

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA WATER EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

(August 6, 2009)

The Board of Directors of the San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority met in regular session at the WETA offices at Pier 9, Suite 111, San Francisco, CA.

1. ROLL CALL AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Charlene Haught Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Directors present were Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Anthony Intintoli and Director Gerald Bellows. Director Beverly Johnson arrived at 1:30 p.m. Director Bellows led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. REPORT OF BOARD CHAIR

Chair Johnson reported that due to a scheduling concern, Agenda Item 8 would be pulled and likely brought back to the Board at the September 3 meeting.

3. REPORT OF DIRECTORS

None.

4. REPORTS OF STAFF

Executive Director Nina Rannells highlighted several items from the Executive Director's report. Ms. Rannells noted that she would be representing WETA and offering brief comments at a WTS event to be held aboard Gemini on August 19. Chair Johnson asked if this was the same WTS dinner being held to honor Ms. Rannells, and Ms. Rannells replied that that was an unrelated event that would take place on September 10.

Ms. Rannells then reported on the prevailing wage issue. She said that the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) had responded to an earlier request from WETA that WETA would not be required by state law to pay prevailing wages. She added that the DIR had indicated they would consider issuing a special prevailing wage rate determination and that WETA staff was now working to provide DIR with the information they had requested to assist in this task.

In an administrative update, Ms. Rannells welcomed new WETA staffers Lynne Yu and Lauren Duran to their roles of Finance and Grants Manager and Administrative/Policy Analyst respectively. She also announced the retirement of Community Relations Manager Shirley Douglas effective September 15 and noted that interviews for potential replacements were scheduled over the coming week.

Ms. Rannells also noted the presence of CalEMA staff Robert Nelson and Jason Peery and thanked them for their ongoing assistance to WETA in ensuring that payment for the South San Francisco lease would be secured, allowing the construction phase of the project to move forward.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Bellows made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 18, 2009 Board of Directors meeting. Vice Chair Intintoli seconded the motion and the item carried unanimously.

6. STATUS REPORT ON SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO TERMINAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Manager of Planning and Development John Sindzinski presented an update regarding the status of the construction of the South San Francisco ferry terminal. He noted that all parties had approved the lease but that no construction work could proceed until funding was in place to make the initial lease payment. Mr. Sindzinski also stated that all regional and federal permits were now in place with the exception of the City Building Permit which the terminal construction contractor would be required to obtain, and that once the lease was funded construction could begin.

Mr. Sindzinski said that the next two contracts to award would be for the terminal itself and for the float and gangway portion of the terminal. Ms. Rannells noted the cash flow issues involved with the project were twofold, one regarding the capitalized lease payments which WETA was currently working on with CalEMA, and another being the issue of the lag time between paying capital invoices and receiving reimbursements. Ms. Rannells continues to explore options for addressing this agency issue through discussions with various agencies including MTC. She indicated that this is a key issue that needs to be resolved in order to move forward with the terminal and float contracts.

Public Comment:

Councilmember Pedro Gonzalez of South San Francisco asked when construction would start and expressed his ongoing interest in seeing the project move ahead.

Ms. Rannells replied that demolition and dredging work could begin as soon as next month if the lease funding issue was resolved. Ms. Douglas added that the groundbreaking event would not be scheduled until such time as a start date for construction was in place.

7. AUTHORIZE PROCEEDING WITH ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORK AND ISSUING A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE CENTRAL BAY OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY

Mr. Sindzinski presented this item to authorize proceeding with environmental assessment work and issuing an RFQ for design services for the Central Bay Operations and Maintenance Facility project. He detailed the need for the facility and gave an overview of the sites that had been considered for this purpose. Mr. Sindzinski noted that due to the availability, location and viability that the site at Alameda Point had emerged as the most practical site for further consideration. He asked the Board to approve environmental study of the site as well as to issue an RFQ for design services.

Director Bellows asked how much dredging would be required at the site. Mr. Sindzinski replied that he believed substantial dredging would only be required near the shore. Director Bellows said that he thought it would be a great site except for any dredging issues. Director Johnson added that she believed dredging work may have been done recently near the area. Operations Manager Keith Stahnke stated that WETA would be looking closely at the amount of dredging work required and that otherwise he agreed that it was a great location and would be cost effective for supporting Alameda-Oakland ferry service.

Vice Chair Intintoli made a motion to approve the item. Director Johnson seconded the motion and the item carried unanimously.

8. AUTHORIZE RELEASE OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR MARKETING SERVICES

Ms. Douglas presented this item requesting authorization to release an RFQ for consultant services to develop a multi-year Marketing Plan to assist WETA in implementing a creative and comprehensive system identity or branding strategy. She noted that as WETA would be absorbing city run services beginning with Alameda/Oakland ferry service in January 2010 and that it would be important for WETA have a marketing strategy in place.

Public Comment:

Veronica Sanchez asked what the budget was for this work.

Ms. Rannells answered that the marketing budget was approximately \$100,000 but that it was not all intended for creation of the Marketing Plan. Ms. Douglas further elaborated that the RFQ was to develop a plan for WETA, not to implement it.

Director Johnson asked if WETA would be implementing TransLink. Ms. Rannells replied that TransLink was currently focusing on larger providers but that WETA would at some point renew engagement with the program and would ultimately implement TransLink on ferries.

Director Bellows made a motion to approve the item. Vice Chair Intintoli seconded the motion and the item carried unanimously.

9. APPROVE PIER 9 MARGINAL WHARF LICENSE TO USE PROPERTY AGREEMENT WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO PORT COMMISSION

Operations Manager Keith Stahnke presented this item requesting approval for a License to Use Property agreement with the San Francisco Port Commission for the Pier 9 Marginal Wharf area and to authorize the Executive Director to execute this agreement. He reviewed the background of the permitting process for the berthing facility at WETA's Pier 9 offices as well as the improvements BCDC would require along the public access areas on the marginal wharf near Pier 9.

Director Johnson congratulated Mr. Stahnke on his navigation of the process. Mr. Stahnke noted the assistance of Mr. Sindzinski throughout. Mr. Stahnke also noted that a construction permit would also be needed but that that process would need to wait until a construction contract had been issued.

Director Johnson made a motion to approve the item. Director Bellows seconded the motion and the item carried unanimously.

10. RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION AND REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Chair Johnson called the meeting into closed session at 1:40 p.m. Upon reopening of the meeting at 2:55 p.m. she reported that no action had been taken.

11. ADJOURNMENT

All business having concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Board Secretary
