

**Central Puget Sound
Regional Transit Authority**

**January 12, 1996
Board Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m. by Acting Chairman Earling. It was held in room 402 of the King County Courthouse, Seattle, Washington.

Attendance

Acting Chairman:

Dave Earling, Edmonds Councilmember

Vice Chair:

Paul Miller, Tacoma Councilmember

King County:

Mary Gates, Federal Way Mayor
Jane Hague, King County Councilmember
Greg Nickels, King County Councilmember
Jim White, Kent Mayor

Pierce County:

Ann Kirk Davis, Lakewood Councilmember
Bill Stoner, Pierce County Councilmember
Doug Sutherland, Pierce County Executive

Snohomish County:

Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive
Ed Hansen, Everett Mayor

Washington State Department of Transportation:

Sid Morrison, Secretary

The following Board members arrived after roll call:

King County:

Martha Choe, Seattle Councilmember
Gary Locke, King County Executive
Norm Rice, Seattle Mayor

The Board Administrator indicated that a quorum of the Board was present.

Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Sutherland, seconded by Mr. White and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the minutes of December 8, 1996 be approved as presented.

Public Comment

The following individuals presented comments to the Board:

Mr. Mark Dublin, Ballard
Mr. Conrad Lee, Bellevue City Council
Mr. Hal Cooper, Kirkland

Comments are on file with the Board Administrator.

Report of the Chair

Mr. Earling introduced two new RTA Board representatives appointed by Executive Gary Locke: Mr. Rob McKenna, a member of the King County Council, and Mr. Dave Russell, Kirkland City Councilmember. He explained that the King County Council would be acting on Executive Locke's appointments at its next meeting.

Mr. Earling extended the Board's appreciation to Mr. Laing, who stepped down as the RTA Board Chairman in December. On behalf of the Board, he presented him with a plaque thanking him for his leadership of the RTA from 1993 to 1995.

(Board members Rice and Locke arrived at this time).

Executive Director Report

Mr. White indicated that, at the Board's direction, staff had prepared an example of transportation investments that meet the guiding principals adopted by the Board in November. That example is described in the document entitled "Decision '96 Resource Book" (copy on file).

Mr. White emphasized that the hypothetical example should serve only as a starting point for discussion. It is only one of many examples of how a regional transit system could be developed. The amount of investment, the elements of the new proposal, and the where the district boundaries should be drawn are the main questions that need to be answered.

Mr. White stated that the hypothetical example is not a staff recommendation or an adopted Board position. It is not ready to be adopted in its current form. It responds to public input since the March election in that: 1) it costs roughly half the price of the original ballot

proposal; 2) it provides a set of public transportation investments producing a high capacity transit system at the end of 10 years instead of 16; 3) it presents a better balance in terms of the public transportation products utilized within the RTA's existing legislative program; and 4) it builds on existing HOV lanes and tracks. It introduces an HOV expressway system, and assures the HOV lanes will be completed in a timely fashion. It provides a method to increase the effectiveness of the HOV lanes by providing direct access onto those lanes.

Mr. Matsuoka reviewed the contents of the hypothetical example (copy on file).

(Board member Choe arrived at this time).

Ms. Hendrickson discussed the financing package, which was developed as a result of the guiding principals. There are four key points to emphasize: 1) there is a higher reliance in local taxes; 2) no state funds are included; 3) there is a 55% decrease in federal funding; and 4) conservative bonding levels are utilized.

At this time, Mr. Roger Pence, President of People for Modern Transit, presented his comments to the Board. Comments are on file with the Board Administrator.

Regional Outreach Committee Report

Mr. Skip Rowley spoke in Mr. Ford's absence. He indicated that the committee will be working with staff to develop a message about the hypothetical example.

Standing RTA Board Committee Reports

Public Involvement Committee

Mr. Earling reported that the Committee identified an issue regarding the adoption of the final proposal. Many Board members are scheduled to be out of town in May. A super-majority is required to pass a plan. He asked Board members to examine their schedules, as it appears that a sufficient number of Board members will be available April 26 and 27 for passage of the final plan.

He indicated that a citizen workshop is being planned for either February 21 or 23.

In addition, the Public Involvement Committee reviewed feedback from the focus group. Phrases were identified that communicate well with the public. It also became clear that the RTA will need to develop three types of maps to communicate various levels of detail--a regional map illustrating the new regional service network, a regional investment map showing which new routes would be used to deliver the new service, and subarea maps to illustrate how regional and local transit services will work together.

Rules Committee

State Legislative Program

Mr. Jim Metcalf reported that the RTA legislative program had been drafted in bill form (copy on file). Key Transportation Committee members in the House have indicated that they are not willing to consider any new legislation at this point. The lobbying team is trying to talk to as many members within the RTA boundaries as possible. While many of those conversations have generated positive feedback about the RTA's process and direction, there is not a consensus that additional legislation should be passed. A strategic plan will be formulated after additional meetings with leadership in the Senate.

There is one other measure before the Senate Transportation Committee, SB 6078, which attempts to enact language that strikes the requirement for a voter's pamphlet and sets parameters regarding statements about availability of state and federal funds. The language is satisfactory is not expected to be detrimental to the RTA.

Resolution No. 71 - Contract for Support Services with Pierce County

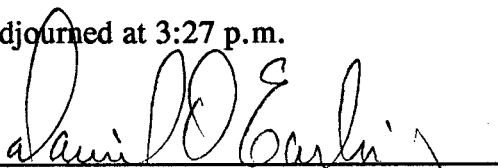
Mr. Earling stated that Resolution No. 71 would extend an existing agreement. The Rules Committee recommended that the Board continue an agreement for these services from Pierce County.

It was moved by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. 71 be approved as presented.

Other Business

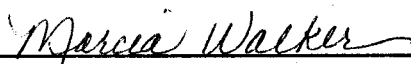
Mr. Earling indicated that the new appointments to the RTA Board were expected to be completed by the King County Council the following week. Therefore, the election for a permanent Chair will be on the agenda for the January 26 Board meeting.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.



Dave Earling
Acting Chair of the Board

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator