

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CALAVERAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
COUNTY OF CALAVERAS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
HELD ON NOVEMBER 9, 2005**

**Council Members present:** Michelle Plotnik – *Chair*, Merita Callaway – *Vice Chair*, Victoria Erickson, Curly Middleton, Paul Raggio, Gabriel Karam and Bob Leitzell

**Council Members Absent:** Lee Seaton (Paul Raggio present as alternate)

**Staff:** George Dondero - Executive Director; Brittany Odermann – Transportation Planner; Mary Kelly Administrative Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Chair Michelle Plotnik

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Items 1, 3 and 7 were pulled for discussion. Motion was then made approving the remainder of the Consent Agenda Items as submitted:

*Moved: Callaway      Second: Middleton      Approved:      Unanimous*

2. Minutes of October 14 special meeting - **Action**      Approved 6-1      Abstain: Raggio
4. Tri-county Integrated Planning – **Action**
5. Year-end Financial report
6. Draft 2004/05 Annual Report - **Action**

Item #1: Minutes of September 14, 2005 Regular Meeting. – **Action**

The Executive Director explained that he pulled this item because of a printing error on page 3. The corrected page was given to the Council in a handout.

A motion was made approving the September meeting minutes as shown on the amended handout.

*Moved: Callaway      Second: Middleton      Approved: 5-2      Abstain: Leitzell & Raggio*

Item #3: Transportation Enhancement Project Application Package

Gary Caldwell from Valley Springs suggested there be an aggressive campaign to reach business groups, organizations and agencies that may be interested in the TE program.

A motion was made approving the TE Program application and instruction materials.

*Moved: Callaway      Second: Karam      Approved: Unanimously*

Item #7: Calaveras County Bikeway Supplement - **Action**

Transportation Planner Brittany Odermann explained that additional information regarding the Bikeway Supplement was received after the November packets were mailed. A new packet in its entirety was given to the Council as a handout and Odermann presented a brief overview of the additional information and documents provided.

A motion was made approving the Calaveras County Bikeway Plan (Supplement) Update.

*Moved: Callaway      Second: Middleton      Approved: Unanimously*

**REGULAR AGENDA**

8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

9. EMERGENCY ITEMS

There were no emergency items presented.

10. CALTRANS REPORT

Jane Perez, Chief – Caltrans office of Regional Planning and Administration reported on the following:

- End of construction for Silver Rapids is scheduled for November 22<sup>nd</sup>, but could be earlier.
- A Request for Funds from Caltrans to the CTC for two minor ‘A’ projects: 1. Operational improvements on SR 12, constructing a left turn lane and extending the shoulder (near Valley Springs, east of Highway 26 and Double Springs Road.) This is scheduled for a 3-month construction period. The second Request for Funds is on Highway 4 near Copperopolis at O’Byrnes Ferry Road extending the left turn lane. This is a 2-month construction project.
- The Arnold Grant resubmitted by CCOG staff was well received at the District level.

Council Member Callaway asked Jane why there is no acceleration lane on the left-turn lane coming from the Jon Ellis development project.

***Action Item: Jane will check on this and contact Merita directly with her findings.***

11. STATE HIGHWAY PROJECT REPORTS

- a. SR4 Angels Camp Bypass – Joy Pinne, Caltrans Project Manager explained the cost increases on the Bypass are due to construction and Right of Way cost increases. Joy also reported that there is a possibility of a two-year delay in construction due to cash flow issues at Caltrans. IIP funds, matching funds from Caltrans for the Bypass, may not be available until 2009. She introduced Dennis Agar, Chief of Program Project Management for District 10. He reported that he has a meeting at headquarters the next day to push for monies already allocated and also to get money for future increases for construction and not delay the Bypass for another 2 years. Agar said that they would do all they can within the District to make this commitment happen. The focus is to get the Bypass project at a point where construction dollars can be leveraged sooner. Mr. Dondero stated that he and Charles Field, Executive Director for the Amador County Transportation Commission have requested a meeting with Caltrans Director Will Kempton to discuss the Bypass funding issue.
- b. SR4 Wagon Trail Project – Scott Maas, Project Manager summarized his report supplied in the packet.
- c. Discussion of the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) – Dondero presented an overview of the STIP funding table included in the packet.
- d. SHOPP Projects – Maas summarized his report supplied in the packet. Funding for the Sand Storage and the Big Trees CAPM Project have been approved by Caltrans.

Council Member Middleton asked if Caltrans will be fixing the culvert located at the snow chain installation area (before Utica Grade).

***Action Item: Scott Maas to bring this to Caltrans’ attention.***

- e. Air Quality Conformity – Maas summarized his report supplied in the packet.

12. FOCUS ON THE FUTURE CONFERENCE

Brittany Odermann, CCOG Transportation Planner reviewed the report supplied in the packet.

13. PERS TRANSFER AUTHORITY – Action

A motion was made authorizing the Executive Director to request that the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of California establish a separate plan for Calaveras COG employees, and to request that the

County transfer funds previously contributed by CCOG to that new account. The Council also authorizes staff to pay PERS the cost of setting up a new account estimated to be \$700.

*Moved: Leitzell*

*Second : Karam*

*Approved: Unanimously*

14. TRANSIT REPORT AND PROPOSED SERVICE CHANGES - Discussion

Nathan Atherstone was present to answer any questions the Council might have about the transit report provided previously by Public Works. Council Member Callaway asked if a quarterly report would be submitted to the CCOG. Atherstone said that a semi-annual report was planned, along with a study session with the Board of Supervisors. A report on the study session discussion would be submitted to the CCOG. Chair Plotnik said that the CCOG Council has requested a brief quarterly report summary and asked if that request was possible. Atherstone reported that a monthly transit report is submitted online and he could forward the report to the CCOG.

***Action Item: Nathan to send a reminder to CCOG staff when new transit report is posted.***

***Action Item: Mary to inform Council Members when new transit report is posted.***

***Action Item: Mary to supply transit report in the City Council Member's packet.***

15. PERFORMANCE AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS – Discussion and Possible Action

At the September CCOG meeting, Council requested staff bring this item back for discussion on the recommendations in the Triennial Performance Audit.

The Council discussed the following recommendations that were included in the Performance Audit:

1. Implement a Transit Productivity Committee that meets quarterly to review performance of public transportation services and make recommendations to the CCOG Board regarding efficiency and effectiveness improvements. Members of the SSTAC could be included on this committee to insure that user needs are addressed.

***Action Item: CCOG staff to come up with some potential committee scenarios and bring suggestions to the February CCOG meeting.***

2. Conduct a focused classification, compensation and utilization study of staff.

***Action Item: CCOG staff to perform an in-house classification and compensation study.***

3. Update the CCOG Internet website to permit additional methods of providing input to staff and/or Board members. *This recommendation has been complied with by CCOG staff.*

16. CCOG WEBSITE DEMO

Odermann presented a demonstration of the CCOG Internet website.

***Action Item: Place link to transit website on front page of CCOG website.***

***Action Item: Council Members to provide a more detailed biography.***

***Action Item: Current packet items to be made available on the website.***

17. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Dondero reviewed his report supplied in the packet.

18. COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Mr. Atherstone had no issues for the Council.

19. CITY TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

There were no issues from the City.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:30 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to the following closed session with the Board to reconvene at the next regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday December 7, 2005 at 6:30 pm.

21. CLOSED SESSION: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Held under Government Code 54957 Public Employee Performance Evaluation.

The Council agreed to execute an employment agreement between the Council and the Executive Director to be effective January 1, 2006. The terms of the agreement would be to include a 3-month paid severance package, a 2% salary increase effective the same date as a similar increase was enacted for County employees in September 2005 and to retain the same Management Time Off (MTO) and vacation benefits to match County policy.

*Approved: Plotnik, Callaway, Middleton, Raggio, Karam and Leitzell*

*Noes: Erickson*

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Merita Callaway, Vice Chair  
Calaveras Council of Governments

ATTEST:

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Mary Kelly, Recording Secretary  
Calaveras Council of Governments