

**Central Puget Sound
Regional Transit Authority**

**August 23, 1996
Board Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m. by Vice Chairman Miller in Building 2, Highline Community College, 2400 South 240th, Des Moines, Washington.

Attendance

Chair

(A) Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive

Vice Chairs

(P) Paul Miller, City of Tacoma Councilmember

(A) Greg Nickels, King County Councilmember

(P) Martha Choe, City of Seattle Councilmember

(P) Dave Earling, City of Edmonds Council President

(P) Mary Gates, City of Federal Way Councilmember

(P) Jane Hague, King County Council Chair

(P) Ed Hansen, City of Everett Mayor

(P) Ann Kirk Davis, City of Lakewood Councilmember

(A) Gary Locke, King County Executive

(P) Rob McKenna, King County Councilmember

(P) Sid Morrison, WSDOT Secretary

(A) Norm Rice, City of Seattle Mayor

(A) Dave Russell, City of Kirkland Councilmember

(A) Bill Stoner, Pierce County Councilmember

(P) Cynthia Sullivan, King County Councilmember

(P) Doug Sutherland, Pierce County Executive

(P) Jim White, City of Kent Mayor

The Board Administrator indicated a quorum of the Board was not present at roll call.

Mr. Miller explained that he would conduct the meeting as Mr. Drewel was unavailable.

Public Comment

The following individuals presented comments to the Board:

Mr. Mark Dublin

Ms. Patricia McDonald

(Board members McKenna and Hague arrived at this time.)

Mr. Norman L. Winn distributed and read a document prepared by the Citizens Opposed to Sitting in Traffic (COST) proposing language for the ballot title (copy on file).

Mr. Douglas Tooley

Comments are on file with the Board Administrator.

Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Ms. Choe and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the minutes of May 10 and May 24, 1996 be approved as presented.

Report of the Chair

Mr. Miller asked Board members to distribute any new amendments to Resolution No. 75 at this time, to allow the Board and legal counsel an opportunity to read them before the Board would be asked to act on them.

No new amendments were offered.

Mr. Miller indicated the Board would take action on Item #8 prior to Item #7, as some Board members needed to leave the meeting early.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director White reported that the Washington Research Council (WRC) had published a review of Sound Move, which included 10 rhetorical questions the WRC thought voters should consider before making a decision on the RTA. Staff prepared answers to those questions and forwarded those answers to the WRC, and then met with Richard Davis, Chief Economist of the WRC, to review the responses. During that meeting Mr. Davis asked staff for a summary of where RTA staff thought the original WRC report had errors or information important to the reader was omitted. That summary has been completed and submitted to him.

Executive Director White referred Board members to two letters (copies on file). The first is a letter from Puget Sound Regional Council Executive Director, Mary McCumber, transmitting the PSRC's final report of a positive finding of consistency with the adopted Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

The second is a letter to the consultant team that is conducting a public transportation assessment for the Legislative Transportation Committee, from PSRC President Doug Sutherland.

Resolution No. 75

The Board Administrator read the title of Resolution No. 75 into the record.

Mr. Miller reminded Board members that Resolution No. 75 was before the Board for information at its July meeting. At that time, Mr. Drewel asked that any amendments be submitted to the RTA offices. As of yesterday there were no amendments proposed. There have been changes made to page two of the resolution.

It was moved by Ms. Davis and seconded by Ms. Choe that Resolution No. 75 be approved as presented.

Mr. Gunter reviewed the sections of the resolution with the Board.

Mr. Gravley reported that legal counsel met in July with the King County, Pierce County and Snohomish County election officials and briefed them on the intent regarding the election, and

circulated a draft of Resolution No. 75. Mr. Gravley indicated that the RTA would formally submit the ballot title to the election officials following Board approval. The deputy prosecuting attorney would review the ballot title and then certify it to the ballot. After that, the RTA would work with election officials to develop language for local voters pamphlets, which are required by state law.

Ms. Hague asked why the total amount of the system plan is referenced in Resolution No. 75 and not stated in the ballot title. She indicated that the RTA should be as straight forward as possible in spelling out the ballot and total amount to be collected.

Mr. Gravley responded that the ballot title may only contain 75 words. In drafting Resolution No. 75, legal counsel (actually he said "we") started with the language from the 1995 ballot title. It was challenged by Families Against Congestion and Taxes (FACT) and was litigated in King County Superior Court. The language was upheld, and the current resolution uses that language as its basis. Mr. Gravley noted that there is no specific reason why the total cost should or should not be in the ballot title. However, voters are being asked to approve the level of taxation, and not the total amount of the plan.

Ms. Hague responded that a total amount is much more clear, especially to those who haven't followed the issue closely.

Mr. McKenna noted that it is common to list total amounts, which, in his opinion, does provide valuable information to the voter. He agreed with Ms. Hague that the Board has a duty to disclose the figure.

Mr. Gravley pointed out that the question under the RTA legislation is not to approve the plan but to impose the taxes. As such, the type and rate of tax must be identified in the ballot title by law.

(Board member Sullivan arrived at this time.)

The motion to approve Resolution No. 75 was carried by the majority vote of all Board members present. (Mr. McKenna and Ms. Hague voted in the minority.)

Public Involvement Committee Report

Report on voter information document to be provided by the RTA in accordance with RCW 81.104.140(8).

Mr. Earling referred Board members to a draft of the latest voter information document (copy on file). He explained that the RTA is required to provide information on the ballot issue to the public 20 days prior to the election. The cost will be 4.7 cents per piece for production. The cost for the 1995 brochure was 6.5 cents per piece. The total cost will be \$180,000 to produce and mail the brochure. The RTA will be mailing 800,000 to 820,000 pieces to all constituents, and will print 860,000 documents in order to have some extras.

Mr. Earling explained that the brochure has been reviewed by legal counsel, and has been sent to the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) for their comments. Five Public Involvement Committee members have met with staff and made comments. The Public Involvement Committee met on Wednesday to review some of the recommended changes from legal counsel, the PDC and the community. Another copy was sent to the PDC today. Mr. Earling asked Board members to review

the piece and to provide comments no later than Tuesday at noon, as the Public Involvement Committee will be meeting on Wednesday to consider any additional input. All changes must be completed by August 30. It will then need to go into a production schedule to meet the 20 day deadline.

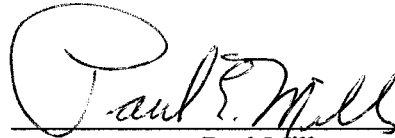
Draft Motion No. 16 - To appoint supporting and opposing committees to prepare arguments for inclusion in the official voter's pamphlet

Mr. Miller indicated that Motion No. 16 is before the Board as an information item. The legislative body responsible for proposing a ballot proposition appoints committees to prepare the formal arguments for and against the proposition for inclusion in the official Local Voter's Pamphlet. He asked that Board members provide suggestions to Chairman Drewel.

Next Meeting


The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 13 at the Puget Sound Regional Council conference room in Seattle.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:22 p.m.



Paul Miller
Vice Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator

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