



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held November 21, 2006, the Board took the following action:

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The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Molina and Knabe:

“On October 19, 2006 we received a report from the Director of Public Works and the Chief Information Officer (CIO) indicating that the eDAPTS vendor, Accela, Inc., (Accela) cannot successfully deliver the core functionality of the system. The enterprise-wide land permitting and inspection tracking system was the primary deliverable for this project. Accela signed a contract with Director of Public Works over four years ago to deliver this system within 18 months. While the CIO’s expansion of the project has seen limited success, the original project has been a resounding failure on the part of Accela due to their inability to deliver a quality and effective product. According to this report, the County has paid Accela approximately \$1.5 million of a total \$2.5 million contract, but has received a small fraction of the promised system.

“We are now informed that the contract with Accela must be amended so that its terms reflect the reduced scope of the project. In recent briefings with each of the Board offices, it was made clear to the Director of Public Works and the CIO that the terms of the original contract regarding payment for deliverables must be strictly adhered to; there shall be no payments to Accela for deliverables that are not fully usable by the County and which do not meet all of our functional requirements as agreed to in the contract.”

“We therefore recommend that County Counsel, the Chief Information Officer, and the Director of Public Works be instructed to:

1. Report back to the Board with an exit strategy outlining options and recommendations for terminating and/or amending the contract with Accela for the delivery of the enterprise-wide land permitting and inspection tracking system (eDAPTS) project, including litigation if necessary;

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2. Recover amounts paid to Accela for work that did not result in a useable component; make no further payments to Accela for the eDAPTS project without confirmation by County Counsel that all payments to Accela have been and will be made in accordance with the provisions of the original signed contract; and
3. Report back to the Board within 90 days with options for acquiring a replacement web-based permit tracking system.”

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

“Supervisors Molina and Knabe’s recommendation makes reference to the October 19, 2006 eDAPTS Status Report from the Director of Public Works (DPW) and the Chief Information Officer (CIO), and states that the County has paid the eDAPTS contractor, Accela, approximately \$1.5 million out of a total \$2.5 million contract.

“However, this \$2.5 million includes only part of the County’s contract with Accela. According to verbal updates and reports from the CIO, the Countywide total contract with Accela amounts to nearly \$9.9 million. This amount includes maintenance agreements with DPW, as well as with other departments, including Fire, Regional Planning and Environmental Health. In addition, there are about \$874,000 in one-time and other costs incurred by the County, bringing the total Countywide project cost to about \$10.9 million – well above the \$5.8 million discussed in the eDAPTS Status Report.”

Therefore, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a suggestion that Supervisors Molina and Knabe’s recommendation be amended, in order to ensure that all County funds are accounted for, to also instruct County Counsel, the Chief Information Officer and the Director of Public Works to conduct an analysis of all eDAPTS project costs incurred by the County in their report back to the Board with the analysis to include: total expenditures to date (including one-time Information Technology Fund costs, as well as all departmental internal County costs); deliverables received to date; outstanding deliverables; and amounts reimbursable from or payments outstanding to the contractor.

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After discussion, on recommendation of Supervisors Molina and Knabe, and on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried (Supervisor Molina being absent), County Counsel, the Chief Information Officer and the Director of Public Works were instructed to:

1. Report back to the Board with:
  - An exit strategy outlining options and recommendations for terminating and/or amending the contract with Accela for the delivery of the enterprise-wide land permitting and inspection tracking system (eDAPTS) project, including litigation if necessary; and
  - An analysis of all eDAPTS project costs incurred by the County to include total expenditures to date (including one-time Information Technology Fund costs, as well as all Departmental internal County Costs), deliverables received to date, outstanding deliverables, and amounts reimbursable from or payments outstanding to the contractor;
2. Recover amounts paid to Accela for work that did not result in a useable component; make no further payments to Accela for the eDAPTS project without confirmation by County Counsel that all payments to Accela have been and will be made in accordance with the provisions of the original signed contract; and
3. Report back to the Board in 90 days with options for acquiring a replacement web-based permit tracking system.

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