

**Sound Transit
Executive Committee Summary Minutes**

March 19, 1999

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:52 p.m. by Chair Paul Miller.

Attendance

(P) Paul Miller, Chair	(P) Greg Nickels
(A) Bob Drewel, Vice Chair	(A) Paul Schell
(P) Dave Earling	(A) Ron Sims
(P) Mary Gates	(P) Cynthia Sullivan
(A) Jane Hague	(P) Doug Sutherland
(A) Richard McIver	

Report of the Chair

Mr. Miller asked Mr. Earling to give a report on the recent Washington D.C. meeting.

Mr. Earling stated that the trip was very successful. They met with the congressional delegation whose districts are in the Link Light Rail alignment and with Senators Gorton and Murray.

Executive Director Report

Mr. White stated that Union Station renovations are proceeding on time and the building should be turned over to Sound Transit by September 15 for furnishing. Occupancy will begin around October 15. He advised that Sound Transit is drafting guidelines for public use of the Grand Hall and the recommendation will be brought to the Board around May.

Mr. White mentioned that the Citizen Oversight Panel conducted a meeting March 16 to complete their six-month review of the agency. The report will be brought to the Board in April.

Public Comment

Mr. Martin Durkan, Jr., representing the Tukwila Transit Partnership, addressed his concerns about complete public comments not being reflected in the February 19, 1999, Executive Committee minutes, full area representation of the COP, and Resolution No. R99-9 on the agenda.

Mr. Durkan stated his concern that Sound Transit will appeal the City of Tukwila's comprehensive plan. He advised the Committee that the Tukwila comprehensive plan is interconnected with the King County comprehensive plan which is linked to the countywide planning policy based on GMA which is reflected in both the Snohomish County and Pierce County comprehensive plans. He stated that anything of this important nature should go before the Board.

Update on Negotiations on the Transit Operations Agreements

Ms. Agnes Govern, Regional Express Director, gave an update on the negotiations on the service

agreements with Community Transit, Pierce Transit, and King County Metro. She stated that during the past three months, the discussions were specifically directed toward the service agreement, but they also strengthened the partnership efforts. The structure of the agreement has basically been agreed on and roles have been clearly identified for areas such as planning and scheduling, vehicle maintenance, and operations. It was agreed that the contract will serve as a framework for Sound Transit to receive and share information and to meet the accountability requirements of the Regional Express program with the focus being on efficient and cost effective service. She stated that the current focus is on compensation and that each of the transit agencies will have a different cost per hour.

Ms. Govern advised the Committee that Regional Express will be on schedule for review and recommendation to the Board for service agreements with Community Transit and Pierce Transit and discussions will be continuing with King County Metro. She stated that King County Metro's cost per hour numbers do not fit within the SIP assumptions. She mentioned that a set of policy actions will come to the Board to consider in handling this situation. The policy actions could include revising the SIP by reducing the service hours; looking at lower cost routes, and asking King County to dedicate some of their redeployed resources to fully fund the routes. This will probably add at least another month to the process in terms of bringing an agreement with King County Metro to the Board.

Minutes of February 19, 1999 Meeting

Ms. Sullivan stated that she felt the minutes should be held and expanded.

Mr. Miller advised that the Board adopted a policy stating that the minutes would not be verbatim, but would be a summary and that agency would rely on the tapes.

Ms. Sullivan stated that Mr. Fogdall's testimony is quite complete in terms of the questions he asked. She felt there were a number of points made by Mr. Durkan that could be included in the minutes.

Ms. Walker, Board Administrator, expressed appreciation for the input and stated that including a brief summary of comments has only recently been added to the minutes; in the past only the names were recorded under Public Comment.

Mr. Miller advised that the minutes would be held over.

Motion No. M99-16 - Approving travel for Board members Paul Miller, Dave Enslow, and Ann Kirk Davis to attend the APTA Commuter Rail/Rapid Transit Conference in Toronto, Canada from May 22 to May 27, 1999 in the conduct of official business on behalf of Sound Transit

It was moved by Mr. Sutherland and seconded by Mr. Earling that Motion No. M99-16 be approved as presented.

Mr. Nickels asked the number of staff that would be attending the conference.

Mr. White stated that he would report back to the Committee the number of staff who will be attending.

The motion to approve Motion No. M99-16 was carried by a unanimous vote of all Committee members present.

Motion No. M99-10 - Appointing a member to the Citizen Oversight Panel

It was moved by Mr. Nickels, seconded by Mr. Sutherland, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Committee members present that Motion No. M99-10 be forwarded to the Board with a do pass recommendation.

Motion No. M99-15 - Reappointing eight members to the Citizen Oversight Panel whose terms expire March 1999

It was moved by Mr. Sutherland and seconded by Ms. Gates that Motion No. M99-15 be forwarded to the Board with a do pass recommendation.

Ms. Sullivan asked if the distribution of the COP members has been looked at recently.

Ms. Walker stated that as the members have left the COP, the approach for replacing them has been to look only at the subarea they represented. In terms of looking at it in totality, that has not been done.

Ms. Sullivan suggested that this be looked at to ensure total representation on the panel.

Ms. Gates stated that upon examining the recommended reappointments, she did not find an imbalance. She suggested this be looked at over the next six to nine months to ensure complete representation.

Mr. Miller asked that staff send out the sheet used in the past to review distribution of panel members.

The motion to forward Motion No. M99-15 to the Board with a do pass recommendation was carried by the unanimous vote of all Committee members present.

Resolution No. R99-9 - Confirming the Executive Director's authority to authorize legal/administrative actions, suits and appeals

It was moved by Mr. Sutherland and seconded by Mr. Earling that Resolution No. R99-9 be approved subject to ratification by the Board.

Ms. Sullivan questioned whether there were specific plans to appeal local land use actions.

Mr. Desmond Brown, Chief Legal Counsel, stated that it is not a challenge to the land use code of Tukwila, but there are technical issues that need to be addressed. He suggested holding an executive session in order to brief the Committee members on the issues.

Mr. Nickels stated that he would vote no if action were taken during this meeting.

Mr. Miller asked if the members would like to go to an Executive Session.

Mr. Sutherland stated his comfort with taking action on this resolution. He mentioned that there will be times that in order to maintain the agency's position, it will be necessary for staff to be able to respond in a timely manner on decisions. He brought up the importance of receiving regular reports on administrative actions.

It was moved by Ms. Gates to move to an Executive Session for a period not to exceed ten minutes. The motion was carried by the unanimous vote of all Committee members present.

Executive Session

The Executive Committee adjourned to an Executive Session at 2:25 p.m.

Reconvene

Mr. Miller reconvened the Executive Committee at 2:40 p.m.

Mr. Miller stated that the Committee has a Motion and a second on the table for approve Resolution No. R99-9.

Mr. Miller declared that a quorum was no longer present since Mr. Nickels had left the room. The resolution will be passed to the Board without a recommendation from the Executive Committee. He stated that he will meet with Mr. White and Mr. Brown to discuss a possible need to convene a special session of the Executive Committee early next week.

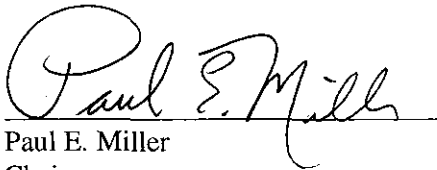
Next Meeting

Friday, April 2, 1999, from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m., at the Sound Transit 4th Floor Conference Room.


Adjourn

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Recorded by Jane Emerson
Project Assistant


Paul E. Miller
Chair

ATTEST:


Marcia Walker
Board Administrator