



LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION • 311 SOUTH SPRING STREET—SUITE 1206, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90013 • (213) 626-0370

MINUTES

January 10, 1979

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Hahn at 3:14 p.m.

Members in attendance were:

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn
Mayor Edmond Russ
Supervisor Peter Schabarum/Peter Tweedt
Supervisor Baxter Ward
Councilman John Zimmerman
Councilman Russell Rubley
Councilman John Ferraro
Wendell Cox
Ray Remy, alternate for Mayor Bradley
Barna Szabo, alternate for Supervisor Hayes
Robert Datel, Ex-Officio representing State of California

Staff members present:

Jerome C. Premo, Executive Director
Ronald Schneider, Principal Deputy County Counsel
Kathy Torigoe, Secretary to Executive Director

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of December 13, 1978, were approved as submitted.

Remarks by Chairman Hahn:

I have been on many boards, commissions and committees since being in public office. I have met some of the ladies and gentlemen here for the first time. I've never been on such fine commission of all the boards and commissions I have ever served on. Some have been on state boards, supervisors' boards, NACO, CSAC, City Council, Coliseum--all sorts of committees and boards. I have the highest regard for each of you.

This Commission, which is just growing in our infant stage, made every decision last year with harmony and goodwill. I'm amazed and surprised, since we all

) represent all sorts of areas, all sorts of districts, all sorts of interests. But the key to success of this Commission, the key word, is harmony and reaching a goal, unifying on that goal, and then we all pledged ourselves, mutually to work for it. A beautiful and wonderful experience, that we've accomplished much by that goal.

This Commission could be torn apart, people could say, "I'm just going to represent my district, etc." I'm amazed to find out that when I've asked each one of you, "I want you to put for the first time not any political interest or subdivisions at heart, but the goal of transportation for 7 million people." Each of you has done it. Each of you whom I appointed as chairman of a committee assumed that task like that was your one goal, to do a good job for everyone else. Every Commissioner trusted the chairman of another committee.

) And that's another great success, the confidence that we have for one another, no backbiting, there have been no hard feelings, no bitterness. That has been a very beautiful experience, and I just wish for you, Mr. Russ, that same goal. I talked to you about this on the phone. We are so young, we're growing, and we need to continue this spirit because the goals that I instituted and urged you to do at the beginning of my term were met. We met the goals. We had influence on the President of the United States, Jimmy Carter, on the Secretary of Transportation Brock Adams, the Governor, with the mayor of all 81 cities. We were able to get Glenn Anderson and Congressman Wilson to bring Brock Adams to this area. A major accomplishment under your leadership, Mayor Russ, was approving the gap of the Artesia Freeway--signed, sealed and delivered. The signing, sealing and delivering of the Century Freeway, on its way, involves almost a billion dollars worth of transportation needs. And Brock Adams talked to you (Commissioner Zimmerman) in your city, and he was amazed to see these houses that were boarded up, and got back on the bus. You know that that trip alone guaranteed the Century Freeway. When Brock Adams appeared here in this Commission, I think that helped meet the tremendous goal that we've done.

) I hope, Ed, that you'll continue and have the fine support, wonderful staff, excellent legal counsel, and the alternates that fitted in so well for your principals. I'm a very lucky guy this past year to be your Chairman and have such great colleagues, not one hard word, not one criticism. That is what's so beautiful. Look what we've done for the people. Next year can be a greater year and

should be a greater year. You have to monitor the Century Freeway, see that it is done; monitor the Artesia Freeway--a person like John Zimmerman could do a great job here for us, to see that these jobs are being accomplished. We still have some gaps on the Long Beach Freeway and some other problems.

But if we have a world-wide conflict developing in Iran and the Middle East--Egypt and Israel--even tonight when we watch the news or tomorrow morning's paper could indicate there is a shut-off of oil. We live in a moment-by-moment, not hour-by-hour, if there is shut-off of fuel, our entire economy and transportation needs are in jeopardy. The automobile and the trucks will be put aside. There will be rationing and people will say, "why didn't you build a system that people can use to go to work, go to school, go home? That's why it's so important to have these alternate plans for rail and buses on the Century and Harbor Freeways. I hope that this (fuel shortage) doesn't come about but this Commission then will be on the focus of 7 million people who will look to this Commission for leadership to help them. Although we're not know publicly, this Commission will be on the front page of every paper with decisions to make if we ever have a rationing or the shortage of oil that will affect our national security and the security of the people of this state.

So the challenge will be big for you, Ed, and you can do it. And this Commission, if you keep the same dedication, the same spirit, will solve every major problem and somebody someday will say, "We're thankful for the Commission. The Los Angeles County Transportation Commission had the vision and had the will to provide good transportation for our people." And I thank you for this beautiful experience this year.

Election of Vice Chairman:

Chairman Hahn asked for nominations for Vice Chairman.

Nominees were:

Baxter Ward - nominated by John Zimmerman and seconded by Ed Russ

Peter Schabarum - nominated by Russell Rubley and seconded by Wendell Cox

Voting was done by secret ballot.

) While waiting for results of voting, Chairman Hahn introduced his alternate, Robert P. Reeves. Mr. Reeves was Mayor of Hawthorne, served on the City Council for 20 years, and was active in the Intercity Highway Committee of the South Bay area and is an outstanding church and youth leader. He is vitally interested in transportation.

Mr. Reeves stated that it is a honor to serve as Supervisor Hahn's alternate and to serve on the Commission.

Chairman Hahn announced that Peter Schabarum was elected as the Vice Chairman and congratulated him.

Councilman John Ferraro commended and thanked Chairman Hahn on behalf of himself, the City of Los Angeles and the full Commission for a job well done. Chairman Hahn passed the gavel to Mayor Ed Russ who will serve as the Chairman for 1979.

Mayor Russ thanked the Commission for giving him the opportunity to be Chairman of this Commission. He handed out the goals for the Commission during 1979, which were established at two meetings on November 20 in Mayor Bradley's office and December 27 in Supervisor Hahn's office. The new Chairman briefly reviewed the goals for the coming year and asked Commission to adopt the goals at the next Commission meeting. (EXHIBIT A)

) Chairman Russ asked Supervisor Hahn to be present at the next Commission meeting to receive a resolution from the Commission.

Supervisor Schabarum expressed his interest in helping Chairman Russ pursue Commission's goals during 1979.

Committee Reports:

Finance Review Committee:

Peter Tweedt reported for Councilwoman Pat Russell, who chaired the Finance Review meeting on January 8, 1979. The recommendations for action were handed out to the Commission members (EXHIBIT B).

Discussion on Regional Bicycle Funds Criteria:

Commissioner Cox pointed out that there were two other provisions regarding regional bicycle funds which were adopted at the committee meeting:

1. A requirement that jurisdictions spend their bikeway money within one year after the year in which the money is allocated for; in other words, a two-year limitation on holding regional money.
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2. That the criteria be reviewed after FY 1979-80 for possible modification.

Chairman Russ asked what "use and transportation alternatives" mean.

Commissioner Tweedt explained that that includes consideration for a regional effort.

The Executive Director further explained the criteria, citing both the geographic area issue and use by trip purpose. He indicated that the Commission had expressed a desire to make allocations at its next meeting on these projects. Staff will review proposals at the next meeting of the Finance Review Committee so the Commission can decide on allocations on January 24.

Commissioner John Zimmerman indicated that the Finance Review minutes mention that there were points given for regional uses, but that each city would be given \$2500 whether they had a project in or not, and asked if this was right.

The Executive Director explained that the criteria here relate only to the funds to be allocated on a regional basis. It's separate from the minimum guarantee of \$2500 which goes to each of the jurisdictions.

M/S/C - Adopted by unanimous consent the recommendations of the Finance Review Committee.

Commissioner Tweedt mentioned an information item which has a short time fuse on it. The information item is that the Federal Highway Administration is calling for comments on the effects of delayed or halted highway projects. They would like comments by January 12. Commissioner Tweedt suggested that this Commission send a wire and say, "More to follow."

Chairman Russ directed staff to do this and to prepare a report for Commission review before it is sent to FHWA.

Intergovernmental Relations Committee:

Commissioner Ray Remy indicated that there was no meeting of the committee, but reported on the following:

Joint meeting with SCRTD Government Affairs Committee -

SCRTD is interested in a joint meeting but no date has been set as yet.

Mr. Hall expressed his appreciation to the Commission and indicated that he and the Association stands ready to assist this Commission in any way they can.

Chairman Russ indicated that the appointment of various committees of the Commission is not finalized as yet and will be done at the next meeting.

Executive Director's Report:

- A. Route 30 hearing is scheduled for January 26, before the California Transportation Commission, in San Bernardino. Staff has been working with the San Bernardino Transportation Commission, elected officials in San Bernardino County and Supervisor Schabarum and his office. Our Commission's position is that we do not support recission on the Route 30 project at this time but feel that environmental studies should proceed and land should be acquired in the corridor.

Supervisor Schabarum indicated that he plans to be present at the hearing and will speak on behalf of this Commission and the Board of Supervisors.

- B. FAU Status - Executive Director recommends the following:

- 1) Inform the California Transportation Commission of our current process and our plans to use it for FY 78/79 allocations.
- 2) Work with the cities (L.A. Chapter of the League of Cities) and County of Los Angeles and report back to the Commission by mid-April on how to proceed with the FAU program and process, building on the Commission's December 13, 1978 action.

M/S/C - Adopted the Executive Director's recommendations.

- C. Railroad Rights-of-Way Report (information item) -

Staff is working on a report on railroad rights-of-way and hopes to have this report available in February.

At 4:15 p.m., meeting recessed for Executive session.

Meeting reconvened at 4:54 p.m. and adjourned at 4:55 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, at 3:00 p.m., at the Department of Water and Power, Room 1555-H, 111 North Hope Street, Los Angeles.

Respectfully submitted.

Jerome C. Premo
JEROME C. PREMO
Executive Director

AB 103 - Assembly Transportation Committee hearing is scheduled for January 23 in Sacramento. This bill has been of interest to our transit operators and others.

Executive Director indicated that Councilman Zimmerman or another Commissioner may be able to represent this Commission, or if no Commissioner can testify, that staff will take part in the hearing.

Surface Transportation Administration - The Administration has not yet made a decision as to whether they are going to propose it as a reorganization plan. There seems to be opposition in the House and Senate to this proposal.

Full Funding of the 2nd Tier of the Transportation Legislation -

Commissioner Remy indicated that it is his understanding that the President has agreed to \$150 million but is withholding \$100 million in the 2nd tier. This would cost this region approximately \$10 million per year.

Commissioner Remy moved that the Chairman correspond with the appropriate members of Congress, urging full funding and full appropriation for 2nd tier and this Commission and staff provide whatever assistance to Congress in getting the full funding.

Seconded by Commissioner Cox.

Motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Route 7:

Mr. James Hall, Vice Chairman of Long Beach Freeway Association, requested to speak before this Commission. His remarks are attached as EXHIBIT C.

He also asked that Route 7's impacts on environment be mentioned in the telegram to FHWA.

Chairman Russ indicated that among the goals and objectives for 1979, under highway issues, Route 7 is number one on that list. He asked the Executive Director for a status of this project.

The Executive Director reported that staff attempted to convene a meeting of parties in December, but there was a mix-up on timing. We have rescheduled a meeting for this Friday (January 12) at 1:30 p.m. in the Commission offices. Executive Director will report back to the Commission on result of Friday's meeting at the next Commission meeting. During February, this matter will be discussed along with other highway projects.