

**SAN BENITO COUNTY
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
REGULAR MEETING**

September 16, 2010 2:00 P.M.

FINAL MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Gomez, Director Bilich, Director Botelho, Director De La Cruz, and Director Emerson

STAFF PRESENT:

Deputy County Counsel, Shirley Murphy; Executive Director, Lisa Rheinheimer; Transportation Planning Manager, Mary Gilbert; Transportation Planner, Betty LiOwen; Secretary, Monica Gomez

OTHERS PRESENT:

Aileen Loe, Caltrans District 5

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Gomez called the meeting to order at 2:01 P.M.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

Upon a motion duly made by Director De La Cruz, and seconded by Director Emerson, the Director's unanimously approved the Certificate of Posting.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Chair Gomez stated for the record that the COG Board received Joe Thompson's public comment correspondence dated August 30, 2010 through September 13, 2010. The correspondence was entered into the public record.

D. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Rheinheimer provided the Board with a copy of the letter received from Congressman Sam Farr. Ms. Rheinheimer, along with Chair Gomez, and Director Botelho, met with Congressman Farr to discuss transportation needs and transportation projects. Ms. Rheinheimer stated that it was a productive meeting.

Ms. Rheinheimer reported that staff was successful in receiving \$96,359 in Air District Grants for the following four projects: 1) Update the Rideshare website 2) Printing of Safe Routes to School Brochures 3) Continue with LTA's Intercounty Service 4) Installation of Bike Racks on Buses.

There was an additional joint application awarded in the amount of \$61,000. Staff put the application together along with Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties for a Joint Bike Week promotion. Ms. Rheinheimer expressed appreciation towards County Board of Supervisor, Reb Monaco for helping in securing these funds.

Ms. Rheinheimer announced that the County Board of Supervisor's considered making its share of the Highway 25 Bypass a designated Truck Route, which will also be going before the Hollister City Council for consideration. Ms. Rheinheimer stated that there is a bigger discussion about truck routes within the County and she will be reporting back on the subject at the October meeting.

Ms. Rheinheimer asked to continue Item 1 to COG's September 30th Special Meeting.

Director Botelho commented that the County Board of Supervisors is drafting a letter of support to the City of Hollister in regards to designating the new Highway 25 Bypass as the designated Truck Route and abandoning the current truck route on Santa Ana Road.

E. BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REPORTS: None

1. Closed Session:

1. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

No. of cases: 2

Authority: California Government Code Section 54956.9(a)

Council of San Benito County Governments v. Hollister Inn

Joseph P. Thompson v. San Benito County Council of Governments, San Benito County

Board of Supervisors

Upon a motion duly made by Director De La Cruz, and seconded by Director Emerson, the Director's unanimously approved to continue Item 1 to the September 30th Special meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 2. APPROVE** Council of Governments Draft Meeting Minutes Dated August 19, 2010 – Gomez
- 3. APPROVE** Council of Governments Transaction Report (Financial Claims) Dated August 2010 – July 2010 – Postigo
- 4. RECEIVE** Construction Projects Report – Caltrans District 5
- 5. APPROVE** Revised Amendment No. 3 to Contract with Kelley Engineering & Surveying, Increasing the Contract Budget by \$15,125 for the Preparation of Right of Way Maps – Gilbert

Ms. Rheinheimer asked to pull Item 4 from the Consent Agenda.

Upon a motion duly made by Director De La Cruz, and seconded by Director Emerson, the Director's unanimously approved Items 2, 3, and 5 from the Consent agenda.

Item 4

**Aileen Loe
Caltrans District 5**

Ms. Loe clarified that the Highway 156 – Soft Median Barrier Project is encountering a short delay. The contractor is trying to acquire the appropriate materials. Caltrans will provide an update at the next Board meeting.

Ms. Loe also noted that the State is in a very challenging time to continue to operate without a Budget. Statewide there are 690 projects with contracts totaling 9.8 billion dollars. Caltrans is confident about making progress payments to contractors for ongoing projects that are due this month however, carrying further into the month of October without a Budget becomes more challenging. Likewise, with regard to cash flow, Caltrans is preserving all cash flow to carry existing contracts forward, but is postponing the award of bid openings and awarding new contracts.

Upon a motion duly made by Director Emerson, and seconded by Director De La Cruz, the Director's unanimously approved Item 4.

REGULAR AGENDA

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS:

6. APPROVE Contract with Willdan Financial Services to Complete the 2010 Traffic Impact Fee Program Update for an Amount Not to Exceed \$100,000 – Gilbert

Ms. Gilbert reported that COG received eight proposals in response to the Request for Proposals. Four firms were interviewed by COG, the City, the County, and Caltrans on September 1. Willdan Financial Services was selected as the top ranked firm. The consultant will begin work on the Update following contract approval on September 16. A Draft Program Update Report is scheduled to be complete by December 31, 2010.

Ms. Gilbert stated that included in the scope of work for the project is extensive public outreach, with a minimum of four committee and stakeholder workshops that will be geared toward building consensus on the fee program. Additional staff-level meetings will be held biweekly to ensure that the project remains on schedule.

Ms. Gilbert noted a correction on the contract with Willdan Financial Services under Item 7, Specific Terms and Conditions. The first Item should be checked as follows: [X] There are no additional provisions to this contract.

Director Botelho commented that he was pleased with the contract and confident that there will be a positive outcome.

Upon a motion duly made by Director Emerson, and seconded by Director Botelho, the Director's unanimously approved Item 6.

7. RECEIVE Update on the Highway 25 Safety and Operational Enhancements Project – Gilbert

Ms. Gilbert reported that major items of project construction are complete and final contract acceptance and project closeout is anticipated in October.

A project completion ceremony was held on September 9, 2010. Representatives from the CHP, Caltrans, City of Hollister City Council and San Benito County Board of Supervisors spoke about the project and its benefits to San Benito County drivers.

Chair Gomez thanked staff for their diligent work and commented on how the completion of this project has addressed major safety concerns and the improvements are much appreciated.

Upon a motion made by Director De La Cruz, and seconded by Director Emerson, the Director's voted to adjourn the COG meeting.

ADJOURN TO COG MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2010.