

STATE ROUTE 4 BYPASS AUTHORITY
Antioch - Brentwood - Oakley and Contra Costa County

A JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGENCY

MINUTES
January 9, 2003

The STATE ROUTE 4 BYPASS AUTHORITY meeting was called to order by Chair Federal Glover in the Tri Delta Transit Board Room at 801 Wilbur Avenue, Antioch, California at 7:02 P.M.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Annette Beckstrand (Brentwood), Donald Freitas (Antioch), Brad Nix (Oakley), and Chair Federal Glover (Contra Costa County)

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Lowell Tunison, Supervising Civil Engineer/Project Manager

DETERMINATION ITEMS

Prior to any action, the rotation process for City and County members utilized by the State Route 4 Bypass Authority was described for the benefit of the assemblage.

A. ELECTION of a Chair and Vice Chair for 2003

Brad Nix nominated Donald Freitas as Chair and Annette Beckstrand as Vice Chair. Donald Freitas seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. **Donald Freitas** was unanimously selected as the Chair and **Annette Beckstrand** as the Vice Chair of the State Route 4 Bypass Authority for 2003.

Donald Freitas chaired the meeting at this time.

B. APPROVE Minutes from the December 12, 2002 Meeting

On motion by Brad Nix, seconded by Annette Beckstrand, members of the Authority APPROVED the minutes from the December 12, 2002 meeting, as submitted, with Federal Glover's abstention due to absence.

C. ACCEPT Report on Status of Replacement of Project Manager and Take Actions as Necessary

Supervising Civil Engineer Tunison advised that Julie Bueren, the Deputy Public Works Director would offer the status of the replacement efforts for the Project Manager although Ms. Bueren was not yet present to do so. The item was continued pending her arrival.

D. ACCEPT Status Report on Projects

Mr. Tunison reported that several things had occurred after the completion of the Segment 2 project. With respect to the crossing for the bypass of the East Antioch Creek Drainage area, he stated that while that work had been completed a number of problems had surfaced. Among those problems, groundwater issues had been encountered, an additional \$130,000 was needed to stabilize the base of the pipes prior to insulation, costs in the area of \$20,000 not originally accounted for in the bid package had arisen, and the significant rainfall in East County in November had resulted in the displacement of 400 feet of 8 foot diameter pipe.

With respect to the floating pipe, Mr. Tunison explained that the construction manager assisting the contractor for McBail Company had suggested a resolution of that issue by sinking the pipe, which had been as much as 18 inches above original grade. He reported that suggestion had resulted in a significant cost savings over removing and reinstalling the pipe, which work had now been completed. Another problem, a settlement on the north side of Lone Tree Way, was currently being repaired.

Mr. Tunison advised that staff would keep the Authority apprised of the financial responsibility for those issues as it was sorted out.

MEMBER AND EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

Federal Glover acknowledged the recent passing of Nobel Elcenko, the ex-officio member representing the Contra Costa Water District. He requested a moment of silence in Mr. Elcenko's memory at this time.

There were no Member reports.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

At this time, Mr. Tunison identified a Supplemental Determination Item, as follows:

- E. APPROVE Third Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the State Route 4 Bypass Project, which describes impacts of changes to the Southeast quadrant of the Lone Tree Way Interchange, APPROVE the South Hook Ramp Alternative, and DIRECT the Secretary to file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk

Mr. Tunison explained that staff had been given direction to proceed with the environmental analysis and then to seek concurrence from the cities and Caltrans. After consultation with outside counsel on environmental issues, it had been determined that an appropriate means of performing that environmental analysis would be through an Addendum to the EIR. The consultants had prepared that Addendum and had requested that the Authority approve the Addendum to the EIR and approve the Southern Hook Ramp Alternative to the Lone Tree Way Interchange, making the appropriate findings and directing the Secretary to file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk.

Mr. Tunison added that he had received an additional clarification on comments related to Jeffrey Way and the Contra Costa Water District. A CCWD representative was available to clarify the language related to future improvements and property rights issues.

Chair Freitas verified the environmental finding that there were no adverse impacts associated with the alternative.

Mr. Tunison referred to Section 1, Item B, the basis for the Addendum and laying out the change called for, which under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines did not call for the preparation of an EIR and did not require the circulation of such. He stated that the analysis included in the Addendum was sufficient to determine that no major revisions were required to the previously filed EIR.

Steve Welch, representing the CCWD, advised that he had no additions to the amendment other than to include clarifying language to mention the additional crossing and realignment.

In response to Chair Freitas as to the "one design exception" to Caltrans design standards referenced in the staff report, Mr. Tunison characterized that exception, which had been discussed with Caltrans, as an advisory type of exception and not a deal killer.

Brad Nix commented that one of the concerns was how Caltrans would respond to the

request. He verified with Mr. Tunison that there was currently no response from Caltrans, although Mr. Tunison stated that they were working on it.

On motion by Brad Nix, seconded by Federal Glover, members of the Authority unanimously APPROVED the Third Addendum to the Final EIR for the State Route 4 Bypass Project, APPROVED the Southern Hook Ramp Alternative to the Lone Tree Way Interchange, and DIRECTED the Secretary or his designee to file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk.

Julie Bueren had yet to arrive and the State Route 4 Bypass Authority adjourned at 7:14 P.M. to another meeting pending her arrival when it was to reconvene to consider the report on status of replacement of Project Manager.

At 7:20 P.M. Chair Freitas reconvened the State Route 4 Bypass Authority to consider the report on status of replacement of Project Manager.

Mr. Tunison noted that the Authority had several questions related to the program management of the SR4 Bypass Authority and had requested a status report on replacement efforts. He had prepared an outline of information related to the Program Manager's duties and responsibilities for the Authority's information.

Deputy Public Works Director for Transportation in the Contra Costa County Public Works Department, Julie Bueren assured the Authority that the County was addressing the situation with respect to Lowell Tunison's impending retirement. She reported that the County had been meeting and would be meeting with the City Managers and City Engineers of the cities of Oakley, Brentwood and Pittsburg and would talk specifically with the Executive Committee under the premise of replacing Mr. Tunison in the Department.

To that end, Ms. Bueren advised that a job analysis had been submitted to the Human Resources Department with the recommendation that a headhunter be hired to offer good outreach. She noted that there was good staff in the Department who would probably compete for the position, although efforts were ongoing to seek a good pool of candidates to consider. City management and participation with the Authority in that process was invited and encouraged.

Chair Freitas commented that the question was how to move forward to replace the Project Manager who was an employee of the Authority. He requested that the Authority ultimately interview the top three to five candidates.

Ms. Buren concurred that would be the case.

Chair Freitas clarified that was acceptable to the Authority. He otherwise emphasized the desire to hire someone as early as possible to have some overlap and transition prior to Mr. Tunison's retirement on July 1, 2003.

Ms. Bueren affirmed that was also the Department's intent. She did not expect that could occur before April 2003. She added that she had spoken to Mr. Tunison as to his involvement with respect to institutional memory and being available after the fact. She added that she would also attend Authority meetings to offer some continuity, particularly since she was familiar with East County projects. She emphasized the intent to offer a smooth transition.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the State Route 4 Bypass Authority, Chair Freitas adjourned the meeting at 7:26 P.M. to the meeting on February 13, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita L. Tucci-Smith
Minutes Clerk