

**Sound Transit
Board Meeting Summary Minutes
February 24, 2000**

Call to Order

Board Chair Dave Earling called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m. in the Tacoma Public Library, 1102 Tacoma Avenue South, Tacoma, Washington.

Roll Call

Chair

(P) Dave Earling, City of Edmonds Councilmember

Vice Chairs

(P) Greg Nickels, King County Councilmember

(A) Doug Sutherland, Pierce County Executive

Board Members

(P) Ann Davis, City of Lakewood Councilmember

(P) Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive

(P) Jack Crawford, City of Kenmore Deputy Mayor

(P) David Enslow, City of Sumner Councilmember

(A) Mary Gates, City of Federal Way Councilmember

(P) Jane Hague, King County Councilmember

(P) Ed Hansen, City of Everett Mayor

(P) Richard McIver, City of Seattle Councilmember

(A) Rob McKenna, King County Councilmember

(P) Renee Montgelas, representing Sid Morrison,
WSDOT Secretary

(P) Kevin Phelps, City of Tacoma Councilmember

(P) Paul Schell, City of Seattle Mayor

(A) Ron Sims, King County Executive

(P) Cynthia Sullivan, King County Councilmember

(P) Jim White, City of Kent Mayor

Marcia Walker, Board Administrator, indicated a quorum of the Board was present at roll call.

Public Comment

None.

Report of the Chair

Mr. Earling reported that the agenda had been revised to include Motion No. M99-86. This item was on the last Board agenda, but action could not be taken because there was no quorum. Additionally, Mr. Earling indicated that Resolution No. R99-02, regarding high occupancy vehicle (HOV) policy, had been deferred.

Mr. Earling stated that the reason the Board meetings move around the region is a provision in the Board's operating procedures that stipulates that one out of every six meetings will be held in Pierce County and one out of every six meetings will be held in Snohomish County.

Mr. Earling reported that Sound Transit (ST) applauded the Puget Sound Regional Council's (PSRC) Executive Board for the recent action that avoided losing \$110 million in federal dollars. The Executive Board's action reprogrammed federal funds to projects that were ready to obligate the funds immediately and had the effect of keeping critically needed federal dollars in our region where every transportation dollar is precious.

Mr. Earling indicated that of the \$110 million, \$60 million was for Sounder, which would help fill the gap in the state's commitment to track and signal improvements.

Furthermore, Mr. Earling reported that the Executive Board's action was welcome news in the region and in Olympia, where the state legislature was working hard to put together a transportation package to help fill the funding shortfalls created by I-695.

Mr. Earling thanked Mr. McIver and the rest of his colleagues on the PSRC's Transportation Policy Board (Mr. McKenna, Mr. Enslow, and Mr. Morrison). He stated his appreciation to Bob Drewel for chairing the Executive Board and to Ms. Gates, Mayor Hansen, and Mayor Schell for their support.

Mr. Earling concluded by calling attention to a packet of letters from the legislature, the Governor, and others who were supportive of this action (copy on file). He stated that the region's action had not gone unnoticed or unappreciated.

Executive Director Report

Mr. White reported that on February 29th, Sound Transit would be opening bids for the Sounder commuter rail station in Puyallup. It was the first construction contract bid with the inclusion of the Project Labor Agreement (PLA) provisions. Mr. White was pleased to report that for this particular project there were 14 bidders, as compared to six to eight bidders in previous station contracts. The project should be completed well below the budgeted amount, which would reflect the implications of the PLA. The results of this bid would be presented at the next Board meeting.

Action Items

Finance Committee Recommendations

Motion No. M2000-16 - Authorizing the Executive Director to execute a change order to the Final Design contract with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway for redesign of the Tacoma-Seattle railroad improvements. This change order would increase the total contract amount available by \$1,650,000 which includes a 10% contingency, for a total contract value not to exceed \$8,988,929

It was moved by Mr. Nickels and seconded by Ms. Davis that Motion No. M2000-16 be approved as presented.

Mr. Nickels reported that this action was initially in response to some of the challenges posed by the passage of I-695. The lack of a state partner required looking at design changes for the Seattle-to-Tacoma Sounder project. Staff believed this change and additional design work would bring down the construction cost of this segment by more than the value of this contract.

The motion to approve Motion No. M2000-16 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Motion No. M2000-19 - Authorizing the Executive Director to execute a contract amendment to Contract No. RTA/LR 206-98B for geotechnical engineering services with Shannon and Wilson, Inc., and to proceed with professional geotechnical engineering work on the Northgate segment in an amount not to exceed \$1,317,898. The total contract amount is revised to \$9,054,305

It was moved by Mr. Nickels and seconded by Ms. Davis that Motion No. M2000-19 be approved as presented.

Mr. Earling referred Board members to an updated background and comments document (copy on file).

Mr. Nickels reported that this work was necessitated by the action taken on November 18 to adopt a final Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA). The geotechnical engineering was a critical-path item that would allow Sound Transit to move forward on the Northgate part if ST were successful in getting state and federal funds for that segment.

The motion to adopt Motion No. M2000-19 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Motion No. M2000-21 - Authorizing the Executive Director to execute a sole source contract with ILF Consultants, Inc., for engineering design services associated with the Sequential Excavation Method of underground construction associated with the Link Light Rail Project, in an amount not to exceed \$2,309,417

It was moved by Mr. Nickels and seconded by Ms. Davis that Motion No. M2000-21 be approved as presented.

Mr. Nickels indicated that this was a sole source contract. Sound Transit had been working with this particular firm previously, and they were part of Sound Transit's larger consultant team doing the preliminary engineering work on the Link program. This particular piece of work would give Sound Transit a way to check the bids that it receives for the Capitol Hill, Portage Bay, and University District tunnel. That would be the most expensive single portion of the project. This would allow an independent design so that when Sound Transit's design/build team contract is awarded, Sound Transit can be sure it is a realistic design regiment. It is an important quality control tool for the agency.

The motion to approve Motion No. M2000-21 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Motion No. M99-86 - Authorizing the reallocation of \$2.66 million (1995 dollars) from the Lynnwood Transit Center/Park-and-Ride Connector Project (the "Connector Project") to the Regional Express Lynnwood Project grouping, specifically the Lynnwood Transit Center Project

Mr. Earling indicated that this item was on the Board's last agenda, but there was no quorum.

It was moved by Mr. Nickels and seconded by Mr. Hansen that Motion No. M99-86 be approved as presented.

Mr. Nickels stated that this was an important part of the program within the Regional Express line of business. The project has changed somewhat. The Finance Committee took a long look at this on at least three occasions because of concerns over design changes and the direction of the project. Mr. Nickels reported that the questions raised were very good and they were well answered by the staff. The Committee ultimately recommended unanimous adoption by the Board.

The motion to approve Motion No. M99-86 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of October 28; November 18; and December 9, 1999, Board Meetings

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

Discussion/Possible Action Item

Motion No. M2000-10 - Approving the distribution of Research and Technology funds

Mr. Earling indicated that there were two versions of this motion being presented (copies on file). The Finance Committee recommendation included \$50,000 for a monorail feasibility study and the Executive Committee recommendation did not.

It was moved by Mr. McIver and seconded by Mr. White that the Executive Committee recommendation for Motion No. M2000-10 (on green paper) be approved as presented.

Ms. Davis asked for discussion as to why the Executive Committee took that particular project off the list.

Mr. McIver stated that he had asked the Executive Committee to remove the monorail from the list of projects. His reasons included the lack of matching funds that he believed it would be a duplication of the work under the Seattle

Transit initiative, which has been coordinating with King County Metro, the ETC, and the City of Seattle. He believed the City of Seattle had been extremely supportive, but that no private funds have been identified.

Mr. Crawford stated that he would like to support the motion, but keep the options open in the future if there were matching funds with which we could support this program.

Mr. Earling indicated that as with any project, this would happen periodically. Projects could reapply for funding.

Mr. Nickels reported that there were two other changes made by the Finance Committee and included by the Executive Committee. One was the inclusion of a Lake Washington water taxi feasibility study (#10 on the green sheet). The Committee felt that it was a good first step in implementing the budget action taken in November.

Additionally, Mr. Nickels indicated that the second amendment approved by the Finance and Exec committees was the Elliott Bay water tax project. The Committee recognized the project had received significant federal capital dollars but due to I-695 it was short for an operating budget for a two-year year-round demonstration. Those two changes were made by the Finance Committee and concurrence by the Executive Committee.

The motion to approve Motion No. M2000-10 as recommended by the Executive Committee (on green paper) was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Committee Reports

Central Link Implementation Task Force

Mr. McIver reported the Task Force had a successful meeting that was very well attended.

Executive Committee

Mr. Earling stated in addition to lively discussion on grants, the Committee discussed the Feasibility Study for Trans-Lake Washington Ferry Project, and the 2000 ST Express Service Implementation Plan.

Government Affairs Task Force

Mr. Drewel reported that the legislature was in session and that he would give an update for the current week. He spent time in Olympia Monday and Tuesday talking about legislation Sound Transit has pursued. Two pieces have come out of Committee, one was in Rules but the other had been through the process. He indicated that he has heard encouraging comments about the sales tax credit issue. Mr. Drewel had a chance to talk with the Senate leadership on Tuesday and would continue his efforts there.

Mr. Drewel indicated that he, Ms. Hague, and staff traveled to Washington D.C. a couple weeks ago and testified in front of the Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee. He indicated that Ms. Hague did some remarkable work getting information out.

Other Business

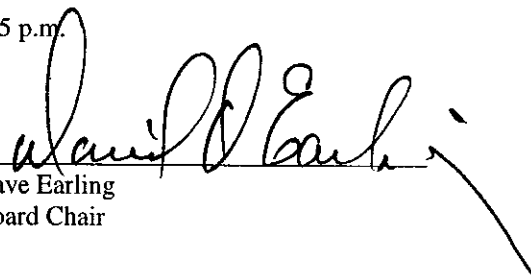
Mr. Earling stated that he would like to thank Board members for their attendance. He extended his thanks to the Board members who have had contact with legislators. He added that the Board needed to continue that effort and that Board members could be called upon next week to make some phone calls.

Next Meeting

Thursday, March 9, 2000 - 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Union Station Board Room
401 South Jackson Street
Seattle, Washington

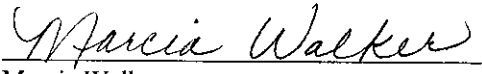
Adjourn

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.



Dave Earling
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator

dam