

**Caltrain Centralized Equipment Maintenance and Operations Facility
Monitoring Committee
August 21, 2007 Minutes**

Members Present: Michael Smith (Chair), Kay Gutknecht (arrived 6:15 p.m.), Art Lloyd, Michael Riepe,

Members Absent: Councilman Sam Liccardo, Ron Miller, Councilman Pierluigi Oliverio

Staff Present: Michelle Bouchard, David Olmeda, Joe Siino, Jonah Weinberg, Nancy Wood

Attendees: Nicholas Rice-Sanchez (Councilmember Oliverio's Office), Khanh Bui (Councilmember Liccardo's Office), RhovyLynn Cansino (Councilmember Chu's Office)

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

APPROVAL OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

Order of business was approved by motion (Lloyd/Riepe).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kay Gutknecht had questions on the April 25, 2007 minutes. Michael Riepe and Kay Gutknecht both feel that the minutes were missing a lot of information, but Jonah Weinberg explained that minutes state what was discussed in a condensed version, and are not a transcript of a meeting.

Minutes from the April 25, 2007 meeting were approved by motion (Lloyd/Riepe), with the revision below.

Page 3, second paragraph – committee wants to confirm trains will be started up at Diridon. Michelle Bouchard said that the late trains would be serviced and moved up to Diridon and not leave from CEMOF in the early morning. Bouchard said they will be staged at Diridon. Gutknecht states this is a shared objective violation. It should be noted that there will be no Amtrak staged at Diridon overnight.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

STAFF REPORT

Weinberg reported that a ribbon cutting event for the facility is planned for Sept 29. Staff is working on an official invitee list, though the event is open to the public. The committee was asked to invite their neighborhood groups. Expect to start the event with speeches and conclude with tours of the facility. We are hoping to bring everyone in from Diridon on the train and during the day buses shuttling back and forth between CEMOF and the Diridon station. Formal invitations will be sent out soon.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Smith said that he and Michael Riepe went out to hear the air dryers at the facility. Chair Smith said that from the side it wasn't loud, but from in front it was significantly louder, but that it was not loud enough to prevent a fairly normal conversation. An acoustic test was conducted during this visit. Chair Smith stated he has not received the results of the acoustic test. Joe Siino said the report should be completed soon. Riepe would like to hear the trainwasher at night. Siino said they will be train testing the trainwasher next week between 9 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORT – M. Smith

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Item 9a Approval Bylaws Changes - Nicholas Rice-Sanchez, Councilman Oliverio's assistant said they are still in discussion with the San Jose City Attorney.

Item 9b – Cold Weather Engine Idling – Bouchard repeated the statement made by Steve Coleman at the previous meeting that this is not required of Caltrain as we do not experience extreme cold weather.

Item 9c – Scheduled Maintenance and Engine Run at Night – Bouchard requested that items 9c, 9e (Overnight Storage of First Four Outgoing Trains) and 9k (Operations Plan Update) be grouped into one item.

Looking to start Phase 1 the week after the September 29 ribbon cutting. Then transition into day shift from Diridon, preventive maintenance line, then slowly move into facility. This all depends on level of comfort with staff. A transition plan will be developed that meets the Shared Objectives. The first four outgoing trains will be serviced and then moved to Diridon for start of service the next morning. Crews will report in at CEMOF, but will be transported to Diridon. One train gets in very late and comes in for servicing and washing and will move to Diridon at about 2:20 a.m. If this becomes a noise issue, Caltrain can explore mitigation. Two trains will leave CEMOF before 11 p.m. and a third around midnight. Bouchard emphasized this is a plan that may evolve depending on schedule changes. We have made allowances for an additional pin-up crew that work at the facility and are not revenue crew. Gutknecht asked about storage – the 3 starts in Gilroy will be stored there, nine will be stored in San Francisco and four at Diridon along with the Capital Corridor. Gutknecht asked how many sets in total – Bouchard said 21 total. Gutknecht asked what the growth potential is. Bouchard said most of this planning is for the future of electrification. In the future we would want to increase during peak hours. Riepe asked if there is any discussion of Baby Bullet service on the weekend. Bouchard said that there is currently no way to afford it. Another limitation is rolling stock. Gutknecht asked what is the maximum number of trains that can be stored at CEMOF – David Imeda said we can store up to 110 rail cars.

Item 9d – Noise from Train Washer Drying Fans – Chair Smith asked if committee members should be on site while testing is being done. Siino said they could be present, but that there was little purpose because their concerns were about noise heard from their homes at night and not the day time noise at the site. Gutknecht said noise in the area is entirely different at night than daytime. Gutknecht said they should inform neighbors of testing times and let them listen. Olmeda said we have to complete testing and Caltrain will not begin operation until testing is complete and we know everything is running properly. Councilmember Oliverio's office would like to be notified when the testing happens. Testing is scheduled

for August 27. Chair Smith asked if a curfew on dryers is possible if noise does prove to be a problem at night. Bouchard said we can explore that at a future time if the issue arises.

Item 9f – Track Screeching/Rail Lubricator – Lloyd has not received response. Siino and Bouchard had the same issue. Bouchard said Bob Doty raised the issue with UP as well. Siino reported that there is grease in the unit. Weinberg stated that by law we are not allowed to be on UP tracks to be checking the greaser or putting grease in the greaser.

Item 9g – Trucks Parking on Stockton Ave. and Driving Through Neighborhoods - Gutknecht said there were three trucks with no trailers on Stockton last week. Siino was not aware of this and stated that there is no asphaltting happening now, as the main paving is complete.

Item 9h – Construction and Acceptance Testing Schedule – Siino said staff have been moving into CEMOF. The drop table will be installed at the end of August/early September and finalizing of the train washer will take place then too. 15 washes must take place without any failures to make sure it passes testing. Smith asked about the gate by the water treatment area so people can't walk in and out. Siino expects the site will be secured around mid-September. Taylor Street will have an intercom to guard to gain access unless staff has key card. Riepe asked about landscaping on Lenzen and Siino said it will begin in mid-September.

Item 9i – Transition Schedule/Committee Site Tour – Transition will begin the weekend of October 6 for phase 1 and then 3 week durations for each of the following stages, based on the success of the previous phase. Site tour – Bouchard said to inform her if committee wants to tour the site early or possibly at phase 3 when things are up and running. Weinberg said the tour on September 29 will not be as extensive as we can offer the committee at a later date. Weinberg reminded that there cannot be a quorum when the committee tour takes place as it would be a violation of the Brown Act. Bouchard said if the committee shows up in 2 small groups then there will be no violation. A tour will be planned once phase 2 is completed.

Item 9i – Website Update – Weinberg said Caltrain has taken everything from the City of San Jose's site and put on its own. Ben Tripousis was directed to point their site to our site. Gutknecht will speak to her neighborhood association to make sure they are linking to Caltrain and not to the City.

Item 9j – Potential Need for Near-Term Special Meeting(s) - next meeting is October 24 and the opening is September 29. Weinberg said this will give the committee a month to see if there are any issues. A special meeting was set for November 28 if needed. If not needed it will be cancelled.

Siino said they have started the construction of the fueling phase and it is expected to go on-line in February 2008.

Gutknecht shared a handout that was presented to the City Council and neighborhood associations in 2002 that stated that Caltrain could explore a "partial curfew" on trains departing before 6:30 a.m. These trains will be stored overnight at their departure station.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nancy Wood informed Gutknecht and Riepe that after the first meeting in 2008 they will be termed out and will need their neighborhood associations to appoint their replacements. The secretary will need these appointments in writing from the associations in order for them to be official.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Remaining meeting dates for 2007 – October 24 and November 28.