

**Sound Transit  
Board Meeting Summary Minutes  
April 27, 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

(P) Doug Sutherland, Pierce County Executive

Board Members

(A) Ann Davis, City of Lakewood Councilmember  
(P) Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive  
(P) Jack Crawford, City of Kenmore Councilmember  
(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) Kevin Phelps, City of Tacoma Councilmember  
(P) Paul Schell, City of Seattle Mayor  
(P) 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.

The following Board members arrived after roll call:

Greg Nickels, King County Councilmember  
Ron Sims, King County Executive  
Cynthia Sullivan, King County Councilmember

**Public Comment**

None.

**Report of the Chair**

Mr. Earling reported that the legislative session in Olympia recently concluded and Sound Transit (ST) was awarded \$15 million.

He further stated that two major pieces of legislation were moved allowing ST to spend more efficiently in the future of Phase I.

Mr. Earling thanked the Board for the diligent work in getting ST on the radar screen in Olympia and for the fact that everyone expects ST to come back next year.

Mr. Earling gave a special acknowledgement to Patrice Hardy, Government Relations Specialist, for doing a marvelous job working the ST legislative agenda in Olympia.

He announced that the Municipal League of King County named Mr. Bob White as the winner of the James R. Ellis Regional Leadership Award. Mr. Earling stated that this was a compliment to Mr. White and to the ST organization.

### **Executive Director Report**

Mr. Bob White thanked the Board for acknowledging his receipt of the James R. Ellis Award from the Municipal League especially to those Board members who supported his nomination.

He reported that two tentative agreements were reached in the last few weeks with the University of Washington (UW) and between King County, the City of Seattle and ST on the downtown tunnel transfer agreements. These agreements were being reviewed by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

### **Consent Agenda**

Minutes of February 24, 2000 Board Meeting

**It was moved by Mr. Drewel, seconded by Mr. Phelps that the consent agenda be approved as presented.**

### **Action Items**

#### **Finance Committee Recommendations**

Motion No. M2000-34 - Authorizing the Executive Director to execute a contract with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) for Preliminary Engineering for \$1,900,000, with an option to add Final Design of Everett-to-Seattle railroad improvements for \$3,300,000, plus a 7% contingency account on both amounts, for a combined total not to exceed \$5,564,000.

**It was moved by Mr. Nickels and seconded by Ms. Gates that Motion No. M2000-34 be approved as presented.**

Mr. Nickels stated that Motion No. M2000-34 would authorize a contract with the BNSF for preliminary engineering and an option to add final design for the Everett-to-Seattle railroad improvements. It contains a 7% contingency account; this is lower than normal, because there are fewer unknowns involved.

**The motion to approve Motion No. M2000-34 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.**

Motion No. M2000-35 - Amending Resolution No. R99-22, to increase the approved expenditures under the Capital Agreement with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) for track and facilities work on the Sounder Tacoma-to-Seattle line by \$85 million (reflecting a \$60 million grant from the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) and approximately \$25 million in earned interest).

**It was moved by Mr. Nickels and seconded by Mr. Sutherland that Motion No. M2000-35 be approved as presented.**

Mr. Nickels stated that last November Initiative 695 was passed by the voters of the state, which caused some chaos to the Sounder commuter rail project because ST was counting on the state to contribute \$60 million.

He stated that the action represented a budget increase, but it would be a good budget increase. It would reflect the PSRC's recent \$60 million reprogramming grant of Surface Transportation Program funds to ST. This \$60 million would replace the \$60 million in WSDOT funding losses as a result of the passage of I-695. The amendment would permit the expenditure of any net interest proceeds earned on the \$260 million capital investment to be made by ST, which was expected to be approximately \$25 million.

Mr. Morrison stated that this agreement was both historic and significant to WSDOT. He stated it was an opportunity of a lifetime because where the main lines cross each other in two locations, it stifles movement of freight and intercity passenger trains and impacts commuter rail for ST.

Mr. Morrison thanked Board members who served on the PSRC, particularly Mr. McIver, for the forward thinking in sensing WSDOT should obligate federal funds because the state was in no position to follow through on its \$60 million promise.

**The motion to approve Motion No. M2000-35 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.**

#### Executive Committee Recommendations

Resolution No. R2000-04 - Authorizing the Executive Director to acquire, dispose, or lease certain real property interests by negotiated purchase, by condemnation, by settling condemnation litigation or entering administrative settlements, and to pay eligible relocation and re-establishment benefits to affected parties as necessary for the Central Link Light Rail project (Design-Build Contract Segment, from NE 45th St. to Convention Place Station)

**It was moved by Mr. Nickels, seconded by Mr. Phelps, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. R2000-04 be approved as presented.**

**The motion to approve Resolution No. R2000-04 was**

Resolution No. R2000-05 - Authorizing the Executive Director to acquire, dispose, or lease certain real property interests, including temporary construction, sidewalk, and right of way easements, by negotiated purchase or by condemnation and to pay eligible relocation and re-establishment benefits to affected parties as necessary for the construction and operation of the Bellevue Transportation Center and Distributed Service Facilities (Bellevue) Regional Express Project.

**It was moved by Ms. Gates, seconded by Mr. Nickels, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. R2000-05 be approved as presented.**

#### Discussion Item - Phase II-Related Planning - Partner Agency Study Participation

Ms. Barbara Gilliland, Systems Integration Program Manager, stated that she was before the Board with a request from WSDOT for ST to enter into a co-lead status on two environmental impact statements (EIS) it is currently conducting: 1) high capacity transit (HCT) facilities planning for the I-405 Corridor EIS; and 2) the TransLake Washington EIS.

Ms. Gilleland reported that the I-405 corridor EIS was entering a critical stage in looking at various alternatives to bring forward as part of the EIS.

She stated that the TransLake Washington project was entering a new phase, beginning environmental documentation, and would begin scoping the work in the next month.

Ms. Gilleland informed Board members that the packet of information provided (copy on file) was a discussion piece. The recommendation was that ST enter into co-lead status on these two projects for two reasons:

- 1) A co-lead position would raise the level of decision making ST would have on these projects. Both of these projects are multi-modal and have HCT options. In the TransLake Washington study HCT would be looked at for crossing Lake Washington on I-90 or SR-520.
- 2) There would be a financial benefit because in partnering with WSDOT on critical analysis ST could share the cost of those analyses.

Ms. Gilliland stated that the projects would be multi-modal, addressing some issues not within the purview of ST, for example ST would have not be interested in general purpose capacity widening. She reported that in the three and one-half years of existence, ST has spent \$1 million of the \$38 million of expenditure funds for Phase II planning. The TransLake Washington work would be added to the scope of the WSDOT and would address the issues of I-90 vs. SR-520.

ST will hold a workshop in June to answer questions about different planning scenarios. The work program would come back with how these two projects fit in.

**The motion to pursue co-lead status on the HCT planning for the I-405 EIS and the TransLake Washington EIS, and for staff to come back with terms of the agreement, was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.**

### Executive Session

The Board recessed into executive session at 3:20 p.m. to discuss pending litigation.

The Board was called back to order at 3:45 p.m.

### Committee Reports

#### Finance Committee

Mr. Nickels reported that the Finance Committee received two briefings regarding 1999 financial results of the agency and the annual audit. The 1999 financial results indicate ST spent 98% of its operating budget. In the past ST had spent a smaller portion of that budget. Mr. Nickels stated that ST budgeting was becoming more precise and predictable.

He reported ST spent 40% of the capital budget, including Sounder. When not including Sounder, ST spent 70% of the capital budget. The reason Sounder was so underspent was that there was not an agreement with BNSF. Mr. Nickels stated ST now has that agreement and a budget in place to pursue those expenditures.

Mr. Nickels reported that the Finance Committee received the 1999 audit results from Deloitte and Touche. The Committee received an unqualified clean opinion and there were no reportable conditions to report. The final report will be distributed in May.

He stated that the Finance Committee took action on a motion to execute a supplement to the City of Everett Memorandum of Agreement for reimbursement for Everett design services.

Central Link Implementation Task Force

Mr. McIver reported that the Task Force talked about three alternative lines through the Roosevelt area.

Ms. Gates indicated that the Task Force did not have time to cover the UW agreement that was covered in Mr. White's report and have received that in the e-mail and tailored briefings offered to all Board members. The next meeting of the Task Force (May 5) has been cancelled. The next meeting will be held on May 19.

Executive Committee

Mr. Earling reported that the Committee had a discussion on the design/build approach for commuter rail stations in Kent and Auburn and the Tukwila light rail alignment. The recommendation would go to the Executive Committee on May 19, and to the full Board on May 25.

Other Business

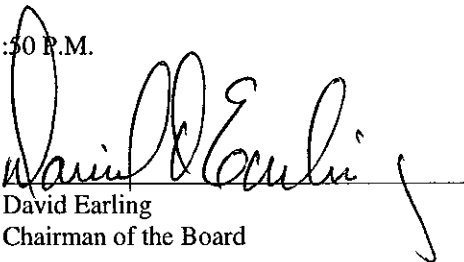
Mr. Crawford wished Mr. Drewel and Mr. Earling well on their trip to Germany.

Next Meeting


Thursday, May 11, 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 3:30 P.M.

  
David Earling  
Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

  
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Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator