

**CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
MASS TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
COUNCIL HEARING ROOM
995 PALM ST.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2010
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Susan Rains called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Susan Rains, Denise Martinez, Elizabeth Thyne, Art Apruzzese, Margaret Crockett, and Stanley Yucikas

Absent: Robert Wolf and Tracy Amundson

Vacant: Alternate (open)

Staff: John Webster, Dee Lawson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Webster informed the Committee that member Robert Wolf had been hospitalized and would not be in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

A. CONSENT ITEMS

A-1. Approval of November 18, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes

It was noted that the minutes incorrectly listed the Chair being present and that Mr. Yucikas ran the meeting and that Tim Bochum was the staff member who presented the staff reports.

Mr. Yucikas moved to approve the minutes as amended.

Ms. Crockett seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no discussion items.

C. ACTION ITEMS

C-1. Review Surf Cab Company application for Certificate of Convenience & Necessity

Mr. Webster reported on the application and noted the item was on the Council's agenda for their meeting on January 19, 2010.

After detailed discussion, staff recommended that the MTC approve the application and recommend to Council for a public hearing on January 19, 2010.

The applicant (Peter Maurant) was present and provided details regarding Surf Cab Company service in other areas (the airport, Paso Robles, Morro Bay, and Atascadero) and stated there had been no complaints or service issues raised in these jurisdictions. He also stated that he has a commercial insurance policy for the San Luis Obispo operation which is pending and awaiting Certificate approval by the Council and that he has five vehicles that are ready to operate in his fleet.

After confirming that Surf Cab had three Crown Victoria model vehicles in its fleet, Mr. Apruzzese distributed a report on purported safety hazards associated with that type of vehicle – most specifically, concern with the placement of the fuel tank which can puncture in rear end collisions. He further discussed the poor safety record of the Crown Victoria and did not believe cab customers should be exposed to the risks of that particular model and did not believe the City should endorse the use of said vehicles.

Staff and the MTC discussed the various safety concerns and the report Mr. Apruzzese distributed.

Mr. Webster did not think the municipal code; chapter 5.20 includes any basis to reject an application based on the use of certain models or vehicles that were street legal and registered by the DMV for use. He further stated he did not believe the scope of the MTC's approval could include rejection based on model-specific information and that the Council would have the benefit of an opinion from the City Attorney if it was raised on this issue during the public hearing.

Mr. Apruzzese moved that the MTC oppose the application based on safety concerns regarding the Crown Victoria vehicles and that the MTC further recommend Council reject the application.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Yucikas and Mr. Mourant discussed possible replacement vehicles for Surf Cab's aging fleet and suggested using more fuel-efficient and "green" options in the future. He also discussed that the "wait time" charge was listed at \$35 and that the standard fee with the other certified cab companies was only \$25. Mr. Mourant stated he was willing to consider a lower amount during the public hearing process.

Mr. Yucikas moved to approve the staff recommendation that the MTC approve the Surf Cab Company application and recommend to Council for a public hearing on January 19, 2010, along with the issues of possible vehicle safety concerns and "wait time" rate variances for the Council to consider as part of their process.

Ms. Rains seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

D. INFORMATION ITEMS

D-1. Transit Manager's report

D-2. Operating-Performance reports

Mr. Webster presented highlight discussion on:

- **Ridership report**
- **Contractor issues**
- **Contractor Liquidated Damages**
- **Capital projects**
- **The Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL)**
- **FTA 5317 New Freedom Grant**
- **SOCIAL MEDIA**
- **SLOCOG-TDA Funding**
- **FY 2008-09 Closeout**
- **State Funding issues and the California Transit Association**
- **Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing**

Mr. Webster stated that he thought the goal of reaching or exceeding the one-million ridership mark would not be achievable this Fiscal year. Some possible explanations were the impact of the new Poly Canyon village and more students living on campus, the recent fare increase, and the price of gas falling were all factors in the current lower ridership numbers when compared to last FY.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting of March 10, 2010 at 2:45 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED AT REGULAR MEETING ON MARCH 10-2010

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Woske, Recording Secretary