



Modoc Transportation Agency
111 W. North Street, Alturas, CA 96101-3936
Phone (530) 233-6410 • Fax 233-3744

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
February 7, 2008

Board Members Present

Bill Hall, Chairman	Citizen at Large, City of Alturas
Ken Barnes	Police Chief, City of Alturas
John Dederick	Councilmember, City of Alturas
Dan Macsay	County Supervisor, District I

Board Members Absent

David Bradshaw	County Supervisor, District III (Alternate)
Sid Cullins	Police Lieutenant, City of Alturas (Alternate)
Mike Dunn, Vice Chairman	County Supervisor, District II
Terry Williams	Citizen at Large, County of Modoc

Staff Present

Pam Couch	Executive Director
Nicole Witherspoon	Systems Manager
Cindy Imbach	Mobility Manger

Public Present

Tim Huckabay	Caltrans DO2 – Deputy District Director
Dave Luscher	Caltrans DO2 – Regional Planning
Mitch Crosby	Modoc Co. Road Dept. – Assistant Engineer
Rick Rudometkin	Modoc Co. Road Dept. – Transportation Director

- 1. Call to Order** – Chairman Hall called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. in the City of Alturas Council Chambers, 200 W. North Street, Alturas.
- 2. Public Forum** – There were no members of the public present.
- 3. Board Organization**
 - a. Confirm Agenda** – Motion by Board Member Macsay to accept agenda as presented; second by Board Member Dederick. All ayes; motion carried.
 - b. Elect Chairman and/or Vice Chairman** - Motion by Board Member Dederick to elect City representative Board Member Hall to serve as MTA Chairman and County representative Board Member Dunn as Vice Chairman until next election scheduled during first 2009 meeting (February); second by Board Member Barnes. All Ayes; motion carried.
- 4. New Business** – Director Couch presented consent agenda items for consideration:

- a. Consent Agenda - Motion by Board Member Dederick to approve consent agenda as presented; second by Board Member Macsay. All ayes; motion carried.
- (1) Approve 12/6/07 meeting minutes as presented.
 - (2) Approve FY 2004-2006 Triennial Performance Audit of Modoc Transportation Agency and direct staff to forward to appropriate parties.
 - (3) Approve Modoc Transportation Agency Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report ending June 30, 2007.
 - (4) Accept 2008 MTA organization chart as presented.
- b. Support letter for Modoc Frontier Healthcare Coalition (MFHC): Recollecting Jerry Smith's presentation about plan for new hospital plan and request for a support letter, motion by Board Member Macsay to authorize staff to work with Coalition to draft letter in support of MFHC's request for Congressional appropriation to construct new hospital in Alturas; to authorize the Chairman to sign it; and to direct staff to forward to appropriate parties; second by Board Member Dederick. All ayes; motion carried.
- c. Closed session: Planning (Gov. Code 54957.8) - *Moved to the end of the meeting*
- d. Consider demand per 1/24/08 letter from Modoc County Road Dept. / Public Works Director for \$500 rent per month for "parking MTA buses in MCRD yard at 4th Street". Couch explained that the letter arrived in advance of any notice or discussion; she suggested that a phone call might have better served interagency relations, in as much as the County of Modoc is partner in the Modoc Transportation Agency (joint power authority with City of Alturas to operate public transit.) Regardless, she visited MCRD and initiated discussion yesterday with Director Rudometkin. An arrangement was discussed to park some Sage Stage vehicles at the MCRD yard to free up space at the 4th street facility parking lot.

Concerning payment of rent, Couch advised that vehicle parking expenses (rent) were not budgeted for FY 2007/08. Board Member Macsay noted that standard County procedure requires that appropriate rents are charged to each department on basis of space-used.

Rudometkin explained that he received complaints from his staff that there is no place to park. He said that asked for rent for bus parking in order to maintain the asphalt lot. However, he noted that he would really like to get the buses out of that parking lot. He said he would like two buses moved to the County equipment yard tomorrow; he hoped that MTA staff will arrange permanent bus parking elsewhere. Board Member Barnes asked whether MCRD intended to charge rent for parking at the other yard as well.

Rudometkin apologized for sending the letter without any prior notice or discussion. However, he responded that rent payment is appropriate in as much as bus traffic causes surface wear and tear. Board Member Barnes asked Rudometkin specifically what MCRD was asking for - to work with somebody else to find solution; to start paying \$500 rent; or to move the buses elsewhere. Couch interjected that she will find an appropriate solution(s), once the problem(s) was defined. Board Member Macsay if asked Couch and Rudometkin could get together and come up with something suitable. Both said that they met yesterday. Macsay asked if Couch was happy with \$500 rent amount. Couch said "no" for two reasons: she believed the \$500 amount is arbitrary and excessive, and MCTC policy requires any significant payment/expense to be budgeted and approved. Couch expressed her desire "to move forward" and address issues. She asked Rudometkin to please call her to discuss an issue rather than send demand letter with deadline for action; she noted ultimately that MTA and MCRD had same interest - to best serve the public.

Macsay asked again if both could get together to come up with something suitable and bring it back to the next meeting. Discussion ensued about other parking options (Alturas City Airport). Rudometkin said that parking buses at 4th street lot was an ongoing issue that was never addressed; as such he stepped up to address it. After verbal exchange, the board consensus was to support the suggestion for staff to find solution and bring it to the next meeting.

5. Staff Update – Manager Imbach presented operations report for information and discussion.

a. Sage Stage Operations Report – Performance statistics are accurate although unaudited.

<i>Month</i>	Passenger Trips			Miles			Fares		
	07/08	06/07	Change	07/08	06/07	Change	07/08	06/07	Change
Nov	965	1,091	11.5%↓	13,333	11,260	18.5%↑	\$4,704	\$5,464	13.9%↓
Dec	945	996	5.1%↓	12,919	11,022	17.2%↑	\$5,091	\$5,996	15.1%↓
Jan	1,074	1,077	0.3%↓	11,275	11,576	2.6%↓	\$5,268	\$5,490	4.0%↓

b. Revenue Service Miles and Fuel Costs

<i>Month</i>	Miles			Fuel Cost			Fuel Cost per Mile		
	2007	2006	2005	2007	2006	2005	2007	2006	2005
Nov	13,333	11,260	12,196	\$4,390	\$3,036	\$3,055	33.2¢	27¢	25¢
Dec	12,919	11,022	12,253	\$4,484	\$3,104	\$3,169	32.3¢	28¢	26¢
Jan	11,275	11,576	12,962		\$3,269	\$3,430		28¢	26¢

c. US 395 intercity route ridership by county of Origin or Destination (O/D) – Route operates between Alturas, Susanville and Reno on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

<i>Month</i>	Modoc O/D		Lassen O/D		Total Ridership	
	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006
Nov	46	55	48	64	94	119
Dec	47	77	51	70	98	147
Jan	57	63	51	71	108	134

New (Contract Employee) Hires and Training – Imbach noted that another round of driver recruitment was initiated, and that she will keep the Board updated.

Calendar – Possible special MTA meeting in March (3/6/08), if needed to resolve bus parking issue.

Chairman Hall asked the passenger capacity of Sage Stage buses; he suggested the possibility of transporting sport teams when special circumstances warrant such as the recent snow storm. Imbach replied that MTA has three buses that seat 16 (ambulatory) + 1 (wheelchair) passengers, and three that seat 14 + 2 passengers.

4.c. *Closed session: Planning (Gov. Code 54957.8)* – Motion by Board Member Dederick to open closed session; second by Board Member Barnes. All yes; motion carried.

Report of Closed Session – No action was taken during the closed session.

6. Adjournment – With no further business, Chairman Hall adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Witherspoon
Systems Manager