

ITEM 3A.

SAN JOAQUIN REGIONAL RAIL COMMISSION

MINUTES

For the meeting of March 2, 2007

The regular meeting for March 2, 2007 of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission was held at the Robert J. Cabral Station, South Hall Meeting Room, 949 E. Channel St., Stockton, CA. 95202.

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

Vice-Chair Restuccia called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and proceeded to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commission Members Present: Harris, Sayles, Ruhstaller, Bestolarides, Blalock
Vice-Chair Restuccia,

Ex-Officio Members Present: Ajise, Chesley

2. Public Presentations and Recognitions

None

3. 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.

A.	Minutes of February 1, 2007	ACTION
B.	Rail Commission/ACE Monthly Expenditure Report	INFORMATION
C.	Monthly ACE Fare Revenue	INFORMATION
D.	State and Federal Legislative Updates	INFORMATION
E.	ACE Ridership and On-Time Performance	INFORMATION
F.	2007/2008 Draft Baseline ACE Service Plan	INFORMATION

Vice-Chair Restuccia asked for clarification on item 3.F., and Director of Operations Gregg Baxter clarified that in the Draft Baseline ACE Service Plan, the correct price for a monthly pass between Stockton and the Tri-Valley is \$176.79.

M/S/C (Harris/Blalock) to approve the Consent Calendar. Passed and Adopted by the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission on the 2nd day of March, 2007 by the following vote to wit:

Ayes: 6 Harris, Sayles, Ruhstaller, Bestolarides, Blalock, Vice-Chair Restuccia,
Noes: 0
Abstain: 0

4. Mid-Year Work Program and Budget Report (Information)

Mr. Baxter reported on the ACE Service performance for the first six months of the year. Ridership has been slowly growing compared to last year, attributable in large part to the worsening on-time performance. Increasing freight train interference, train dispatching problems and the inability of Union Pacific to prioritize importance maintenance projects, have all contributed to significant passenger delays over the first half of the fiscal year.

Mr. Baxter reported on the major Work Program elements, including the introduction of the midday train, new ticketing kiosks at the Great America and Pleasanton stations, onboard wi-fi service, automated train tracking and announcement system, marketing and outreach efforts and the ACE Passenger Advisory Council. He also updated the Board on the status of the new ACE Mechanical Facility and the procurement process for four new railcars.

Director of Planning and Programming, Brian Schmidt, briefed the Board on the progress of the Cabral Station Area Revitalization project. With property acquisition imminent, the project will be ready to move into the construction phase this Summer for the station parking expansion and new entryway off of Aurora Street. Mr. Schmidt also reported on the status of the ACE Corridor Study and the Rail Service Expansion Opportunities Study.

Director of Fiscal and Administrative Services, Nila Cordova, briefed the Board on the status of the financial activities during the first six months of the fiscal year. Fare revenues are right on target with projections, and expenses in all major categories are well under budget. All projections indicate that the financial situation will be very solid at the end of the fiscal year.

5. Report on SJRRC Expansion Study Policy Advisory Committee Meeting (Information)

Ms. Mortensen reported on the February 22nd meeting of invited elected officials and staff from up and down the Central Valley between Merced and Sacramento. Most of the meeting time was spent on brainstorming potential opportunities for future commuter rail, and understanding the desires and concerns that specific jurisdictions might have. All in attendance expressed interest in studying the opportunities in greater detail. Vice-Chair Restuccia noted that everyone was supportive of the commuter rail concept and were very interested in how it could link the communities and serve as a catalyst for more sustainable growth patterns.

6. Commissioner's Comments

None.

7. Ex-Officio's Comments

Mr. Andy Chesley, SJCOG Executive Director, commented on the status of the recommended CMIA infrastructure bond allocations. He noted that there are components of the remaining bond programs that are attractive for transit projects, and that SJCOG would be supporting the efforts of SJRTD and the Rail Commission in securing funding.

Mr. Kome Ajise, Director of Caltrans District 10, noted that the Rail Commission's current participation in the Northern CA Trade Corridor is an important step toward applying for the trade and transit related bond funds.

8. Executive Director Report

Ms. Mortensen noted that staff had been working with Stanislaus County to include funding for interregional rail service in their Regional Transportation Plan update. This is an important step for ensuring that a commuter rail program is included in any future sales tax expenditure plans for Stanislaus County.

SJCOG, Caltrans and Rail Commission staff are working together on potential projects for newly available STIP funding.

The Commission successfully passed an important Federal Railway Administration Safety Audit of the ACE Emergency Preparedness Plan. Ms. Mortensen thanked Doug Warner of Herzog and Gregg Baxter for their efforts in developing the plan, and more importantly, for following through and consistently applying all of the protocols and procedures.

9. Closed Session

Right of Way Negotiations – Government Code 54956.8

Property: Railroad Right of Way

Negotiating Parties: San Joaquin Regional Commissions, Union Pacific Railroad

Under Negotiations: Price and Terms of Payment

10. Closed Session

Real Property Negotiations – Government Code 54956.8

Conference with Real Property Negotiators: Brian Schmidt, Phil Pennino

Property: Parcel # 15114007 – 911 E. Channel Street, Stockton, CA

Parcel # 15114015 – 920 Miner Avenue, Stockton, CA

Parcel # 15114014 - 930 Miner Avenue, Stockton, CA

Negotiating Parties: San Joaquin Regional Commission,

Mr. Glenn Bockman, Harold Womble, Pete Gretchen – 15114007, 15114015, 15114014

Under Negotiations: Price and Terms of Payment

The Commission adjourned into Closed Session at 8:55 a.m. and returned to Open Session at 9:15 A.M. Mr. Tom Shephard, Legal Counsel for the Commission, reported on the Closed Session and noted that no action was taken.

M/S/C (Bestolarides/Sayles) To add Item 11. to the Rail Commission Agenda – Approve Resolution Authorizing the purchase of the Bockmon & Woody Electric Plant and Immediate Parcels from Glenn Bockmon, Harold Womble, and Pete Gretchen in an amount Not to Exceed \$1,550,000 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute all Necessary Documents. Adopted by the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission on the 2nd day of March, 2007 by the following vote to wit:

Ayes: 6 Harris, Sayles, Ruhstaller, Bestolarides, Blalock, Vice-Chair Restuccia,

Noes: 0

Abstain: 0

11. Approve Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of the Bockmon & Woody Electric Plant and Immediate Parcels from Glenn Bockmon, Harold Womble, and Pete Gretchen in an amount not to Exceed \$1,550,000 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute all Necessary Documents.

M/S/C (Bestolarides/Sayles) to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Bockmon & Woody Electric Plant and Immediate Parcels from Glenn Bockmon, Harold Womble, and Pete Gretchen in an amount Not to Exceed \$1,550,000 and Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute all Necessary Documents. Passed and Adopted by the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission on the 2nd day of March, 2007 by the following vote to wit:

Ayes: 6 Harris, Sayles, Ruhstaller, Bestolarides, Blalock, Vice-Chair Restuccia,

Noes: 0

Abstain: 0

12. Adjournment

The next regular meeting is scheduled for:

April 6, 2007 at 8 a.m.

Robert J. Cabral Station

949 E. Channel Street

Stockton, CA 95202