

**Central Puget Sound
Regional Transit Authority**

**Board Meeting Summary Minutes
May 22, 1997**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. by Board Chair Drewel in Room 310 of the Husky Union Building (HUB) at the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

Attendance

Chair

(P) Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive

Vice Chairs

(P) Paul Miller, City of Tacoma Councilmember

(P) Greg Nickels, King County Councilmember

(A) Sarah Casada, Pierce County Councilmember	(P) Renee Montgelas for Sid Morrison, WSDOT
(P) Dave Earling, City of Edmonds Council President	(P) Norm Rice, City of Seattle Mayor
(P) Mary Gates, City of Federal Way Councilmember	(P) Dave Russell, City of Kirkland Councilmember
(A) Jane Hague, King County Council Chair	(P) Ron Sims, King County Executive
(P) Ed Hansen, City of Everett Mayor	(A) Cynthia Sullivan, King County Councilmember
(A) Ann Kirk Davis, City of Lakewood Councilmember	(A) Doug Sutherland, Pierce County Executive
(P) Richard McIver, City of Seattle Councilmember	(P) Jim White, City of Kent Mayor
(P) Rob McKenna, King County Councilmember	

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

The following Board members arrived after roll call:

Paul Miller, City of Tacoma Councilmember
Greg Nickels, King County Councilmember
Mary Gates, City of Federal Way Councilmember
Richard McIver, City of Seattle Councilmember
Rob McKenna, King County Councilmember
Renee Montgelas for Sid Morrison, WSDOT
Norm Rice, City of Seattle Mayor
Ron Sims, King County Executive

Public Comment

The following individuals presented comments to the board:

Mr. Phillip Grega

Mr. Forrest Briggs

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

Ms. Nancy McCormick, Chair, Eastside Transportation Partnership

(Board member Rice and Ms. Montgelas arrived at this time.)

Comments are on file with the Board Administrator.

Report of the Chair

Mr. Drewel reported that the Citizen Oversight Panel (COP) has met three times. At its most recent meeting, the panel elected its chair, Mr. Steve Goldblatt. Mr. Goldblatt is an associate professor and former chairman of the Department of Construction Management, and former associate dean of the College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Washington. Mr. Drewel invited Mr. Goldblatt to provide an update on the COP.

Mr. Drewel announced that COP members Ms. Virginia Gunby and Mr. Anoop Batra were also present

Mr. Goldblatt reported that the COP has adopted goals, objectives and operating principles, and has elected a Vice Chair. He indicated that the COP's immediate focus is to assess the RTA's performance, based on the agency's public commitments. Because the COP is still in its infancy, Mr. Goldblatt indicated that the panel has no position on the Implementation Guide.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director White referred board members to a memorandum to Ms. Helen Knoll of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regarding the RTA's request to advance its light rail program into the preliminary engineering stage (copy on file). Executive Director White pointed out that while this action is largely an administrative step, the FTA's approval or recognition that the RTA is in the preliminary engineering stage places the RTA in a position to begin to receive federal grants for that project.

Committee Reports

(Agenda items were taken out of sequence to hold action items until a quorum of the board arrived.)

Public and Government Affairs Committee

Final Report on 1997 State Legislative Session

Mr. Earling indicated that Mr. Ron Main and Mr. Randy Scott, the RTA's lobbyists in Olympia, would give a briefing on legislative actions relating to transit and the RTA.

Ms. Sheila Dezarn referred board members to a memorandum from her. Attached to that memorandum is a copy of the 1997 State Legislative Program adopted by the RTA Board in December 1996, as well as a 1997 legislative session final report from the RTA's lobbyists (copies on file).

Mr. Main and Mr. Scott reviewed their 1997 legislative session final report.

(Board members Sims and Gates arrived at this time.)

Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Russell, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the minutes of February 13, February 27 and March 27, 1997 be approved as maile.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Resolution No. 89 - Authorizing repayment of loans to Pierce Transit, the King County Department of Metropolitan Services and Community Transit for prior loans and advances of cash and staff resources

It was moved by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Earling that Resolution No. 89 be approved as presented.

Ms. Gates expressed the RTA's thanks to all three of the agencies involved in Resolution No. 89: Pierce Transit, King County Department of Metropolitan Services and Community Transit. She indicated that the Finance Committee discussed the repayment process, which has been included in board members' agenda packets (copy on file).

The motion to approve Resolution No. 89 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Ms. Gates reported that the Finance Committee received a status report on the budget. The agency is under budget by 41%, largely due to a low level of staffing. The development of the budget for the second six months of 1997 is underway. The appropriate committees will discuss those projects. Budget adoption is scheduled for July 24, 1997.

Lastly, Ms. Gates reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the Implementation Guide, before the board today, and held an executive session to discuss leasing possibilities for the RTA headquarters.

Executive Committee

Resolution No. 87 - Establishing policy and procedures for reporting improper governmental actions and protecting employees against retaliation

It was moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Russell and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. 87 be approved as presented.

Motion No. 32 - Adopting the Implementation Guide for Sound Move - The Ten-Year Regional Transit System Plan

Mr. Drewel indicated that the Executive Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of Motion No. 32. The board began discussion of this action in February, with a discussion draft including a schedule for individual projects and services. The discussion draft was submitted for public review in

April. The comments received have been taken into consideration and some of those suggestions resulted in the revised Implementation Guide.

Mr. Drewel indicated that the Implementation Guide is intended to help the RTA move forward with individual projects; however, the exact timing and funding approvals will be further defined in the budget process.

It was moved by Mr. Miller and seconded by Ms. Gates that Motion No. 32 be approved as presented.

Mr. Hansen registered his concern about adopting the Implementation Guide without more detailed financial information. He indicated he would support the motion with the understanding that these are draft guidelines only.

The motion to approve Motion No. 32 was carried unanimously by all Board members present.

Resolution No. 90 - Amending Resolution No. 80 adopting rules and operating procedures for the Board

Mr. Drewel indicated that Resolution No. 90 would amend the board operating rules to provide a consent agenda. Based on comments made by Ms. Hague, legal counsel has revised the language in Section 2A to clarify that a board member can remove an item from the consent agenda by his/her request.

It was moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Rice and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. 90 be approved as presented.

Mr. Drewel reported that the Executive Committee has spent considerable time reviewing Executive Director White's April 28 memo describing a general framework for developing interlocal agreements (copy on file). The committee specifically reviewed the outline for agreements with local permitting jurisdictions, transit agencies, the DOT and the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC). The Executive Committee then directed staff to negotiate and bring agreements back to the board for approval and to keep members informed of any issues that arise.

(Board members Nickels and McIver arrived at this time.)

Mr. Drewel announced that Mr. Earling, Mr. McIver and Mr. Miller would be attending the American Public Transit Association conference in Washington, D.C. At that time, Congress will be marking up the ISTEA bill, and members plan to schedule briefings with the congressional delegation. Mr. Tim Lovain or Ms. Dezarn will be contacting members about opportunities to be involved in these briefings.

Public and Government Affairs Committee

Continued Final Report on 1997 State Legislative Session

Mr. Main reported that he attended a meeting called by the Governor's staff to announce his intention to create a task force to bring a transportation revenue package to the 1998 legislative session. Mr. Main stressed the importance of continuing to support this effort and to communicate that a balanced transportation system requires expenditures to support the movement of freight and goods as well as people.

Mr. Nickels expressed his view the State of Washington should be a partner in the RTA project. He urged the board to begin formulating a strategy that gets the state to fund a portion of the RTA's unfunded capital program.

Mr. Earling thanked King County Civic TV for videotaping the meeting.

Mr. Earling reported that after the House of Representatives took action in Washington, D.C. on the balanced budget bill, there were rumors that transportation funding had gone away. That rumor began because Chair Schuster advanced an initiative to add \$12 billion to the transportation budget, which was defeated with a vote of 216 to 214.

The Senate is working through their budget process and will have their budget put forward soon. Committee work will then take place, followed by an agreement on the transportation budget. Mr. Earling expressed his optimism that with the 214 votes in favor of Senator Schuster's proposal, it will be possible to get some funds back in the transportation side of the House budget.

Mr. Earling indicated that at the last Public and Government Affairs Committee meeting members discussed several issues. One has to do with the Implementation Guide. There are many projects ready for immediate implementation. Other agencies have projects underway and they present an opportunity to begin the partnership talked about throughout the planning and the campaign. Mr. Earling referred board members to a memorandum listing four projects staff has identified that are of immediate importance to various agencies to try to move forward on (copy on file). Those projects are: 1) a park-and-ride lot at Ash Way; 2) an Overlake transit center and park-and-ride lot; 3) additional service to the existing Tacoma-Seattle express; and 4) property acquisition for the Auburn commuter rail station.

Mr. Earling indicated that the committee asked staff to accelerate the process to get these projects underway.

It was moved by Mr. Earling and seconded by Mr. Hansen that the RTA state its intent to include funding for four projects as part of the 1997 and 1998 budget, authorizing the executive director to begin the development of interlocal agreements on these projects, and committing to developing the necessary cost sharing arrangements and agreements for these projects, without committing to the full funding levels indicated in Sound Move.

Mr. Paul W. Locke, citizen, asked to provide comments to the board on this issue. Comments are on file with the Board Administrator.

Mr. Sims indicated he would support the motion, but asked that proposals be given in writing.

The motion was carried by the unanimous vote of all board members present.

Motion No. 29 - Adopting policies to implement guiding principles for employment and contracting on professional services contracts, goods and services contracts and contractor employment, and authorizing the Executive Director to proceed with policy implementation

Mr. Alec Stephens reviewed the guiding principles with the board (copy on file).

It was moved by Mr. Earling and seconded by Mr. White that Motion No. 29 be approved as presented. Motion No. 29 was approved by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.


Mr. Earling concluded his report by stating that the Seattle to University District Light Rail Task Force has scheduled a series of meetings. A schedule of those meetings has been included in the agenda packets (copy on file).

Mr. Nickels thanked Ms. Gates for giving the Finance Committee report in his absence. He indicated that the RTA has sold general obligation bonds and established a line of credit, and has transferred its banking services from the City of Tacoma to Sea-First Bank, effective May 1.

Next Meeting

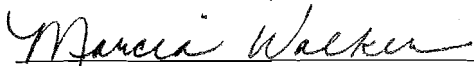
The next RTA Board meeting will be held on Thursday, June 12, 1997 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Tacoma Public Library.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.



Bob Drewel
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Mardis Walker
Board Administrator