

JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT
MARIN PUPIL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
375 DOHERTY DRIVE, LARKSPUR, CALIFORNIA

MINUTES
May 13, 2015

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Loreen Farrell (Reed), Yancy Hawkins - 8:22 (Larkspur-Corte Madera), Barbara Johnson (Kentfield), Michele Rollins (Mill Valley), Chris Thomas (San Rafael Elementary & High School Districts), Deborah Wolfe - 8:27 (Ross) and Dennis Petri (MPTA).

Special note: Lori Parrish has retired from the Tamalpais Union High School District effective April 23, 2015. No replacement has been named at this time. Also, Lori was our Chairperson for the MPTA Board of Directors.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Midge Hoffman (Ross Valley), Paula Rigney (Sausalito-Marin City), & Vacant Position for the Tamalpais Union High School District (see special note above).

GUEST(S):

Laura Trahan (Marin County Office of Education - Coordinator for the Education Services Department)

CALL TO ORDER:

Treasurer Chris Thomas called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 8:21 a.m. in the Board Room at the Marin County Office of Education building in San Rafael.

Special note: Vice-Chairperson Michele Rollins was initially attending via telephone to establish a quorum. She arrived at approximately 8:22 a.m.

ACTION SESSION:

1. **Approval of Agenda (8:21 a.m.):** -- Members approved the agenda as presented. (M/Barbara Johnson, S/Loreen Farrell)
Vote by member:
Aye: Farrell, Johnson, Rollins, Thomas (2)*
* Chris Thomas' vote counts as 2. She represents 2 school districts.
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Hawkins, Hoffman, Rigney, Wolfe, Vacant (for Tamalpais)

2. **Approve Minutes of the March 11, 2015 Meeting (8:21 a.m.);** -- Members approved the minutes of the March 11, 2015 meeting as presented. (M/Barbara Johnson, S/Loreen Farrell)

Vote by member:

Aye: Farrell, Hawkins, Johnson, Rollins, Thomas (2)*
* Chris Thomas' vote counts as 2. She represents 2 school districts.

Nay: No members

Abstention: No members

Absent: Hoffman, Rigney, Wolfe, Vacant (for Tamalpais)

Note: Board member Michele Rollins (Mill Valley) arrived while Action Session #2 was in process (though she had been participating via phone since the start of our meeting).

Note: Board member Yancy Hawkins (Larkspur-Corte Madera) joined the meeting while Action Session #2 was in process (8:22 a.m.)

3. **Approve endorsement of the School Transportation Coalition's letter to California State Legislature & State Agency Officials (8:24 a.m.);** -- Dennis reviewed a letter he received from the Coalition asking the MPTA to endorse their efforts to convince State Legislature leaders to continue funding Joint Powers Agencies (JPAs) as they have in the past. Starting with the 2015 - 2016 fiscal year, all State Entitlement funds previously sent to transportation JPAs will be sent directly to school districts instead.

Members readily approved their endorsement of the School Transportation Coalition's efforts. Then a lively discussion ensued about issues surrounding the change in funding. Some ideas discussed included a) How entitlement funds and the COLA received over the years will be distributed to districts; b) Was Lori working with MCOE officials to highlight the Board's concerns about funding changes; c) Chris directed Dennis to write a letter to Terena Mares at MCOE on current Entitlement funding levels; d) Chris asked that the letter reflect that all San Rafael City School entitlement funds be funneled to the high school district; and e) Michele and Chris agreed to schedule a meeting with Terena in advance of the June MPTA Board of Directors meeting.

Dennis wrote the entitlement letter as requested and sent a draft copy to Board members for their review and approval. (See Minutes Attachment MA-1).

Members approved the endorsement of the School Transportation Coalition's letter to California State Legislature & State Agency Officials as presented and requested. (M/Yancy Hawkins, S/Barbara Johnson)

Vote by member:

Aye: Farrell, Hawkins, Johnson, Rollins, Thomas (2)*, Wolfe
* Chris Thomas' vote counts as 2. She represents 2 school districts.

Nay: No members

Abstention: No members

Absent: Hoffman, Rigney, Vacant (for Tamalpais)

Note: Board member Deborah Wolfe (Ross) arrived while Action Session #3 was in process (8:27 a.m.).

Special Note:

At 8:35 a.m., Laura Trahan arrived for the Time Certain agenda item. Laura is filling in for Janelle Campbell as she had a conflicting meeting and was unable to attend.

TIME CERTAIN - Scheduled for 8:40 a.m.
Actual time (8:35 to 8:40 a.m.):

Time Certain - Transportation Issues & Discussion: -- This time is set aside for discussion with representative(s) of the Marin County Office of Education. This month we invited Raquel Rose, Assistant Superintendent of Student Programs and Janelle Campbell, Director of Special Education. Neither was able to attend. In their place they asked Laura Trahan (Coordinator for Education Services) to meet with the Board.

Laura reported on the following:

- a) Class lists for the Extended School Year (ESY) programs operated by MCOE have been distributed to all transportation supervisors.
- b) All school district facilities currently used by MCOE are remaining the same for ESY.
- c) Chris asked if the Braun School program was remaining in place for 2015 - 2016. Laura said yes, as there is no change planned for that program at the current time.
- d) Michele noted that MCOE's ESY program at Edna Maguire School will remain on campus, but they are the only class in operation at this school site for the summer session.

The Time Certain agenda item ended at 8:40 a.m. The Board thanked Laura for taking the time to address the Board.

DISCUSSION SESSION:

1. **A second look at the proposed 2015 - 2016 Budget & Bill Back.**
 - a. Initial proposed budget for 2015 - 2016.
 - b. Initial proposed bill back figures for 2015 - 2016.

The Board asked Dennis to double-check the proposed budget, especially a) the projected school day totals (they look high); and b) check all formulas within the spreadsheets for errors. The Board asked Dennis to request that Ray deAquino (with the Tamalpais Union High School District Business Office) double check the formulas for errors as well. Dennis agreed to review the spreadsheets again and get back to the Board within a few days.

Errors were found in the proposed budget and bill back spreadsheets. Updated spreadsheets were emailed to the Board. (See Minutes Attachment MA-2 & MA-3).

2. **Select nominating committee for MPTA Board of Directors' Officers for 2015 - 2016.** Nominations and elections to occur at the June meeting: -- Michele had asked for this agenda item to be created due to the retirement of Lori Parrish prior to year's end. The Board discussed this topic, then Michele made the following nominations for the 2015 - 2016 school year:

Chairperson	Chris Thomas
Vice Chairperson	Michele Rollins
Treasurer	Barbara Johnson
Secretary	Yancy Hawkins

All persons listed above agreed to serve these positions if elected at the June 10, 2015 meeting.

3. **Acknowledge letter from the Marin County Office of Education on acceptance of the MPTA's Second Period Interim Report for 2014 - 2015:** -- The Board accepted this information as presented.
4. **Acknowledge public records request from Devin Ralston at transparentcalifornia.com:** -- The Board accepted this information as presented.
5. **Meeting Calendar for 2015 - 2016 (updated April 7, 2015):** The Board accepted his information as presented.
6. **Monthly Student Count Tally Sheet:** -- The Board accepted this information as presented.
7. **Students Listed by School Site:** -- The Board accepted this information as presented.
8. **Discuss other business:** -- There was no other business to discuss.
9. **Set next meeting:** -- The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for June 10, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:59 a.m.