

ADVANCED TRANSIT VEHICLE CONSORTIUM

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Los Angeles County*

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Frank C. Roberts
*Metro Board Member, and
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*Metro Board Member and
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Alternates:

Michael Bohlke
*Assistant Chief Deputy
Second District
Los Angeles County*

Michael Cano
*Deputy Supervisor
Fifth District
Los Angeles County*

Dr. S. Roy Wilson
*Supervisor, Fourth District
Riverside County and
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S.C.A.Q.M.D.*

Jaime De La Vega
*Alternate
Mayor, City of Los Angeles*

Samantha Bricker
*Deputy, Third District
Los Angeles County*

President:

John B. Catoe, Jr.
*Deputy Chief Executive Officer,
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Executive Vice President:

Richard Hunt
*Service Sector General Manger, San
Fernando Valley
Metro*

Chief Financial Officer

Josie Nicasio
*Controller
Metro*

MINUTES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MTA Headquarters
3rd Floor - Board Room
One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles

Wednesday, February 1, 2006 – 11:30 A.M.

Directors present:

Michael Bohlke, Chair

Mike Cano

Jaime De La Vega

John Fasana

Frank Roberts

Beatrice LaPisto-Kirtley

Samantha Bricker

President – John B. Catoe, Jr.
Executive Vice President – Richard Hunt
Chief Financial Officer - Josie Nicasio

1. APPROVED as **corrected minutes** of Board Meeting held November 21, 2005.

Corrected Item Number 2 to read:

“AWARDED on a roll call vote **as amended by Director Fasana** a two-year contract through September 2007 to Arieli Associates at a cost not to exceed **\$50,000** ~~\$200,000~~ per year to provide technical advisory services in support of the Advanced Transit Vehicle Consortium **and for further consideration upon presentation of a detailed work plan at the next Board meeting.”**

2. RECEIVED AND FILED detailed work plan of Arieli Associates and AWARDED to Arieli Associates, **as amended** by Director De La Vega, a **one-year** ~~two-year~~ contract, **with a one-year option** through January 2008 which must come back to the Board for approval, at a cost not to exceed \$200,000 per year **(inclusive of the previously awarded \$50,000 per year)**, to provide technical advisory services in support of the Advanced Transit Vehicle Consortium.

Amendments:

- A. The contract amount may be reduced in the event of a major budget crisis.
- B. Any change in the scope of work or number of hours per task must come back to the Board for approval.

Further directed staff to:

- Work with member agencies to get their input on the workplan and any subsequent amendments.
- Re-evaluate the work plan at the end of the year.
- Make outreach to schools and include them in the goals.

Director La-Pisto-Kirtley requested that all technological advances resulting from Dr. Arieli’s work be shared with school districts.

Mr. Hunt credited John Drayton, Vehicle Technology Manager, with much of the work that was performed in compiling the detailed work plan. He provided an overview of goals of the ATVC and progress made since the last meeting. Responding to a question from Director Cano, Mr. Hunt explained that the ATVC is a non-profit corporation consisting of four founding entities: City of L.A., L.A. County, MTA, and Southern California Air Quality Management District.

Mr. Hunt emphasized the importance of the ATVC as a regional body rather than an agency-specific one; due in large part to the need to work together to meet increasingly stringent emission reduction standards.

Director Bricker questioned the procurement process and selection of the highest bidder.

Susan Dove, Sr. Contract Administrator, explained that this was an informal procurement and that the source selection committee included herself and two people from the Vehicle Technology group.

Director Fasana noted that none of the members of the selection committee were from the City, AQMD, or County. He stated that this appears to be an MTA procurement.

Mr. Catoe asked if the MTA procurement procedures were followed.

Ms. Dove responded that this was an ATVC procurement and that there were no violations. The procurement was advertised, three bids were received, which were all evaluated and scored, and the team's recommendation was brought to the Board.

Mr. Hunt added that the selection was not based on the lowest price, but rather, expert quality credentials and experience.

Mr. Drayton explained that the lowest bidding proposer didn't have the same credentials and depth of experience as Dr. Arieli.

Chair Bohlke stated that more clarification is needed on the scope of work issue.

Mr. Drayton responded that the scope of work will consist of the testing and deployment of new vehicle technologies to meet future emission regulations. Operational issues as they relate to the Consent Decree and Metro Connections will also be examined.

Mr. Hunt stated that questions regarding the scope of work came forward at the last meeting, and based on those inquiries staff prepared the detailed work plan.

Mr. Hunt mentioned that the agency is preparing to put out a solicitation for compo buses in order to meet the emission standards. Dr. Arieli's expertise in the area of advanced technologies for buses would assist the agency in making informed technology choices.

Mr. Hunt noted that only a handful of transit operators are focused on the 2010 requirement to bring 15% of buses to the zero-emission target. He cautioned that it would be preferable to perform the research now rather than have to take a reactive stance to stringent emission targets in the future. He stated that the agency has received great value from the ATVC Board and Dr. Arieli, who has been responsible for some very high quality work products.

Director Cano asked if certain tasks in the work plan were less crucial relative to others and if there was a way to rank them.

Mr. Hunt responded that staff did not undergo that process. He stated that every element is critical and emphasized the need for the entire region to meet the statutory requirements.

Mr. Hunt stated that no task will be started without direction from the Board.

Director Bricker remarked that there appears to be an attempt to justify the contract because it has undergone so many iterations. She questioned whether some items in the work plan (e.g. neighborhood shuttles and community workshops) are relevant to meeting the ATVC's core mission.

Director LaPisto-Kirtley observed that ATVC is conducting a great deal of research for the MTA on fuel cell buses.

Mr. Hunt responded that the scope of the agency is actually much more broad. It has been approached by various government agencies to test alternative clean fuel buses. He noted the importance of discussing the uses of the fuel cell on a continuing basis. In addition, while the City of L.A. and LADOT provide shuttle services, there is a need for smaller electric-type neighborhood circulator systems.

Director LaPisto-Kirtley observed that research on compo buses will only be conducted during the last half of 2006 and 2007.

Mr. Hunt responded that a solicitation plan for the buses will be completed in February. By the time the agency begins the research, the first half of the year will have already passed.

Director Roberts mentioned that he has worked with Dr. Arieli previously and that only he has the expertise to carry out the terms of the contract. He noted that Dr. Arieli's analytic procedures are impeccable. He stated that he personally endorses the \$200,000 contract amount as proposed, and that this is reasonable considering Dr. Arieli's knowledge of the field.

Director Cano asked if adjustments can be made to the scope of work if the contract is approved.

Mr. Hunt responded that the Board can change the scope if cardinal changes are involved.

Director Bohlke stated that staff can come back to this Board with suggestions on how it can alter and amend the scope of work.

Director LaPisto-Kirtley asked if any research on zero-emissions technology could be used to improve school buses.

Mr. Hunt responded that the agency has shared information about latest fuel cell technologies with LAUSD and Montebello School District.

Chair Bohlke echoed Mr. Hunt's earlier statement that MTA is not the sole beneficiary of ATVC and that this a Board of regional significance.

Director Cano requested that a Board box item be prepared when there's a CRB decision.

Director De La Vega requested a receive and file report at the next meeting on the procurement process.

3. SCHEDULE next Board meeting.

NO ACTION was taken.

4. Public Comment – none.

ADJOURNED at 12:40 p.m.



Prepared by: Michele Chau
Recording Secretary