

# SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

**Minutes- Board of Directors**

**May 19, 2000**

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District met on Friday, May 19, 2000 at the City Hall Council Chambers, 809 Center Street, Santa Cruz, California.

Chairperson Beautz called the meeting to order at 8:44 a.m.

## **SECTION 1: OPEN SESSION**

### **1. ROLL CALL:**

#### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Sheryl Ainsworth  
Jeff Almquist  
Jan Beautz  
Katherine Beiers  
Kenneth Burch  
Tim Fitzmaurice  
Bruce Gabriel  
Michelle Hinkle  
Mike Keogh  
Mike Rotkin

#### **DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Bruce Arthur  
Oscar Rios (arrived at 9:12 a.m.)

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Mark Dorfman, Asst. General Manager  
Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel  
Leslie R. White, General Manager

### **2. REVIEW OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

District Counsel Gallagher reported that the Closed Session Minutes of April 21, 2000 would be considered for approval. There will also be a conference with Legal Council regarding the Anticipated Litigation of Joselin Lopez; the Existing Litigation of Sandra Bass; the Liability Claim of Vernon Dixon and the Untimely Claim of Margarita Rocha.

### **3. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION REGARDING CLOSED SESSION**

None

## **SECTION II: CLOSED SESSION**

Chairperson Beautz adjourned to Closed Session at 8:45 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session at 8:59 a.m.

## **SECTION III: RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

#### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Sheryl Ainsworth  
Jeff Almquist  
Jan Beautz

Tim Fitzmaurice  
Bruce Gabriel  
Michelle Hinkle

Katherine Beiers  
Ken Burch

Mike Keogh  
Oscar Rios (arrived at 9:12 a.m.)  
Mike Rotkin

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Bruce Arthur

**STAFF PRESENT**

Bryant Baehr, Operations Manager  
Kim Chin, Planning & Marketing Manager  
Mark Dorfman, Assistant General Manager  
Linda Fry, Service Planning Supervisor  
Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel  
Terry Gale, IT Manager

Tom Hiltner, Grants/Legislative Analyst  
David Konno, Facilities Maint. Manager  
Elisabeth Ross, Finance Manager  
Judy Souza, Base Superintendent  
Tom Stickel, Fleet Maint. Manager  
Leslie R. White, General Manager

**EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Brian Atwell, OBIE Advertising  
Jim Bosso, S. C. Transportation  
Wally Brondstatter, UTU  
Scott Bugental, Lift Line  
Fiona Cogan, Westside Resident  
Mike Dempsey, OBIE Advertising  
Patti Korba, SEA President

Jeff LeBlanc, MASTF Chairperson  
Ian McFadden, UTU President  
Manny Martinez, PSA Chairperson  
Jeff Mitchell, OBIE Advertising  
Cam Pierce, Bus Rider  
Marion Taylor, League of Women Voters  
Candace Ward, UCSC

**1. REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION - District Counsel**

Counsel Gallagher reported that the Closed Session Minutes of April 21, 2000 were approved. The potential claim of Joselin Lopez was discussed. The existing litigation with Sandra Bass, et al was discussed as well as the liability claims of Vernon Dixon and Margarita Rocha.

**2. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. Petition from Casserly Road Residents in Watsonville for Service
- b. Mission Hill Junior High - RE: MetroBase
- c. Jason Pate - RE: MetroBase
- d. Fiona Cogan, Westside Resident, urged the Board to look at the Harvey West location as an alternate site for the proposed MetroBase facility.
- e. Cam Pierce, bus rider, asked if her previous request for bus service to the Mt. Madonna Conference Center has been discussed and if so, what the decision is. Ms. Pierce would like better communication as to the outcome of this request.

**3. LABOR ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATIONS**

None

#### **4. METRO USERS GROUP (MUG) COMMUNICATIONS**

Director Gabriel stated that there was lengthy discussion at the recent MUG Meeting of May 17 regarding the ADA Paratransit Recertification. The MUG Committee recommends the selection of Nelson Nygaard for the recertification program.

#### **5. METRO ACCESSIBLE SERVICES TRANSIT FORUM (MASTF) COMMUNICATIONS**

Jeff LeBlanc, MASTF Chair, reported that the MASTF Committee made two motions at their meeting of May 18: A Motion was made to extend availability of paratransit service to include Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day through pre-scheduled appointments with Lift Line. This was discussed with Jim Bosso and Scott Bugental who raised no substantial objections. It would just be a matter of whether the Board will fund it. MASTF requested that Staff do a preliminary estimate of ridership interest.

A second Motion was made to request that the Board join MASTF in writing a letter to Governor Davis requesting he withdraw his support for the Supreme Court challenge to the applicability to State governments of Title 2 of the ADA. Mr. LeBlanc requested that the Board direct Staff to write a letter on its behalf to the Governor in this regard.

#### **DIRECTOR RIOS ARRIVED AT 9:12 a.m.**

Director Rotkin asked if it wouldn't be a better strategy to try to perfect the ADA rather than arguing that nothing can be touched in the ADA policy.

Director Fitzmaurice requested a report from Staff on the cost of providing paratransit service on the holidays specified in order to see the budget impact. He further asked for information on this decision of the Governor and whether the District should participate and send a letter. This information will be available by the next Board meeting.

#### **6. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SUPPORT EXISTING AGENDA ITEMS**

##### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>ADD TO ITEM #7-3</b>      | ACCEPT AND FILE PASSENGER LIFT REPORT FOR APRIL 2000<br>(Add Usage Report)  |
| <b>DELETE FROM ITEM #7-4</b> | CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS: Deny the Claim of:<br>AAA (Subrogation for Louise French); Larry Mungiolli; Remove Skill<br>Center from the Mark Stevens Claim. |
| <b>DELETE ITEM #19</b>       | CONSIDERATION OF AWARD FOR SECURITY SERVICES<br>This item will be continued for one month to look at technicalities.  |

## CONSENT AGENDA

### Review Consent Agenda Items 7-1 through 7-10

- 7-1. APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF 4/14/00 AND 4/21/00 AND SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF 4/14/00
- 7-2. ACCEPT AND FILE PRELIMINARY APPROVED CLAIMS
- 7-3. ACCEPT AND FILE PASSENGER LIFT REPORT FOR APRIL 2000
- 7-4. CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS: Deny the Claims of: Mark Stevens; Sherry Sanstede. Deny the Application to File a Late Claim and Reject the Claim as Untimely Filed: Margarita Rocha

#### Discussion:

Margarita Rocha was not yet present at meeting. She will address the Board when she arrives.

- 7-5. ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES OF MASTF COMMITTEE MEETING OF 4/20/00
- 7-6. ACCEPT AND FILE MINUTES OF MUG COMMITTEE MEETING OF 4/19/00
- 7-7. ACCEPT AND FILE MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS REPORT FOR MARCH 2000 AND APPROVE BUDGET TRANSFERS
- 7-8. ACCEPT AND FILE HIGHWAY 17 STATUS REPORT FOR MARCH
- 7-9. ACCEPT AND FILE STATUS REPORT ON ADA PARATRANSIT PROGRAM FOR MARCH
- 7-10. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF SENIOR CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE RECLASSIFICATION

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR GABRIEL**

A Motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda.

The Motion passed with Director Arthur absent.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 8. PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY AWARDS

#### Summary:

The Board of Directors formally recognized the following employees for their years of service.

#### FIFTEEN YEARS

Kenneth Brown, Facilities Maintenance Worker II

James Hobbs, Facilities Maintenance Worker III

TWENTY YEARS

Larry Mungioli, Bus Operator  
James Hall, Fleet Maintenance Mechanic II  
John Aspesi, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

Aurelio Preciado, Bus Operator

**9. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING STAFF TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO CALTRANS FOR BUS STOP IMPROVEMENTS**

**Summary:**

Mark Dorfman reported that upon Board authorization Staff would submit an application to Cal Trans for \$20,000 in funding with a match of \$5,000 from the District to support bus stop improvements in rural areas. A map was distributed showing rural areas of the county.

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR KEOGH**

A Motion was made to authorize Staff to submit an application to Cal Trans for funding of bus stop improvements in rural areas.

The Motion passed unanimously with Director Arthur absent.

**10. 9:00 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING ON FY 2000-2001 DRAFT FINAL BUDGET  
THE PUBLIC HEARING TO TAKE INPUT BEGAN AT 9:20 A.M.**

**Summary:**

Elisabeth Ross reported that the Draft Final Budget was circulated to interested parties and agencies for input. This proposed budget would fund the continuation of the existing level of service with the exception of \$150,000 for service improvements. Ms. Ross met with union representatives last week to review the budget and cited that the major impact would be in the paratransit program. The paratransit program will be over budget in the current year and Ms. Ross discussed the potential taxicab increase of 25%-30%.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Director Fitzmaurice reiterated that Staff should attend the May 23 City Council meeting where the taxicab fare increase will be discussed. Staff was requested to return to the Board next month with a further analysis of this line item and available options. Les White reported that last year the number of registrants for the Paratransit Program were 5,000; currently there are approximately 7,200 registrants. Director Almquist requested an analysis on what types of people are registering. This will, hopefully, explain the large increase of usage in March and how the new registrants might be hearing of the service.

Scott Bugental responded to Director Almquist that nothing had been done by Lift Line to promote the paratransit service in January and February which would be reflected in the March figures. Mr. Bugental stated that the District would have the information of who registered in February and March and could obtain that information.

Mark Dorfman informed Director Fitzmaurice that the District currently pays approximately \$1M to Santa Cruz Transportation and that Lift Line, who the District is under contract with, subcontracts 70% of the scheduled rides to the cab companies. The current contract with Lift Line expires at the end of this year. Mr. Dorfman will supply Director Keogh with monthly billings to show what percentage of the \$2.5M goes directly for fares to private providers and the direct operational cost of Life Line that is allocated to overhead.

Mr. Bugental recalls that Lift Line's contract with the District isn't just that they contract 70% of the rides, but he believes the current contract stipulates that Lift Line will reimburse the taxi companies at the meter rate. In terms of Lift Line's ability to negotiate different contracts, part of that is restrained by their contract with the District. Mr. Bugental stated that Lift Line looks at the audit as an opportunity to define ways that the system can be run more efficiently. Mark Dorfman will research to find out if the 4% COLA is applied to the taxicab portion of the billing.

Jim Bosso of Santa Cruz Transportation stated that Deluxe Cab is putting in for the increase. He also stated that his firm receives approximately \$400,000 in paratransit rides, not \$1M. Mr. Bosso further stated that he had a 5-year projection and that since 1996 there have been increases in numerous costs. Mr. Bosso suggested that these factors be looked at every two years instead of waiting five years. Mr. Bosso will meet with Sherry at Deluxe Cab on Monday and will ask that instead of requesting \$2.50 per mile, they back off to \$2.00 per mile. Director Almquist expressed concern that this might appear to be rate fixing. Mr. Bosso informed Director Rios that out of the 52 cabs, 17 are independent owner/operator, 6 are employees and the balance are independent.

Fiona Cogan read a list of general factors regarding the Draft Budget. These factors include: redirect funds targeted for MetroBase on the Westside to acquiring an alternate site, apportion funding for South County bus storage with emergency maintenance facilities, assign funding for hybrid electric buses instead of CNG, redirect \$36,000 from Administration Travel to Paratransit, include a training budget for maintenance workers for conversion to CNG, assume sales tax revenue level with 99/00. A copy of these factors is attached to the Minutes and made a part thereof.

**THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED AT 9:58 A.M.**

Director Burch questioned the "Parking Paving - Repair/Seal/Replace" line item under the Operations Facility section of the Draft Budget and was informed that this project was originally costed out to be completed over two years; however, due to the necessity of relocating buses each time, it was more feasible to complete the entire project at one time. Director Burch also questioned the decrease in revenue from Cabrillo College and was informed that this is due to Cabrillo discontinuing the mandatory bus pass policy two years ago. The current contract with Cabrillo was predicated on the mandatory bus pass program. The Cabrillo contract will be agendized for discussion at the June Board meeting.

Ian McFadden suggested it would be more cost effective to have the Cabrillo students pay \$1.00 for each bus ride and that this revenue would ultimately outstrip any loss of revenue from the elimination of the mandatory bus pass program. Ian discussed Route #81 and the fact that ridership is low during its peak period. He will discuss the #81 with Linda Fry at the Service Review Committee next week. All ridership data will be pulled together and reviewed.

Les White stated that if it is determined that Cabrillo will definitely not reinstitute the mandatory bus pass program, then they should not receive a preferred contract rate and free access to the rest of the system.

Mr. White reported that the Governor identified \$3.1M in funding for clean fuel buses for the District. This proposal will go to the legislature. Les White will attend the CTA Legislative Conference on May 22 and 23. Director Rotkin directed Staff to correspond with Fiona Cogan to explain how Administration Travel is pertinent to acquiring funding since this was one area she suggested decreasing. Director Rotkin also asked Staff to investigate the feasibility of leapfrogging over CNG to a hybrid fuel technology. Mr. White brought to the Board's attention that the \$3.1M in funding is for clean fuel buses, not specifically CNG, and this is not included in the Draft budget as it has not been approved by the legislature.

Director Rotkin suggested that one copy of the Draft Final Budget be placed at the reference desk of the public library.

**11. CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ASSESSMENT FOR COOPERATIVE RETAIL MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

**Summary:**

Staff is asking for Board approval to pay the assessment on property owners for the support of the Cooperative Retail Management District in downtown Santa Cruz.

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR ALMQUIST**

A Motion was made to approve payment of the assessment for support of the Cooperative Retail Management District.

The Motion passed with Director Arthur absent.

**12. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT ON FINANCIAL IMPACTS OF RESTRICTING BUS ADVERTISING**

**Summary:**

Kim Chin reported that without Contravision advertising, the annual minimum guarantee would be reduced by \$97,400 over the last two years of the contract. Mr. Chin also informed the Board that all expired ads are being removed from the buses. Staff recommends that in the

event Contravision ads are eliminated, all current contracts for Contravision ads be allowed to run and as of the date of Board action, no additional Contravision ads would be sold.

**Discussion:**

Director Rotkin asked Staff to recommend a reasonable period of time in which expired ads should be removed from the buses. Staff will ensure that OBIE Advertising contacts clients prior to their contracts expiring in order to discuss their subsequent advertising needs. Staff will work with OBIE to improve their method of removing the advertising decals which will minimize the need to repair the paint on the buses.

Director Ainsworth stated that minimal safety guidelines are needed if the District continues with the Contravision ads. Director Rotkin requested that staff report back to the Board regarding comments that the Contravision ads block the back windows of some buses and limit the driver's visibility out the back window. Brian Atwell, Marketing Manager for OBIE Media, said OBIE would produce displays to promote the District. Ian McFadden stated that the UTU union could not advocate removal of \$50,000 in income and he supports Staff's recommendation to continue with Contravision ads. Director Almquist requested a staff report at next month's meeting recommending a policy decision for the safety issues and development of a policy for removing expired ads.

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR RIOS**

A Motion was made to continue the current advertising program.

**ACTION: AMENDMENT:** Director Gabriel asked that the Motion be amended to direct Staff to report on the potential revenue George Couch Distributing ads might generate.

The Motion passed with Director Fitzmaurice voting "no" and Director Arthur absent.

**13. CONSIDERATION OF GRANTING A 13.87% PROPERTY INTEREST TO THE CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY IN THE SCOTTS VALLEY TRANSIT CENTER/PARK & RIDE FACILITY**

**Summary:**

Margaret Gallagher spoke with Chuck Comstock who stated that the agency name should be Scotts Valley Redevelopment instead of the City of Scotts Valley

**DIRECTOR GABRIEL LEFT THE MEETING AT 10:39 A.M.**

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR KEOGH SECOND: DIRECTOR ROTKIN**

A Motion was made to grant the City of Scotts Valley a 13.87 % property interest in the Scotts Valley Transit Center/Park and Ride Facility subject to the same conditions set forth in Metro's grant deed for the property.



The Motion passed unanimously with Directors Arthur and Gabriel absent.

**14. UPDATE AND REVIEW OF EMERGENCY BUS RADIO PROCUREMENT OF APRIL 14, 2000**

**Summary:**

Bryant Baehr reported that the panic alarm system has been up and running since Friday, May 12, 2000. The handsets will be remounted this week in a location that is more ergonomically correct. This situation was resolved within twenty days of the Board recognizing this as an emergency. Thanks were given to all involved for making this a smooth installation.

**15. CONSIDERATION OF STATUS REPORT ON FINANCING OF SUMMER BEACH SHUTTLE**

**Summary:**

Mark Dorfman reported that letters have been distributed requesting contributions to the Beach Shuttle. No response was received from either Beach Merchants or the Business Council. The City of Santa Cruz agreed to provide an advertising wrap for the shuttle along with the funding that was requested of them. After all contributions, the deficit remains at \$4,224.00. Staff is recommending that the District move forward with the Beach Shuttle.

**Discussion:**

Director Rotkin expressed that the City of Santa Cruz should make up the deficit or put pressure on business owners to contribute more towards this shuttle. Director Rotkin expressed concern that if the District makes up the difference, this situation will occur repeatedly on other special shuttles.

**DIRECTOR GABRIEL RETURNED TO THE MEETING AT 10:44 A.M.**

Director Fitzmaurice recommended that the District support this shuttle service. Mark Dorfman stated that the shuttle service begins May 27 which still gives the City time to contribute the remaining funds. Director Beiers noted that the City's budget is approved at the second meeting in June. Director Burch questioned the increase in the cost of this project over last year and was informed that in addition to requiring more supplemental service this year, Staff has gone through another contract year which increased the costs. Les White also added that last year the shuttle service cost the District more, however, the District funded the difference. This year, the additional costs were included in the cost of the project. To create a more accurate year-to-year comparison of this project, last year's figures will be revised to reflect the actual cost to the District. Bryant Baehr will return to the Board with these revised figures.

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR RIOS**

A Motion was made for Staff to clarify that the District will only provide 23% of the shuttle cost and encourage the City of Santa Cruz to fund the outstanding balance.

Director Fitzmaurice is against requesting additional contributions and offered to help find the money for the District to fund this project.

The Motion passed with Director Fitzmaurice voting "no" and Director Arthur absent.

**16. CONSIDERATION OF STRATEGY ON SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT AND VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY JOINT MEETING TO CONSIDER HIGHWAY 17 EXPRESS IMPROVEMENTS**

**Summary:**

Les White reported that he would meet with the General Manager of VTA and recommend that 4 Directors from each Board meet to initiate the Highway 17 Express discussions. There are both State and local issues which affect this corridor and Mr. White feels this should be acted upon quickly.

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR GABRIEL**

A Motion was made to authorize the Board Chairperson to transmit a letter to the Chairperson of VTA requesting a joint meeting to discuss Highway 17 Transit Service Improvements.

The Motion passed with Director Arthur absent.

Director Burch requested that either himself or another representative of UCSC be present at this meeting.

**17. CONSIDERATION OF SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE WATSONVILLE-CAPITOLA-SANTA CRUZ-UCSC CORRIDOR**

**Summary:**

Kim Chin requested that recommendations from the Service Review Committee for the Fall schedule be approved for the Watsonville-Capitola-Santa Cruz-UCSC corridor in order to strengthen the infrastructure. These improvements are needed due to added ridership, traffic and construction which make it difficult to make the time points that are listed in the Service Review decided that instead of adding more service at this point, the District should strengthen the infrastructure and foundation before any additional service improvements are made. The proposal is to restore service to the #69 and #1 corridors. Service to these areas was cut by \$375,000 in 1994. Staff is proposing to partially restore this with \$132,000 in service. These steps will improve the direct routes and those routes that interline with the #69 and #1. If approved by the Board, these recommendations would take place in September as part of our Fall improvements.

**Discussion:**

Bryant Baehr verbally informed the Board of the Service Review Committee composition, as follows: 4 management staff, 4 UTU members, Bryant, Judy Souza, Mary Ferrick, Kim Chin, Linda Fry, Ian McFadden, Wally Brondstatter, Steve Paulson, Sandra Lipperd, David Dunlap. Customer service representatives are also included.

Director Fitzmaurice asked what the comparison is between the cost of extending weekday Highway 17 service to Metro Center, and other requested services that are comparable in cost to the \$132,000 being spent on improvements to this corridor. The Service Review Committee will look closely at #71.

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR RIOS**

A Motion was made to approve the service improvements for FY 00-01 totaling \$132,000 to restore on-time performance to the Watsonville-Aptos-Capitola-Live Oak-Santa Cruz Route 69 corridor, as well as Route 1 University.

The Motion passed unanimously with Director Arthur absent.

**18. CONSIDERATION OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR FURNISHING PORTABLE VEHICLE HOISTS AND ASSOCIATED BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**Summary:**

Staff is recommending that the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Steril-Koni for furnishing portable vehicle hoists, and that the necessary budget amendment be made to transfer funds from excess sales tax revenues.

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR ALMQUIST**

The Motion passed unanimously with Director Arthur absent.

**19. DELETED**

**20. CONSIDERATION OF RENEWAL OF SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY CONTRACT FOR SUBSIDY OF HIGHWAY 17 EXPRESS**

**Summary:**

Staff is recommending that the Board authorize the General Manager to negotiate and execute an extension to the Purchase of Service Agreement with San Jose State University for the continuation of two evening trips on the Highway 17 Express should be University desire to continue the Agreement.

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR ALMQUIST**

A Motion was made to approve the Staff recommendation.

The Motion passed unanimously with Director Arthur absent.

**21. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO USE STATE CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF PARATRANSIT VANS**

**Summary:**

Staff recommends that the Board authorize the General Manager to use the State Procurement Process to purchase paratransit vans.

**ACTION: MOTION: DIRECTOR ROTKIN SECOND: DIRECTOR ALMQUIST**

A Motion was made to approve the Staff recommendation.

The Motion passed unanimously with Director Arthur absent.

**DIRECTOR RIOS LEFT THE MEETING AT 11:01 A.M.**

**7-4. CONSIDERATION OF TORT CLAIMS: Deny the Application to File a Late Claim and Reject the Claim as Untimely Filed: Margarita Rocha**

**Summary:**

Ms. Rocha slipped and fell at the Watsonville Transit Center. Robyn Bortnik, an investigator retained by the District, took a report from Ms. Rocha. Ms. Rocha is experiencing severe pain from her hand to her shoulder and is still receiving medical treatment. She is asking how the medical expenses will be paid.

**Discussion:**

Margaret Gallagher, District Counsel, reported that Staff's investigation revealed that expenses were paid by Medicare with a balance of \$37 remaining. Ms. Rocha filed her claim with the District after six months had passed. Ms. Rocha is concerned that she is still experiencing pain and seeking medical treatment. Ms. Gallagher was directed to meet with Ms. Rocha at the end of this meeting. Ms. Rocha mentioned that she had been talking with staff in the Legal Department office prior to the six month expiration.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Chairperson Beutz adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DALE CARR  
Administrative Services Coordinator