

**Caltrain Centralized Equipment Maintenance and Operations Facility (CEMOF)
Monitoring Committee
San Jose City Hall, 200 E. Santa Clara, 8th Floor, San Jose, CA**

**October 24, 2012
Minutes**

Members Present: Chris Escher (Arena), Sally Logothetti (Garden Alameda),
Mike Riepe (Shasta/Hanchett Park), Chris Tulin (College Park),
Art Lloyd (JPB)

Members Absent: Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio (San Jose City Council)

Staff Present: Tasha Bartholomew, April Maguigad, Nancy McKenna

Others Present: Lara Tran (Councilmember's Oliverio office)

Chair Chris Tulin called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – July 25, 2012

It was noted Director of Maintenance David Olmeda was in attendance at the meeting and he was not and his name should be deleted.

The amended minutes (Logothetti/Riepe) of July 25, 2012 were approved.

Public Comment

None

Staff Report

None

Chairperson's Report

Chair Tulin said she and a representative from Transit America (TASI) did a track fence line walk on October 2. A train from Union Pacific (UP) was backing up and there was a horrible screeching noise.

Art Lloyd said when people ride Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) they hear the screeching and it is the flanges, which is the same noise coming from the UP trains. Mr. Lloyd said passenger trains don't have flanges.

Sally Logothetti said this noise is coming from a UP train and not a train at CEMOF.

Mr. Riepe said in the past when the trains screeched going around the curve it was a CEMOF issue because the curve was installed for the facility. If the train is making noise on the straight a-way there may be nothing we can do.

Committee Report

None

Track Screeching

Manager, Rail Operations April Maguigad said there have been internal changes with the new operator. She said currently staff is taking a more of a lead in dealing with partners like UP. She said she is expecting an email from someone at UP on correcting this issue. She said staff is trying to cultivate a relationship with UP that wasn't there with Amtrak.

Mr. Riepe said it would be great if an engineer could report on this issue.

Ms. Logothetti said this group has worked hard on addressing the screeching issue and delineating what belongs to whom. She said as committee members we need to let the neighborhood associations know that these are complex issues and trains are going to screech but just need to educate our neighbors.

Chair Tulin said it is in the committee's realm to know why there is screeching and why is UP stopping and backing up and causing this noise and possibly could be done at another location.

Mr. Lloyd said if people are out and see sparking, write the freight car number down and we can let UP know about this.

Chair Tulin asked who at UP the committee should contact. Ms. Maguigad said the committee should contact her directly.

Chair Tulin asked if the committee can be told when freight trains will be passing through. Ms. Maguigad said no.

Ms. Maguigad asked how far this issue is from Interstate 880. Chair Tulin said it is between Hedding Street and Interstate 880.

Ms. Maguigad asked how this issue plays into the CEMOF committee. Chair Tulin said College Park hears a lot of screeching and noise. This may be more than an issue dealing with the curve.

Chair Tulin asked if the lubricator is still being maintained. Ms. Maguigad said she is not sure but that is why the relationship is being built with UP.

Constituent Contact Logs – Policy and Status

Community Relations Officer Tasha Bartholomew said the log and the new guidelines for the after-hours call service was sent to Chair Tulin and Chris Escher. She said one call came into the line at 3:30 a.m. on October 22 from Susan Tobin complaining of loud machine noise. Ms. Bartholomew contacted staff at the CEMOF facility and there was nothing unusual happening at the facility.

Chair Tulin asked when people call in does the answering service get their addresses. Ms. Bartholomew said yes, but they are not included in the log.

Chair Tulin said it is hard to pinpoint some of the complaints and will take the answer of nothing unusual, but if there are a lot of complaints the committee will need more detail from staff.

Mr. Riepe asked if in the future when a complaint comes, can staff ask the staff at CEMOF what the activity was that caused this noise.

Ms. Bartholomew said Customer Service Manager Rona Rios developed guidelines for the after-hours answering service. Calls are handled through the San Mateo County Transit District's customer service center during normal business hours and after hours by Access 24 Communications. All calls are tracked and if an emergency issue arises it goes directly to Ms. Bartholomew. Ms. Bartholomew said the after-hours contractor has not changed since Ms. Rios has been working here. Ms. Bartholomew said every call is being logged and reported to staff. She said she has signed up for all the neighborhood associations mailing lists.

Chair Tulin asked if the phone number could be posted at the facility. Ms. Maguigad said she will research and report at the next meeting.

Mr. Riepe asked when the committee will see the complaint log. Chair Tulin said Ms. Bartholomew sends it to her and after she approves it staff posts it to the website.

Mr. Riepe said he attended his neighborhood association and asked for an alternate.

2013 Meeting Schedule

The committee approved the 2013 meeting calendar.

Announcements

The next meeting will be January 23, 2013 at 6 p.m.

Adjourn: 6:45 p.m.