advantage of an estimated \$700,000 in cost savings.

Mr. Baxter noted that the \$1,400,000 reduction will offset the cost increases of the other line items. Commissioner Haggerty asked whether the delay in the mid-life overhaul would

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negatively affect the locomotives. Mr. Baxter reported that locomotives were still well within the limits to allow time to work out a cost-saving partnership with DART.

M/S/C (Sayles/Haggerty) to Approve the SJRRC/ACE Fiscal Year 2007/2008 Capital Budget #1, Passed and Adopted by the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission on the 1st day of February, 2008 by the following vote to wit:

Ayes: 6 Harris, Ruhstaller, Sayles, Haggerty, Blalock, Chairman Restuccia,
Noes: 0
Abstain: 0

7. New ACE Website Passenger Tools (Information only)

Mr. Reeves outlined new website features that will be available to provide passengers with up-to-date information that is tailored to their needs. The recent passenger survey indicated that long-time riders wanted easier access to critical service information and didn't want to wade through all of the information that is typically on a general website. As part of the new program, user preferences can be set to show only the information that the passenger is interested in. A new concept, Conductor Max (My ACE Express) has been developed to focus on the existing passengers with a variety of communication tools.

Mr. Reeves also described a new virtual portal on the ACE website whereby users can view 360-degree photos of the ACE trains and stations. There will be two portions of this new portal. The public part will feature virtual tours specifically of interest to those who may not be familiar with the trains or stations. The private, password-protected part will feature more in-depth tours specific to the needs of emergency personnel; such tours include instrument panels onboard the train and private offices in the Cabral Station.

9. Commissioner Comments

Chairman Restuccia noted that the SJCOG Board had voted to maintain the existing structure and the appointing process for the Rail Commission Governing Board.

10. Ex-Officio Comments

Tom Dumas, Caltrans confirmed that the Rail Commission's Planning Grant application had been received.

11. Executive Director Report

Ms. Mortensen discussed a new partnership with Doctor's Hospital of Manteca, and the potential health related lectures that and demonstrations that could be conducted onboard the ACE trains.

12. Closed Session

Property:

Parcel # 13935010 No Assigned No., Stockton, CA 95202

Parcel # 15106039-40 No Assigned No., Stockton CA 95202

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Parcel # 13935001 1225 North Union St., Stockton CA 95202

Parcel # 13935003 1111 North Union St., Stockton CA 95202

Negotiating Parties: San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission

Union Pacific Railroad – 13935010, 15106039, 15106040

Mr. Peter Schmitz – 13935001

Mr. Gerald Young – 13935003

Under Negotiations: Price and Terms of Payment

13. Adjournment 8:45 am

The next meeting is scheduled for:

Friday, March 7, 2008 @ 8:00 A.M.

Robert J. Cabral Station

949 E. Channel Street

Stockton, CA 95202