



**GOLD COAST TRANSIT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
JANUARY 6, 2010**

**Call to Order**

Chair John C. Zaragoza called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Gold Coast Transit to order at 10:10 a.m. at the GCT Administrative Facility, 301 E. Third St., Oxnard, California.

**Roll Call**

John C. Zaragoza, Chair  
Maricela P. Morales, Vice Chair  
Director Carol Smith, Ojai  
Director William Fulton, Ventura  
Director Thomas E. Holden, Oxnard

**Staff Present**

Deborah C. Linehan, General Manager  
Steve Brown, Director of Planning & Marketing  
Steve Rosenberg, Director of Administrative Services  
Andrew Mikkelson, Director of Transit Operations  
Helene Buchman, Planner  
Margaret Heath, Paratransit & Special Projects Manager  
Nancy Kierstyn Schreiner, General Counsel  
Roxanna B. Ibarra, Office Manager/Clerk of the Board

Alex Dinkel, Bus Operator  
Jaime Espinosa, Bus Operator  
Donald Snoberger, Bus Operator  
Arnold Cobb, Bus Operator  
Joe Ayala, Bus Operator  
Ray Deon, Bus Operator/Union Steward

**Others Present**

Members of the Public

**Ceremonial Calendar**

- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Chair Maricela Morales.
- General Manager Linehan and the Board of Directors presented Dr. Tom Holden with a plaque recognizing his valuable contributions to GCT during a

particularly challenging budget year. Chair Zaragoza congratulated and thanked Director Holden for his great service as GCT's immediate past chair. Director Holden thanked everyone for working collaboratively with him thorough-out his term as chair.

- Chair Zaragoza and Ms. Linehan congratulated F. Rodger Stephens, Maintenance Materials Specialist, on completing 15 years of service with GCT/SCAT and presented him with a service pin.
- Chair Zaragoza congratulated Bus Operator Jamie Espinosa on completing five years of service with GCT/SCAT, and presented him with a five-year service pin. Ms. Linehan thanked and congratulated Mr. Espinosa on behalf of GCT.
- Chair Zaragoza congratulated Bus Operator Donald Snoberger on completing five years of service with GCT/SCAT, and presented him with a five-year service pin. Ms. Linehan thanked Mr. Snoberger for his service to GCT and its customers.

### **General Public Comment**

Bus Operator Joe Ayala stated that he has been with GCT/SCAT for 16 years and although it is difficult he wants to address the Board with his concerns regarding working conditions at GCT. Mr. Ayala stated that the bus operators already have a difficult enough job working out with the public and for the last three years he and his fellow co-workers feel that management is not supporting and assisting operators but is out to get them. Mr. Ayala stated that something needs to be done in this regard.

Bus Operator Arnold Cobb stated that he has been a driver for 8 years and since the new director of operations took over he feels that the working conditions are more stressful and that management is out to get the bus drivers.

Bus Operator Ray Deon who is also the union steward for the bus operator's unit stated that he has been with GCT/SCAT for 30 years and has worked under five operations directors. He said that he deals with all the grievances and Skelly hearings and sees the pressure the drivers are under. He stated that conditions are difficult for bus drivers and some changes need to be made.

Chair Zaragoza said that employee concerns can be addressed through the MOU (contract) between the Union and GCT. Mr. Deon said that MOU has been abused.

Vice-Chair Morales stated that she would like to see what plans GCT has to address these employee concerns. She asked that a report be brought back to the Board in regard to what is being done.

Danny Carrillo of SEIU Local 721 spoke to the Board about the difficulties he sees because of the drivers work schedules. Mr. Carrillo stated that another complaint the drivers had was that the morale at GCT isn't good; Mr. Carrillo said he is willing to work collaboratively and collectively with GCT to resolve these issues.

**Board of Directors' Report**

None

**General Manager's Report**

General Manager Deborah Linehan welcomed Ventura County Supervisor John C. Zaragoza as the Board's new chair. She also welcomed Mayor Pro Tem Carol Smith, the new Board member representing the City of Ojai.

Ms. Linehan reported that Congresswoman Lois Capps came to the GCT facility on January 5, 2010 for a facility tour to see how ARRA (federal stimulus) funds are being spent and to hold a roundtable discussion with business and government leaders on how stimulus funds are affecting the local economy. Ms. Linehan said the event was very successful. She thanked Chair Zaragoza for accompanying Rep. Capps on the tour and for very effectively explaining GCT's need for a new facility to accommodate today's fleet and operating requirements as well as any expansion. Chair Zaragoza emphasized to Rep. Capps that a new facility will require major capital grant funding from the federal government.

**Agenda Review**

There was none

**Consent Agenda**

1. Consider Approval of Minutes of the November 2009 Board of Directors Meeting
2. Consider Approval of Expenditures for the Month of November 2009
3. Consider Approval of Treasurer's Report for November 2009
4. Consider Approval of Budget Income Statement for Five Months Ending November 2009
5. Consider Approval of Financial Statements and Schedule of Money Transfers for November 2009
6. Consider Approval of General Manager's Expense Report for December 2009

Vice-Chair Morales moved to approve Consent Agenda items 1-6. Chair Zaragoza seconded the motion.

**Roll Call**

Yes:

No:None



8. **Consider Approval of Recommendation for Utilization of Federal Transit Enhancement Project Funds**-Steve Brown, Director of Planning & Marketing

Mr. Brown reported that GCT has \$101,723 in ARRA funds for Transit enhancement projects. These funds are used primarily for bus stop and transit center improvements over which GCT does not have jurisdiction. Mr. Brown stated that it is appropriate to allocate these funds to GCT member agencies to install bus shelters and benches at bus stops through out the service area. He reported that GCT and the TAC worked together to solicit input and project recommendations that each member jurisdiction will complete. This is a good use of the funds to improve passenger waiting facilities and transit/transfer centers. Mr. Brown said that the following projects were developed and approved by the Technical Advisory Committee made up of staff representatives from each member government and an ex-officio member from VCTC:

- City of Oxnard: \$31,000 to install bus shelters, benches, trash cans and bicycle racks.
- City of Ventura: \$25,000 to install bus shelters, benches and trash cans along Telegraph Road and Main Street.
- County of Ventura: \$25,000 for the design and construction of 1-2 bus shelter locations along Simon Way near Rio Plaza Elementary School.
- City of Ojai: \$13,000 to install a concrete pad and shelter, benches and trash can at the intersection of Highways 33 and 150.

Mr. Brown said that the balance of the available funds will be used to replace old "guide-a-ride" panels at bus stops throughout the service area with new single panel displays that are easier for passengers to read and easier to update. This project includes the removal and installation costs as well as the new graphic displays for the guide-a-rides.

Director Holden moved to Approve the Recommendation for Utilization of Federal Transit Enhancement Project Funds. Chair Zaragoza seconded the motion.

Roll Call

Yes:

No:None

Director Fulton

Director Smith

Director Holden

Vice-Chair Morales

Chair Zaragoza

The motion passed unanimously

**Closed Session**

**Closed Session- Conference with Legal Counsel pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(b) (1) - anticipated litigation—one matter-** Nancy Kierstyn Schreiner, General Counsel and Deborah Linehan, General Manager

The Board of Directors entered closed session at 10:42 a.m. The Board reconvened in open session at 11:19 a.m. General Counsel Schreiner reported that the Board directed her to respond in writing to issues raised by Mr. Michael Levine, a Ventura resident, in a letter to the Board dated December 14, 2009.

**Information Items**

- A. **GCT Fixed Route Service Report for November 2009-** Chuck McQuary, Transit Planner
- B. **ACCESS Paratransit Monthly Management Report for November 2009** - Steve Brown, Director of Planning & Marketing
- C. **Report of Contracts Awarded-** Ken Mills, Buyer/DBE Officer

There being no further business, Chair Zaragoza adjourned the Board of Directors meeting at 11:20 A.M.

Minutes recorded by: Roxanna Ibarra, Clerk of the Board of Directors

---

Deborah C. Linehan  
Secretary of the Board

---

John Zaragoza, Chair  
Board of Directors

**Unless otherwise determined by the Board of Directors, the next regular meeting of the GCT Board of Directors will be held on February 3, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.** at the GCT Administrative Facility, 301 E. Third St., Oxnard. Copies of administrative reports relating to the agenda are available from the Office Manager, Gold Coast Transit, 301 E. Third St, Oxnard, CA, 93030-6048.