1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Joe Russell called the meeting to order at 3:37 pm. The following voting members were present:

Chair/Mayor Russell (City of Del Rey Oaks)  1st Vice Chair/Mayor Rubio (City of Seaside)
Supervisor Salinas (County of Monterey)  Mayor Mettee-McCutchon (City of Marina)
Mayor McCloud (City of Carmel-by-the-Sea)  Councilmember Mancini (City of Seaside)
Mayor Della Sala (City of Monterey)  Councilmember Barnes (City of Salinas)
Mayor Pendergrass (City of Sand City)

Arriving after the meeting was called to order were Councilmember Morrison (City of Marina) and Councilmember Davis (City of Pacific Grove).

Absent were Supervisors Potter and Calcagno (County of Monterey).

Ex-Officio members present were:

Graham Bice 9 (UC Santa Cruz)  Vicki Nakamura (Monterey Peninsula College)
Karen Fisbeck (BRAC)  Kenneth K. Nishi (Marina Coast Water District)

Representing CSUMB was Mehul Mody and Charles Van Meter represented MPUSD, in the absence of their appointed representatives. Arriving after the meeting was called to order were Bonnie Van Hise (17th Congr. District), Rito Guerra (15th State Senate District) and Don Bachman (TAMC). Absent were representatives from the 27th State Assembly District, the U.S. Army and Monterey-Salinas Transit.

With a quorum present, Chair Russell opened the meeting.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Russell asked Mayor Rubio to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Chair Russell welcomed and acknowledged two people seated at the dais and representing their jurisdictions’ appointed representatives: Mehul Mody (CSUMB) and Charles Van Meter (Monterey Peninsula Unified School District). He also welcomed Supervisor Salinas, who was participating as an alternate for the County.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

LeVonne Stone, Executive Director of the Fort Ord Environmental Justice Network (“FOEJN”), indicated her interest in FORA’s assuming the cleanup in the reuse process and how FORA would proceed. She introduced the next speaker, Benny Gates, a FOEJN economic consultant, who said he would be focusing on the economic
impact of housing and its cost, noting that the costs have been outpacing the medium income in this area. Shevonne Porter, representing Dorothy’s Kitchen, advocated for the housing and job needs of the homeless.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

There were two items on the Consent Agenda: Item 5a – Action Minutes of the March 9, 2007 Board Meeting and Item 5b – Reimbursement Agreement with the City of Marina for the Construction of Crescent Street Extension, Abrams Drive, 8th Street Widening and Realignment and Salinas Avenue Widening. Motion to approve Items 5a and 5b was made by Councilmember Mancini, seconded by Mayor McCloud, and carried without objection. Councilmember Barnes abstained from Item 5a due to absence.

6. OLD BUSINESS

Item 6a – Imjin Office Park - Progress Report: Real Property and Facilities Director Stan Cook provided a brief update on the Imjin Office Park activities and a report on the initial FORA building LEED Scorecard. There was one comment from a board member and no public comments.

Item 6b – Habitat Conservation Plan (“HCP”) Approval Process - Budget Workshop on Federal Approval Progress: Director of Planning and Finance Steve Endsley introduced Denise Duffy, FORA’s land use planning consultant, who, in turn, introduced Erin Harwayne, the senior project manager for this HCP. Ms. Harwayne provided an update on the Federal Fort Ord HCP and environmental documentation, which had also been attached to the board report. After several board comments, Executive Officer Houlemard described the issues involved in the delays, which have impacted the projects. A motion to direct staff to include $380,000 in the 2007-08 Fiscal Year budget for the federal and state HCP preparation was made by Mayor Rubio and seconded by Councilmember Mancini. (Councilmember Morrison arrived at the meeting at this time.) Public comments: LeVonne Stone said she had been following the NEPA and CEQA process and asked how FOEJN could be involved in the process. Ms. Harwayne suggested attending the public scoping meetings and noted that the environmental impact report will be recirculated for public comment; she also offered to work with Ms. Stone to address any environmental issues. Several board members expressed concern about project delays resulting from the lack of finalizing these documents. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Item 6c – Early Transfer/Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (“ET/ESCA”) – Status Report: Executive Officer Houlemard reported that FORA had received the initial payment of $40 million, which has been distributed for mobilization, planning and the other costs to implement the ESCA. He mentioned a meeting in May among the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the CA Department of Toxic Substances Control and U.S. Army, when items such as how to proceed will be discussed. Mr. Houlemard stated that the Finding of Suitability for Early Transfer (“FOSET”) should be finalized by year’s end, with public review this spring or summer. He suggested that an ET/ESCA Workshop be held from 2:30-3:30 pm on May 11th, just preceding the FORA board meeting, when more details could be provided. Ms. Stone made a second public comment. (Councilmember Davis arrived at the meeting at this time.)

Item 6d – Monterey Bay Regional Water Solutions Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”): Executive Officer Houlemard summarized the board report. A motion to approve the draft MOU as presented was made by Mayor Pendergrass and seconded by Councilmember Morrison. There were several board questions. Public comments: John Fischer (Pacific Grove) said that ratepayers need to be in the know and be together when solutions are recommended to the Public Utilities Commission and encouraged all to be involved. Chair/Mayor Russell remarked that unity strengthens opportunities for grant funds, and Mayor Pendergrass agreed. A vote was taken and the motion carried.
Item 6e - Fort Ord Reuse Authority FY 06-07 Mid-Year Budget Update: Executive Officer Houlemard said that the clarity requested at the March board meeting regarding the mid-year budget update was provided in this month’s board report and attachments. He noted that the Finance Committee was satisfied with the explanations. There were no board of public comments.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Item 7a – FORA 2007 State Priority Legislative Matrix: Executive Officer Houlemard reported that the Legislative Committee had not achieved a quorum at its last meeting but those member present had discussed, but not been able to act on, the proposed bills in the matrix, which will be used as the basis of FORA’s positions during the April 30th meetings in Sacramento. He said that many of the proposed bills had previously been given a “Watch” status, since it is early in the legislative process this session and the text will likely be amended or changed before final voting. Mayor McCloud suggested that Deanna Sessums and Supervisor Salinas be consulted before FORA takes final positions. A motion to approve FORA’s 2007 State Priority Legislative matrix pending coordination with the League of California Cities, Deanna Sessums and Supervisor Salinas, and also to return the matrix with any updates to the May board meeting, was made by Councilmember Morrison and seconded by Councilmember Mancini. There were no public comments. Mayor Rubio remarked that Seaside’s five-acre Main Gate commercial project could not participate in redevelopment funds, since it is not a redevelopment project on its particular parcel and requested that SB 834, Senator Lou Correa’s bill that was passed during the 2005-06 Session, be amended to address this particular exception on former Fort Ord. Mayor Mettee-McCutcheon suggested that a veterans’ cemetery bill be included in the matrix and also into the motion. There were no objections to Mayors Rubio and Mettee-McCutcheon’s recommendations, and the motion carried.

8. EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

There were four items in the Executive Officer’s Report: Item 8a (Administrative Committee Report), Item 8b (Executive Officer’s Travel Report), Item 8c (Quarterly Report Dated 3/31/07 (Third Quarter of FY ’06-07), and Item 8d (Fort Ord Reuse Authority Investments – Quarterly Status Report). In reference to Item 8d, Mayor Rubio requested that previous end-of-quarter balances be included in the board report.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE - None

10. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Russell adjourned the meeting at 4:25 pm.

Minutes prepared by Linda Stiehl, Deputy Clerk

Approved by ______________________________________________________

Michael A. Houlemard, Jr., Executive Officer/Clerk