

15

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

MINUTES/PROCEEDINGS

Special Board Meeting
Board of Directors
May 6, 1992
District Board Room
425 South Main Street
Los Angeles

Called to order at 1:10 P.M.

Directors Present:

Marvin L. Holen, President
Charles H. Storing, Vice President
Evan A. Braude
Don Knabe
Gordana Swanson
James L. Tolbert
Antonio Villaraigosa

Directors Absent:

Richard Alatorre
Mas Fukai
Nick Patsaouras
Carl W. Raggio
Gordana Swanson

1. RECEIVED report on the District's response to the recent State of Emergency and related matters.

During the emergency, the District provided every possible service except those restricted by public safety officials.

Mr. Pegg announced that April bus passes would be honored through May 10 due to the closure of some pass sales outlets. He also announced the establishment of a Shuttle Line 625, which is scheduled to run for the next 10 days, at a 25 cent fare and provides service to free food distribution locations.

Mr. Pegg joined the Board members in expressing personal pride in District employees for the service they provided during this period of civil unrest. Those individuals who had to put contingency plans into effect responded with dedication, grace and professionalism in the face of great danger.

Drivers made additional runs after being told they could return to a garage. District buses were used to provide service on lines abandoned by others. Thirty-five thousand phone calls were received on Customer Information lines and the Press Relations Department worked 24-hours a day to keep the public informed.

According to Art Leahy, field surveys of the streets were conducted by Transit Operations Supervisors at 3 A.M. each morning. The District was responsible for a large number of special movements of police, fire and military personnel as well as prisoners and victims. Often the only person on the bus without a flak jacket was the operator. Six employees were assaulted and 43 vehicles sustained damage. Many employees worked double and triple shifts and were subsequently unable to return to their own divisions. Some had to spend the night at their work locations and were unable to reach their families by phone. The following seven employees are a representative sampling.

Diane Frazier, Manager of Division 5, described the challenges faced as a result of having her division used as a command post for public safety officials and to provide fuel, maintenance and vehicle repairs.

Rick Hittinger, Equipment Maintenance Manager at Division 5, dispensed 5,800 gallons of diesel and 6,600 gallons of unleaded fuel. The Division returned to normal on May 5, 1992.

Transit Operations Supervisor, John Escher, reported being assaulted and robbed before he was able to flag down a bus. He was subsequently returned to Division 5 by Transit Police.

Division 5 Operator, Hilton Hackley, was traveling south on Vermont when the problem started. That should have been his last trip of the day, but he stayed and made another trip northbound to get people out of the area and direct them to other services so they could reach their destinations.

Eugene Pobol, part-time Operator, volunteered for duty at the Sports Arena transporting troops.

Transit Police Sergeant Nicholas Aldana was the supervisor in charge of escort detail, providing escort service for fuel trucks, military vehicles and citizens who were arrested. They also provided security for all outlying divisions.

Nat Castillo, Supervisor on the Metro Blue Line, reported people on the tracks trying to stop trains. Some put debris on the tracks and threw missiles at the trains. Service had to be curtailed in a limited area and a bus bridge instituted.

Supervisor Edelman presented the District with a resolution from the Board of Supervisors describing the RTD as a vital link in assisting public safety officials.

Mr. Pegg expressed his personal appreciation to UTU Chairman, Earl Clark, for the cooperation of the union members.

Linda Wade, a representative from the Mayor's staff, reported that Mayor Bradley was unable to attend the meeting and had asked her to extend his appreciation to District staff for their contributions during the state of emergency.

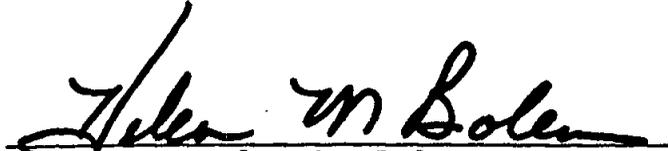
Board members thanked staff and management for keeping them informed.

Director Villaraigosa called for an emergency meeting to look into the possibility of establishing a 50 cent cash fare in the impacted area, seeking funding assistance from the LACTC and holding public meetings in local communities to determine transit needs.

Director Storing called District staff the unsung heroes of the disaster and indicated that he had never been more proud to be associated with this organization than at this moment.

2. Public comment was also received from General Jim Delk of the National Guard, Deputy Chief Matthew Hunt of LAPD and Captain Frank Vadurro of the Sheriff's Department.

Adjourned at 2:18 P.M.



Helen M. Bolen
District Secretary

5/6mins