

MEETING OF THE PLUMAS COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
1834 E. Main St., Quincy - COUNTY OF PLUMAS - Tel. 283-6268

MINUTES

April 16, 2012

Meeting of the Plumas County Transportation Commission (PCTC) opened with roll call at 1:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Plumas County Public Works Department, Commissioners in attendance are: John Larrieu, Sharon Thrall, Robert Meacher, Susan Scarlett and Jon Kennedy.

Staff Attendees: Robert Perreault, Executive Director, John Mannle, Associate Engineer/Transportation Planner, Jim Graham, Senior Planner and Cinda Leonard, Recorder.

Public Attendees included: Jimmy LaPlante and Michele Piller, Plumas Rural Services, Aaron Cabaccang and Michelle Millette, Caltrans.

1a. Public Forum for the Public

At the last Transportation Commission meeting a letter from Quincy Fire Department (QFD) was introduced. Their request was for a donation of a surplus bus to replace their aging support vehicle. The decision of the Commission was to send a letter to all County Fire Agencies requesting their input on the donation. John Mannle reports that the letter has been sent and there have been 5 responses so far. All responses are favorable for the donation of the bus to QFD. The decision is made to reintroduce this item at the next Transportation meeting after all responses have been received. Commissioner Larrieu inquires if County Counsel has been contacted in regards to the legality of the donation. John Mannle states that he intends to speak with County Counsel before the next meeting.

1b. Public Forum for Commissioners

Commissioner Meacher comments on the aging of the guide signs on the State and local sign posts. He states that most of the signs are faded, broken or are missing altogether. He inquires as to the replacement of the signs.

Commissioner Scarlett asks if the “low shoulder” signs on Highway 70 are going to be permanent. John Mannle explains that during the winter of 2010/11 there were accidents attributed to the drop-off on the roadside in several areas down the canyon. Caltrans placed the signs on barricades as a warning to motorists. Michelle Millet, Caltrans, stated that she would inquire into the matter and respond via email to John Mannle.

2. Approval of Minutes for March 19, 2012.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Thrall, seconded by Commissioner Scarlett with a unanimous vote approving the minutes.

3. Staff Briefing on the Technical Advisory Committee
John Mannle gives an overview on the meeting held earlier today. The decision has been made to meet quarterly as has been done in previous years. John reports on the status of projects in progress for the 2012 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Caltrans will be starting final design of the Greenville/Hwy 89 Streetscape Project after the State Budget has passed. The City of Portola will be beginning the environmental document phase on the A15 (Phase II) Reconstruction project later this year. The County will continue working on the Greenville Pavement Rehabilitation for the local roads adjacent to the State Highway. Caltrans will be reviewing the Development Agreement with the Lake Front Subdivision for future programming needs. The City of Portola stated that they are reviewing the rehabilitation of Joy Way near West Street for new programming in the STIP. The County plans on reviewing Harriet Lane and Rocky Point Road in the Sierra Valley area, Bucks Lake Road between Quincy and Meadow Valley and possibly several streets in Quincy. Commissioner Larrieu states the funding for improvements in front of the C. Roy Carmichael School is coming from the Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) program.
4. Presentation & discussion on the Consultation Letter from Lassen County's RTP update. John Mannle states that he received a letter from the Consultants retained by the Lassen County Transportation Commission in preparation of the 2012 Lassen County RTP. The letter is requesting input from adjacent counties. John Mannle requests any input from the Commissioners before he sends a reply to the Consultants.
5. Feasibility Study for the proposed Park and Ride at Hwy 89 and Arlington Road
Bob Perreault states that progress is being made in potential funding. Preparations are being made for the feasibility study. The next step is having the Hwy 89/Arlington Road site surveyed. There is general discussion on the site plan. Commissioner Meacher inquires to Michelle Millette, Caltrans, as to the possibility of spreading asphalt grindings currently at the site to reduce the mud issues. Michelle replies that she will make inquiries. She states that there are several issues that could arise from making any improvements to the site prior to the proposed Park and Ride.
6. Presentation of the Draft budget for Plumas Transit.
Jimmy LaPlante and Michele Piller, Plumas Rural Services, address the Commission in regards to their draft budget for the 2012/13 fiscal year. PRS is asking for an increase in wages and reinstating the retirement, plus an increase in the fuel budget. Michele states that there will be 3% step increase for the drivers. She added that the increase in wages and added benefits will be an incentive for the drivers to stay on. When PRS has to train a driver the average cost is \$3,000. There is general discussion in regards to the increases and overall budget. PRS will report back to the Commission in May in regards to the finalization of the budgeted amounts. Jimmy LaPlante speaks about increasing the rider fee. He has studied other adjacent Counties rates and found their rates to be higher than what is charged by Plumas Transit. The contract with Feather River College is discussed.

FRC currently pays \$41,000 a year for bus passes for the students. There is general discussion on the rate and the possibility of raising it in the future.

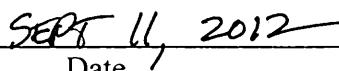
Jim Graham, Senior Planner, explains to the Commission that he is currently working on a Short Range Transit Plan. He is preparing a survey to be sent out to the general public with questions regarding the use of the Transit system. The results will be brought before the Commission at a future meeting.

Commissioner Meacher states that he has had a couple of constituents inquire as to the using Plumas Transit to meet up with Lassen Transit in Chester so they could get to Susanville. There is a conflict in the scheduling. Staff will review the scheduling with Plumas Transit.

7. Presentation of the Draft Budget for the Transportation Commission
John Mannle explains the spreadsheet that was included in the package delivered to the Commissioners previously. John gives an overview of each fund. There is general discussion on the proposed draft budget. Commissioner Scarlett requested copies of previous years budgets be sent to her.
8. The next meeting of the Commission will be on Monday, May 21, 2012.
9. The meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.



Robert Perreault, Jr., Interim Executive Director



Date