

**Sound Transit
Board Meeting Summary Minutes
April 8, 1999**

Call to Order

Board Chair Paul Miller called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. in the Corinthian Ballroom of the Tacoma Landmark Convention Center, 47 St. Helens Avenue, Tacoma, Washington.

Roll Call

Chair

(P) Paul Miller, City of Tacoma Councilmember

Vice Chairs

(A) Dave Earling, City of Edmonds Councilmember

(P) Greg Nickels, King County Councilmember

Board Members

(A) Ann Davis, City of Lakewood Councilmember

(P) Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive

(P) David Enslow, City of Sumner Councilmember

(P) Mary Gates, City of Federal Way Councilmember

(A) Jane Hague, King County Councilmember

(A) Ed Hansen, City of Everett Mayor

(P) Richard McIver, City of Seattle Councilmember

(P) Rob McKenna, King County Councilmember

(P) Sid Morrison, WSDOT Secretary

(P) Dave Russell, City of Kirkland Councilmember

(P) Paul Schell, City of Seattle Mayor

(A) Ron Sims, King County Executive

(A) Cynthia Sullivan, King County Councilmember

(P) Doug Sutherland, Pierce County Executive

(P) Jim White, City of Kent Mayor

Marcia Walker, Board Administrator, indicated a quorum of the Board was not present at roll call.

The following Board members arrived after roll call:

Rob McKenna, King County Councilmember

Sid Morrison, WSDOT Secretary

Jim White, City of Kent Mayor

Public Comment

The following individuals presented comments to the Board (comments are on file with the Board Administrator):

Mr. Paul W. Locke

(Board member Morrison arrived at this time.)

Dr. Shirl E. Gilbert II, Executive Director of the Tacoma Empowerment Consortium

Executive Session

Mr. Miller acknowledged that more people had signed up for public comment, but stated that the Board would move to Executive Session followed by action items as some Board members would be leaving early. He advised that the Board would be discussing two issues during the executive session: contract negotiations with Amtrak and litigation.

The Board went into executive session at 2:48 p.m. and reconvened open session at 3:10 p.m.

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

Action Items

Resolution No. R99-10 - Authorizing the Executive Director to execute a sole source fixed-price contract in the amount of \$5,900,000 per year with Amtrak for maintenance of the Sounder commuter rail fleet; an additional ten percent (10%) allowance (\$590,000) for activities outside the scope of the fixed-price activities; and up to five percent (5%) of the fixed-price contract reserve for operation of "special trains" not to exceed \$295,000 per year

It was moved by Mr. Nickels and seconded by Ms. Gates that Resolution No. R99-10 be approved as presented.

Mr. Nickels stated that in February of last year, the Board discussed the offer by Amtrak to utilize the King Street coach yard for Sounder commuter rail maintenance. Later in the fall, the Board discussed the negotiations and directed staff to undertake final negotiations. He stated that those negotiations were now before them. Mr. Nickels advised that the Finance Committee reviewed the action at their last meeting and was recommending approval.

Mr. McIver asked why Amtrak is not subject to Sound Transit's minority/women/disadvantaged business enterprise (M/W/DBE) goals.

Mr. David Beal, Project Development Program Manager, clarified that Amtrak has its own federal restrictions and will follow those M/W/DBE guidelines. It is covered by federal regulations with regard to M/W/DBE.

Mr. McIver questioned whether the federal requirement is more restrictive or less restrictive than ST's M/W/DBE requirement.

Mr. Kurt Laird, General Manager of Amtrak, stated that Amtrak follows federal requirements and has no objection to going beyond the current requirements under which Amtrak operates.

The motion to approve Resolution No. R99-10 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of February 11, 1999 Board Meeting

It was moved by Mr. Nickels, seconded by Mr. Drewel, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented.

Central Link Light Rail Decision-Making Schedule for the Locally Preferred Alternative

Mr. Paul Bay, Director of Link Light Rail, advised that each Board member had received a sheet showing the decision-making schedule for light rail (copy on file). He stated that this defines the major decision items over the next six months and notes tentative dates of when the decisions will come to committees and the Board.

Mr. Bay continued his remarks and pointed out that staff submitted to the Board a report from the consultants on how to raise the profile under Portage Bay to get through the mud and have shallower stations in the University of Washington (UW) area. He stated that the findings have been shared with the UW staff. He summarized the report by saying there are two fundamental ways to raise the profile. The first option is to raise the profile up into the mud and bore tunnels through the mud. This would require the injection of chemicals into the mud to solidify it.

The second way to raise the profile is to build tubes similar to those used for BART under San Francisco Bay by building cofferdams. He explained that the cofferdams are built by boring the earth and then pumping the water out.

This would impact Portage Bay neighborhoods and several houseboats.

Mr. Schell stated that he felt there were no other options. He said the riders in the UW area will have to use elevators versus the impacts on the neighborhoods and fish resulting from the other options. He suggested Sound Transit spend time working with the UW and the researchers on the vibration issues, being flexible to see if negative impacts on the UW research labs can be prevented.

Mr. Bay advised that staff is meeting with the UW approximately four times a month and that nearly half a million dollars has been spent in research with the UW looking at electromagnetic radiation and vibration impacts. The most recent testing done in Portland involved UW professionals. The results will be written into a report which should be available in a few weeks. Staff is recommending proceeding with the deep tunnel option.

Mr. McKenna asked how this relates to the vibration issue.

Mr. Bay answered that Dr. Ellis, Chair of the Physics Department, has asked if the profile could be lowered. He would like the tunnel to be deeper to lessen its impact on the physics lab.

Mr. McKenna questioned whether the construction method would increase the vibration during construction.

Mr. Bay stated that cut-and-cover construction would have more serious impacts on the testing done in the physics lab.

Public Comment (continued)

The following individuals presented comments to the Board (comments are on file with the Board Administrator):

Ms. Faaluaina Pritchard, Executive Director of the Korean Women's Association

Mr. Thomas Dixon, President of the Tacoma Urban League

Mr. Tim Strege, Director of the William M. Factory Small Business Incubator

Mr. Colin Conant, Executive Director of the Tacoma/Pierce County Private Industry Council

Ms. Judith Hubert-Galbraith, Employment Security

Ms. Dolores Silas, Tacoma City Councilmember

Mr. Robert Holloway, Director of Worker Retraining at Clover Park Technical College

Ms. Bil Moss

Mr. Arthur Pearson, President of ADP Construction Company

Ms. Alberta Canada

Report of the Chair

None.

Executive Director Report

Mr. Matsuoka, Deputy Executive Director, advised the Board that the Citizen Oversight Panel report will be given on April 22.

Committee Reports

Public and Government Affairs Committee

Mr. Sutherland brought the Board members up to date on the PGA Committee. He stated that on March 30, Congresswoman Dunn participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Sound Transit bus. Senator Inslee and representatives from Burlington Northern Santa Fe and a variety of other agencies recently toured the commuter rail opportunities from Seattle to Everett.

On the state level, he advised that Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5274, a proof of payment bill, passed both Houses and will go to the Governor for his signature. House Bill (HB) 1703, allowing regional transit authorities to acquire Department of Transportation surplus property, has passed the Senate Transportation Committee and is before the Senate Rules Committee. The House State Government Committee has approved SSB 5064, dealing with public disclosure for transit riders, and it is now before the House Rules Committee. Senate Bill (SB) 5857, which would give some leverage leasing on rolling stock, is still alive.

Mr. Sutherland advised that the transportation budget has come across from the House and will go to the Senate for action next week. The bill will then go to the House Rules Committee before going back to the Senate floor for final action by Friday.

Other Business

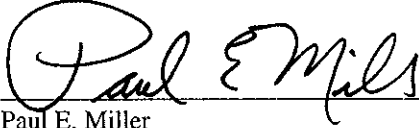
None.

Next Meeting

Thursday, April 22, 1999 - 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Puget Sound Regional Council, 6th floor
1011 Western Avenue
Seattle, Washington

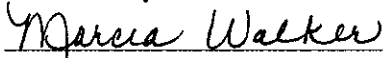
Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.



Paul E. Miller
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator