Regional Transit Authority August 25, 1995

Board Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 p.m. by Chairman Laing in Room 402 of the King County Courthouse, 516 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

Attendance

Chair:

Bruce Laing, King County Councilmember

Vice Chair:

Paul Miller, Tacoma Deputy Mayor

King County:

Martha Choe, Seattle City Councilmember Don Davidson, Bellevue Mayor Greg Nickels, King County Councilmember Jim White, Kent Mayor

Pierce County:

Ken Madsen, Pierce County Councilmember

Washington State Department of Transportation:

Sid Morrison, Secretary

The following Board members arrived after roll call:

King County:

Jane Hague, King County Councilmember

Pierce County:

Doug Sutherland, Pierce County Executive

Public Comment

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

Mr. Mark Dublin

Mr. Roger Pence, Interim President of People for Modern Transit

Mr. Douglas Tooley

(Board members Sutherland and Hague arrived during public comment.)

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Sutherland, seconded by Mr. Nickels and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the minutes of June 9 and June 23, 1995 be approved as presented.

Report of the Chair

Regarding the selection of an Interim Executive Director, Mr. Laing stated his intention to call the Board into an executive session for the purposes of evaluating and discussing the qualifications of candidates.

Prior to that executive session, Mr. Laing indicated that he would call a 10 minute recess to give the Board an opportunity to thank Mr. Matoff for his service to the RTA. Mr. Laing stated that he wished to publicly give his appreciation to Mr. Matoff.

Report of the Executive Director

Mr. Matoff referred the Board to a memo (copy on file) concerning upcoming legislative summit meetings. This memo was prepared in response to questions by Ms. Hague at the last Board meeting. Mr. Matoff indicated that RTA staff will continue communications with the Legislative Transportation Committee.

Mr. Matoff concluded with a farewell statement to the Board (copy on file).

Items for Board Action

Motion No. 6 - Authorizing RTA staff to establish, use and maintain a roster of consultants to provide on-call and as-needed "pro bono consultant services" to the Authority

Mr. Laing stated that this action was given a positive recommendation by the Rules Committee and then considered by the Board at its last meeting. He indicated that staff would be available to respond to questions.

Mr. Stephens referred the Board to a written response (copy on file) to questions raised at the last Board meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Morrison and seconded by Mr. Miller that Motion No. 6 be approved as presented. The motion was approved by a vote of nine to one. (Mr. Davidson voted in the minority.)

Recess

Mr. Laing stated that the Board would recess until 2:20 p.m., at which time an executive session would be announced for the Board to evaluate qualifications of candidates for the Interim Executive Director position. Following the executive session, open session would be reconvened. The Board recessed at 2:10 p.m. and was called back to order at 2:25 p.m.

Selection of Interim Executive Director

Mr. Laing indicated that the RTA enabling legislation requires a super-majority of the 18 member board to take action selecting an Executive Director. A quorum of the Board was present; a super-majority was not. Although the Board would not be able to select an Interim Executive Director, the Board would still evaluate the qualifications of the candidates in an executive session.

Mr. Laing reiterated that the purpose of calling an executive session would be to evaluate the qualifications of applicants. The Board had gone through a public process of soliciting applications, reviewing them and inviting certain applicants for interviews by the Search Committee. Eight people were invited for interviews. The interviews and evaluation of those qualifications were done in executive session of the Search Committee. Upon completing those interviews the Search Committee invited three of those applicants to be interviewed by the full Board on August 23. The candidates who were invited for those interviews were:

1) Mr. Richard Saunders, past Interim City Manager of Bellevue and 26 year Bellevue Finance Director; 2) Ms. Pat Steel, current Director of the consolidation of King County and Metro; and 3) Mr. Bob White, Director of Commuter Rail for the RTA. These three candidates have been invited to be available if Board members wish to ask additional questions during the executive session.

Mr. Morrison expressed concerns about waiting until the next meeting to appoint an Interim Executive Director. He asked if any process exists that would allow an action to take place.

Mr. Gunter stated that the requirement is set by state statute and not just the Board's rules.

Mr. Laing estimated 30 minutes for the executive session. At the end of that time, the Board would know if it intended to ask further questions for the candidates.

The Board recessed into executive session at 2:32 p.m.

The Board reconvened open session at 3:02 p.m.

Mr. Laing indicated that the Board had no further questions for candidates. He estimated that the Board would continue evaluating the qualifications of applicants for another 45 minutes in executive session.

The Board recessed into executive session at 3:04 p.m.

The Board reconvened open session at 3:45 p.m.

Mr. Laing reported that the selection of the Interim Executive Director would be continued at the September 8 regular Board meeting.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 8, 1995 at 1:30 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

Bruce Laing

Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

Marcia Walker

Board Administrator