

Summary Minutes

Executive Committee Meeting March 6, 2025

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Committee Chair Somers and was available for viewing in person and online.

The meeting was recorded and can be found at <https://www.soundtransit.org/get-to-know-us/board-directors/meeting-videos>.

Roll call of members

Chair	Vice Chair
(P) Dave Somers, Snohomish County Executive	(P) Claudia Balducci, King County Councilmember (P) Ryan Mello, Pierce County Executive

Board Members	
(P) Nancy Backus, Auburn Mayor (A) Dow Constantine, King County Executive (P) Cassie Franklin, Everett Mayor	(P) Bruce Harrell, Seattle Mayor (A) Julie Meredith, Washington State Secretary of Transportation (P) Kristina Walker, Tacoma City Councilmember

Katie Flores, Board Administrator, announced that a quorum of the Committee was present at roll call.

Report of the Chair

Chair Somers provided information regarding concerns regarding the CEO selection process. He noted that a Board member has applied to be the CEO of Sound Transit and that their application is being considered in the same way as any other application, as the agency's legal counsel advised that Sound Transit's ethics code allows for a Board member to be selected if a two thirds majority of the Board determines that they are the most qualified candidate.

Chair Somers further explained that Sound Transit's ethics code requires Board members to not participate in any discussion or votes on matters in which they have a personal or financial interest. This means that any Board member who applies for the CEO position cannot participate in any Executive Committee or Board deliberations and votes related to the CEO selection process.

Chair Somers noted that during the application process, Board member Constantine consulted with Sound Transit legal counsel and followed all ethics obligations, including excluding himself from any discussions and votes related to the application process. Since Board member Constantine complied with the ethics code, the Board may consider his application and select him as the next CEO if a two thirds majority of the Board decides that he is the most qualified candidate.

CEO Report

Interim CEO Goran Sparrman provided the report. He acknowledged that a technical issue in the Ruth Fisher Boardroom had occurred but was resolved prior to the start of the meeting.

Public comment

Chair Somers announced that public comment would be accepted via email to meetingcomments@soundtransit.org and would also be accepted in-person and virtually.

The following people provided virtual comments:

Stephen Fesler
David Scott

No written or in-person public comments were received.

Business items

Final Committee Action

February 6, 2025, Executive Committee meeting minutes

February 14, 2025, Executive Committee meeting minutes

February 25, 2025, Executive Committee meeting minutes

March 3, 2025, Executive Committee meeting minutes

It was moved by Board member Backus, seconded by Committee Vice Chair Balducci, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the minutes of the February 6, February 14, February 25, and March 6, 2025, Executive Committee meetings be approved as presented.

For Recommendation to the Board

Resolution No. R2025-05: Amending section 2.12 of Resolution No. R2023-30 to delegate authority to the chief executive officer to execute real property agreements that do not exceed \$1,000,000 in payment to Sound Transit or the other party, subject to certain limitations.

Joanna Valeri, Managing Legal Counsel, provided a presentation on the action.

It was moved by Board member Backus, seconded by Committee Vice Chair Balducci, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. R2025-05 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Reports to the Committee – None

Executive Session

Chair Somers advised that the Committee was going into executive session to discuss the qualifications of CEO applicants. He introduced Joanna Valeri, Managing Legal Counsel, who explained that the committee was allowed to enter into executive session to discuss the qualifications of applicants for public employment under RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g).

Chair Somers noted that the Committee would be in executive session for 30 minutes.

The executive session began at 10:48 a.m. and the Committee was scheduled to return at 11:18 a.m.

The executive session was extended by 30 minutes, with the Committee scheduled to return at 11:48 a.m.

The executive session was further extended by 15 minutes, with the Committee scheduled to return at 12:03 p.m.

The meeting was called back to order at 12:03 p.m.

Chair Somers noted that the Committee had good conversation on the CEO candidates, but that further time was needed for the Committee to discuss materials and feedback from the interview process, with the Committee and staff working to schedule another meeting for the following week.

Other business – None

Next meeting

Thursday, April 3, 2025

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Ruth Fisher Boardroom and virtually via Zoom

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.



Dave Somers

Executive Committee Chair

ATTEST:



Kathryn Flores

Board Administrator

APPROVED on April 3, 2025,, HRR