

## **Regional Transit Authority**

**July 28, 1995  
Board Meeting Minutes**

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:50 p.m. by Chairman Laing. It was held in the Auditorium of the Snohomish County PUD, 2320 California Street, Everett, Washington.

### **Attendance**

#### **Chair:**

Bruce Laing, King County Councilmember

#### **Vice Chairs:**

Dave Earling, Edmonds Councilmember

Paul Miller, Tacoma Deputy Mayor

#### **King County:**

Don Davidson, Bellevue Mayor

Greg Nickels, King County Councilmember

#### **Pierce County:**

Bill Stoner, Pierce County Councilmember

Doug Sutherland, Pierce County Executive

#### **Snohomish County:**

Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive

Ed Hansen, Everett Mayor

#### **Washington State Department of Transportation:**

Sid Morrison, Secretary

The following Board members arrived after roll call:

#### **King County:**

Mary Gates, Federal Way Mayor

Cynthia Sullivan, King County Councilmember

### **Public Comment**

The following individuals presented comments to the Board. Comments are on file with the Board Administrator.

Mr. Mark Dublin, Ballard

Ms. Walker indicated that People for Modern Transit would be distributing correspondence to the Board (copy on file).

### **Report of the Chair**

Mr. Laing welcomed Mr. Bill Stoner as the new representative to the Board from Pierce County.

Mr. Laing then referred the Board to a booklet entitled, "Snohomish County Regional Transit Authority Roundtable Public Involvement Report (copy on file)." The report lists consensus points that were reported at the Legislative Transportation Committee (LTC) Transportation Summit.

Mr. Laing continued to say that newspaper articles and news releases regarding the transportation summit held by the Chambers of Commerce and the Municipal League had also been distributed to Board members (copies on file). The summit was intended to address specifically the issues related to redevelopment of the proposal by the RTA in the broader context of transportation needs.

Mr. Laing then briefly outlined the RTA's current position. The Board made a conscious decision to have a time period in which the RTA would develop its system planning kit in which citizens, elected officials and interest groups could have access to the base information developed by the Joint Regional Policy Committee (JRPC) and the RTA. In addition, RTA staff would act as a resource for discussions both outside the RTA and among Board members. The Board decided that the RTA would not engage in an intensive effort in developing a revised Phase I proposal until the interest groups had had an opportunity to develop their own perspectives without the RTA setting an agenda. In September, the Board will formally receive the input.

Mr. Laing added that there are other activities taking place, in addition to the two summits already mentioned and the Snohomish County roundtables. The King County Executive has initiated formation of a draft proposal for elements to be included in a revised Phase I based on King County's perspectives. Similar activities may be underway in Pierce County.

Mr. Laing concluded by saying that taken separately, these various activities appear detached. However, these various perspectives need to be addressed in the context of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). He stated that, while some Board members may be feeling frustration because the Board is not actively engaged in developing a revised proposal at this time, the primary focus of the Board is on reaching a consensus.

Mr. Davidson expressed concern that Board member attendance has been sporadic at meetings. He asked if meetings would be held every other week during the consensus phase of the process.

Mr. Laing responded that the agenda includes a Board review of a proposed time line that indicates projected future meeting dates.

Mr. Morrison commended the Board for staying within the umbrella of the regional plan. He indicated that one of the key results of the summits was recognition that there is a coordinated consistent plan, which was developed under the leadership of Mr. Drewel and PSRC President Mr. Sutherland. Mr. Morrison suggested that the RTA should consider adding HOV lane construction. He stated that if the Board decides to work with the legislature to broaden the RTA charter, it should be done within the framework of that regional plan.

(Board member Gates arrived at this time.)

Mr. Earling stated that, as meetings similar to the one with the Chambers and Municipal League leadership occur, the elected leaders need to do an outreach to be sure citizens from their areas are participating.

Mr. Miller indicated that the Board must address certain questions before deciding which specific transit elements will be included in a new ballot measure. Those questions include: 1) the RTA's role in relation to the other jurisdictions; 2) elements to include in a legislative package; 3) integration with other entities for a ballot measure; and 4) internal questions regarding the RTA's structure, taxing, and boundaries.

Mr. Hansen asked if Board members had heard of a follow up summit by the LTC on November 28. There will be a potential conflict with the National League of Cities conference on that date.

Mr. Laing agreed that the Board would support changing the date to avoid that conflict.

### Executive Director Report

Mr. Matoff indicated that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) had informed the RTA that President Clinton signed a rescission bill that affects the appropriation from the commuter rail grant; however, the effect is significantly lower than staff had originally thought. The RTA had a total authorization of \$28 million, \$20 million of which had not been obligated. What has been rescinded is half of the fiscal 1992 amount of \$3.2 million. The actual amount of authorized commuter rail grant is being reduced by \$1.6 million.

Mr. Matoff continued to say that the state audit through calendar year 1994 has been completed. The detailed financial report will be taken to the next Finance Committee meeting for review.

The state audit covers more than financial details with internal information of the agency relating to its functioning and adherence to state and federal laws. There were no adverse

material findings. The auditor also functions as a management consultant, and made helpful suggestions about internal management procedures which will be adopted.

With regard to current activities, Mr. Matoff indicated that RTA staff attended the citizens summit. Mr. Matsuoka was there to provide background information and to listen.

### Search Committee

Mr. Laing reminded Board members that Ms. Walker and Mr. Kraft are staffing the Search Committee and the Board on this effort. The Search Committee has recommended approval of the three items listed on today's agenda.

### Plan and Schedule

Mr. Laing indicated that the plan and schedule for the announcement of the job of Executive Director have been distributed today on green sheets (copy on file). Upon receipt of applications, staff will review those applications and begin the process by which the Search Committee will reduce the number of applicants for interview by the full Board to five. The green sheet contains the time line and description of the process. The Search Committee is asking the Board to approve or modify and approve the proposed time line and plan as contained in those sheets.

Board members provided input for this schedule after seeing a draft of the schedule.

Ms. Walker explained that the Board Administrator's office has been working with all of the Board members' offices to put key dates on their schedules. The selection of the Executive Director must be done by a super majority of the Board, which means 12 affirmative votes.

**It was moved by Ms. Gates, seconded by Mr. Sutherland and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the proposed plan and schedule for Executive Director selection be approved as presented.**

### Position Specification

Mr. Laing indicated that the proposed specifications (copy on file) would be given to the applicants. This reflects the fundamental description of the position as advertised originally, with revisions suggested by Board members in order to reflect current circumstances.

**It was moved by Mr. Hansen, seconded by Mr. Drewel and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the position specifications for Executive Director be approved as presented.**

### Selection Criteria

Mr. Laing referred the Board to the selection criteria (copy on file).

**It was moved by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mr. Hansen and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the selection criteria be adopted as presented.**

### **Rules Committee**

#### **Proposed Amendment to Resolution No. 1 - Interim Rules and Operating Procedures for RTA**

Mr. Laing explained that this is a one paragraph amendment to Section 3C of Resolution No. 1 (copy on file).

**It was moved by Mr. Sutherland and seconded by Mr. Miller that the proposed revision to Section 3C of Resolution No. 1 be approved as presented.**

Mr. Hansen asked how final determinations will be made regarding the application of this rule.

Mr. Laing responded that the Chair will be asked to rule on it. If the situation were contested, the Chair would seek a ruling from the majority of the Board.

**The motion was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.**

(Board member Sullivan arrived at this time.)

#### **Review of Allowances, Per Diem Rates and Reimbursement Procedures as Authorized by Resolution No. 15**

Mr. Laing indicated that this item is a report on the Rules Committee's review of Resolution No. 15, which is the action by which the Board adopted allowances and per diem.

The Rules Committee discussed the existing procedures, including information and suggestions made at the audit exit interview, and found the existing procedures met the Board's needs and are consistent with state and federal laws. The Board has stipulated that the Rules Committee review this subject annually. The Rules Committee has conducted this review and has not recommended any changes.

Mr. Laing added that the Rules Committee discussed two items during the "other business" section of the meeting. The Rules Committee will request action from the Board on these items at a subsequent meeting.

The first item concerns the action taken by the Board on the extension of the terms for the Board Chair and Vice Chairs. At the Board's June 9 meeting, on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, a motion was made to extend to the end of this calendar year the terms of the current Chair and Vice Chairs. A procedural question about taking such an action when it was not printed on the agenda was raised and legal counsel was asked to review the situation and advise the Board.

**It was moved by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mr. Hansen and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the selection criteria be adopted as presented.**

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### Other Business

Mr. Sutherland asked Mr. Morrison if it would be possible to provide information on HOV lane activities so the Board can look at transportation improvements outside its current purview. Mr. Morrison responded that Ms. Montgelas handles that work. Ms. Montgelas indicated that there is information on various segments of the HOV lanes and costs by segment by county. That kind of information is also available for the direct access ramps. She expressed a willingness to present that information to the Board. A meeting with Snohomish County has been planned to discuss this information in detail. She suggested that it might make sense to organize the Pierce County delegation for a briefing of the detail in Pierce County.

Mr. Sutherland accepted that offer. He indicated that the Board should not limit its discussion to transit options.

Mr. Laing indicated that the Board wished to schedule a briefing on the status of HOV lanes for the next meeting.

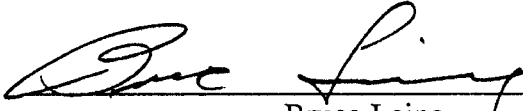
### Next Meeting

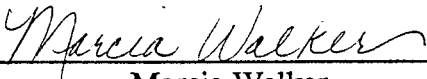
The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 11, 1995 at 1:30 p.m.

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
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Bruce Laing  
Chairman of the Board

  
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Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator