

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CALAVERAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
COUNTY OF CALAVERAS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
February 14, 2007**

Council Members present: Lee Seaton – Chair, Merita Callaway – Vice Chair, Bill Claudino, Jack Lynch, Michelle Plotnik, Bob Leitzell and Gregg Baxter

Staff: Tim McSorley – Executive Director; Tyler Summersett – Transportation Planner; Mary Kelly – Senior Administrative Analyst

Meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm by Chair Merita Callaway.

Consent Agenda item #4 was acted upon to provide a quorum.

4. Minutes of December 6, 2006 Regular Meeting - **Action**

Moved: Leitzell Second: Seaton Approved: 4-0-2 Abstain: Claudino and Lynch

1. APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC MEMBERS

Chair Callaway reported that of the six applicants for Public Member, Victoria Erickson withdrew her application and Leslie Davis could not attend the meeting because of illness. Callaway then asked the applicants if they would like to say a few words about themselves. The four applicants present, Gregg Baxter, Gino Colacchia, David Wood and Bob Leitzell all spoke on their willingness to serve on the Council. After discussion by the Council, a motion was made appointing two Public Members to the CCOG.

The elected members of the Council appointed Bob Leitzell to a two-year term expiring January 31, 2009.

The elected members of the Council appointed Gregg Baxter to a three-year term expiring January 31, 2010.

Approved: Callaway, Seaton, Claudino and Lynch

2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Michelle Plotnik nominated Lee Seaton as Council Chair for 2007.

Moved: Claudino Second: Leitzell Approved: Unanimously

Lee Seaton nominated Merita Callaway as Vice Chair for 2007.

Moved: Seaton Second: Claudino Approved: Unanimously

3. APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

The Administrative Committee is comprised of the Chair, Vice Chair and a third member appointed so that representation is achieved from the County, City and Public Members. The Administrative Committee for 2007:

County Representative: Vice Chair Merita Callaway

City Representative: Chair Lee Seaton

Public representative: Gregg Baxter

REGULAR AGENDA

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

6. PUBLIC HEARING – UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS - Action

Transportation Planner Tyler Summersett explained the Unmet Transit Needs Process. He asked if there were any questions regarding the procedures. There being none, the hearing was opened to the public for comments. The following persons addressed the Council:

Marti Crane, Valley Springs
Judy Eschen, San Andreas

There being no other comments, the public hearing was closed. Summersett explained that all comments received prior to the meeting and comments received at the meeting will be put into the testimony of the Unmet Transit Needs Findings. CCOG staff will submit a findings report at the April CCOG meeting.

7. CALTRANS REPORT

Maria Rodriguez, Caltrans Acting Chief of Rural Counties reported that Caltrans is working on the strategic goals for 2007. The main goals are safety and quality services.

Merita Callaway stated that Terry Woodrow, Supervisor from Alpine County contacted her regarding complaints received on the sand being used on Highway 4.

Action Item: Maria will look into this and report back.

There was general discussion regarding the use of roundabouts.

8. STATE HIGHWAY PROJECT REPORTS

a. SR4 Angels Camp Bypass: Scott Maas, Project Manager provided a brief presentation explaining why the cost increases for the Bypass have changed. He explained that using a CTC spreadsheet, he mistakenly thought the CCOG had borrowed \$13.9M against future STIP funds. After further review, he found that this figure was not correct. The Tri-Counties have borrowed only \$3.4M of future STIP. Based on this, the proposed funding to cover the cost increase is as follows:

\$5.2M of RIP 2006 STIP Augmentation
\$3.2M of IIP from State shares
\$4.4M of CMIA funds.

Maas reported that there is a workshop scheduled for February 15th to determine how the cost increases developed and to discuss the proposed funding.

Council Member Plotnik asked Maas if he would provide a complete history of the costs of all the Tri-county projects, including what the estimates were two years before starting construction, what the increases were approaching construction, how the bids compared to the cost estimates, and how the final cost compared to the bid.

Action Item: Maas will provide the information requested including exact bid amounts.

Gary Caldwell, Valley Springs indicated his concerns on the bypass cost increases.

b. SR4 Wagon Trail Project: Recently, the CCOG approved a Cooperative Agreement amendment for the State Route 4 Wagon Trail Realignment project. The amendment included 10% oversight charges in the amount of \$20,000. Maas has learned that Caltrans will no longer be charging the 10% oversight fee on State projects where the local agency is the lead agency. Another amendment to the Co-Op is required requesting that the current Wagon Trail Co-Op be amended to not include the 10% oversight costs. If the Co-Op is not amended, the 10% oversight charges will be withdrawn from the Regional Improvement Program (RIP) funds. A letter has been sent to Caltrans by staff to request the amendment be moved forward.

c. SHOPP Projects – Maas summarized the report provided in the packet.

- d. Air Quality Conformity – Maas summarized the report provided in the packet. Council Member Lynch asked if the County has been cited by the EPA. He asked to see details showing why Calaveras does not meet EPA standards.

Action Item: Maas to supply Council Member Lynch with history on Air Quality in Calaveras, the regulations being used, and data collected by the County.

9. FY 2007-08 DRAFT OPERATING BUDGET APPROVAL – Action

A motion was made approving the Draft FY 2007-08 Operating Budget.

Moved: Plotnik Second: Leitzell Approved: 7-0

10. DRAFT OVERALL WORK PROGRAM FY 2007-08

A motion was made approving the Draft Overall Work Program for FY 2007-08

Moved: Plotnik Second: Leitzell Approved: 7-0

Council Member Callaway reported that a Benefit Basin needs to be established in Arnold. The Executive Director suggested the Benefit Basin be established using the grant for the Arnold Rural Livable Community Plan. He explained that there has been discussion with the County Planning Department on what additional development would occur in Arnold that could also develop a benefit basin.

Action Item: Director to research information on Arnold Benefit Basin and additional developments.

Council Member Leitzell reported that Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC) adopted their Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) as the Circulation Element for the County. He said that he would like to see that considered in the 07/08 Overall Work Program to avoid duplication. Staff agreed and reported that the request for funding for the Circulation Element was reduced to be able to take a portion of the RTP and fold into the Circulation Element.

Council Member Plotnik stated that this issue was discussed previously by the Council and the outcome was that the RTP did not address all the elements that needed to be addressed in the Circulation Element. There would be significant additional work, but the RTP should be used as a basis of what is consistent between the two. There were items in the Circulation Study that are not appropriate in the RTP and they are required in the Circulation Element. Staff reported there was a meeting with the RTP consultants tomorrow and this issue will be discussed.

Gary Caldwell, Valley Springs commented on the funding sources and projects in the 07/08 Overall Work program. Mr. Caldwell also stated that the monies allocated for the RIM fee project is for “regurgitated” work. Also, Mr. Caldwell stated that OWP projects contracted to the City or County should be clarified on the Work Element Sheet.

11. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

The director reviewed his report provided in the packet.

12. COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Nathan Atherstone, Public Works Department/Transit Manager reported that the bid packet for new buses is prepared and still waiting for Caltrans’ review. He anticipates having the bid out within the next month.

Atherstone also reported that he is in discussion with the realtor of the Savemart property for the transit transfer station and it is still moving forward.

Action Item: City of Angels Camp to draft a letter to the realtor giving their support and asking for a timely resolution of this issue.

13. CITY TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Lee Seaton reported that he and Transportation Planner Tyler Summersett attended the Local Government Commission Smart Growth conference in L.A. in February. They will review the conference at the March meeting.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8.50 pm.

Lee Seaton, Chair
Calaveras Council of Governments

ATTEST:

Mary Kelly, Recording Secretary
Calaveras Council of Governments