

**Central Puget Sound
Regional Transit Authority**

**October 13, 1995
Board Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 p.m. by Chairman Laing. It was held in room 402 of the King County Courthouse, Seattle, Washington.

Attendance

Chairman:

Bruce Laing, King County Councilmember

Vice Chair:

Paul Miller, Tacoma Councilmember

King County:

Don Davidson, Bellevue Mayor

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:

Jane Hague, King County Councilmember

Gary Locke, King County Executive

Mr. Laing stated that the Board would not achieve a quorum at this meeting.

Public Comment

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

Mr. Gregory Hill, Seattle

Richard Tait, Bellevue

Report of the Chair

Mr. Laing thanked Mr. Miller for chairing the September 22, 1995 RTA Board meeting in his absence.

Executive Director Report

Mr. White reported that he would provide a summary report of the second ballot system planning kit proposals received by the RTA at the next Board meeting.

Additionally, he indicated that a full report of the comments received at the RTA/Citizen Forum held in September had been mailed to each Board member's office.

Mr. White continued to say that in Washington, D.C. Congress is finalizing the transportation authorizations for this year. A conference committee is developing language regarding the RTA's commuter rail authorization. The latest language enables the region to address a fairly broad range of improvements, such as track and signal improvements and access improvements.

(Board member Locke arrived at this time.)

Nearly \$15 million of the authorization was rescinded. There remains approximately \$4 million in authorized funds. Of this amount, \$620,000 will need to be obligated to specific uses in the next fiscal year. The balance would need to be obligated before October 1997.

Committee Reports

Rules Committee

Mr. Miller reported that the Committee had met in executive session to discuss potential litigation and the final language on negotiations with the unions relating to the appropriations for the commuter rail demonstration project conducted last year. No other topics were considered.

Ad-Hoc Regional Outreach Committee

Mr. Richard Haase had requested that he be allowed to address the Board at this time, rather than during the "Public Comment" agenda item. Mr. Laing agreed and Mr. Haase's comments are on file with the Board Administrator.

Proposal of Regional Outreach Committee Approaches

Mr. Miller reported that the Ad-Hoc Regional Outreach Committee met twice and brought forward specific recommendations to the last Board meeting. He indicated that at the next Board meeting, the committee would be recommending Mr. Dick Ford as the

facilitator for the Regional Outreach Committee. He reviewed his memorandum to Mr. Laing (copy on file). He summarized that Mr. Ford agreed to act as the facilitator and will serve as a "loaned executive" to the RTA. He committed to devote significant time through the Spring of 1996 and to review the continuation of his time commitment at that time, based on the Board's needs and his availability. Mr. Ford concurred that the make up of the committee should be broad based in terms of the geography and interests represented. He indicated that the committee should be made up of senior representatives to ensure influence and input at the highest levels.

Mr. Miller continued his report by requesting that Board members suggest names of potential committee members. He indicated that the Ad Hoc Committee would conclude its assignment after it finalized the specific duties for the Regional Outreach Committee.

Mr. Drewel expressed the Board's appreciation to Mr. Ford for agreeing to serve as the committee's facilitator. Mr. Laing stated that it was a true public service for him to offer to work on a pro bono basis.

Ms. Hague observed that there was a name missing from the list of committee members - that of Mr. Laing. Mr. Laing responded that he would be honored to serve, but wouldn't be available until after the first of the year when he retires.

Finance Committee

Mr. Miller stated that the Finance Committee reviewed a revised budget proposal for fiscal year 1996 (copy on file).

The first item of discussion was the current budget. The agency is spending within its budget, at about 95% of the budgeted expenditures. This underspending is due to a slowing down in Board activity and public outreach.

Staff costs were higher than expected in July and August due to vacation and severance pay for Mr. Matoff. The 1995 budget-to-actual report is on file with the Board Administrator.

Mr. Miller continued to say that the RTA's existing budget allows for funding through the third quarter of 1996 with a small cash accumulation of \$170,000. The revised budget had two potential scenarios. The first of those allowed for a September vote with approximately \$440,000 remaining in the fourth quarter of 1996. The second scenario made a November 1996 ballot date possible, and allowed sufficient revenues through the end of 1996 with a shortfall in the fourth quarter. The staff reductions necessary to accommodate the latter proposal have already been implemented. The staff has been reduced an additional 20%, from 29 to 24 full-time equivalents. Engineering consulting will be reduced January 1, and the operating costs are down by just under \$7,000 per month, or 8%.

With regard to revenues, an unexpended \$300,000 in STP grant funding is being added back in. By moving the election from a special spring ballot to a primary ballot in the fall, the cost is reduced from \$1.5 million to \$750,000.

Mr. Laing reminded the Board members that the budget would be before them for action at the October 27 meeting.

Report on Legal Options for Revised Plan and Ballot Proposition

Mr. Gunter reviewed a Report on Legal Options for Revised Plan and Ballot Proposition (copy on file).

Continue Discussion of Legislative Strategy, Ballot Date and Work Program

Mr. Miller explained that the Ad Hoc Committee, in discussing the charge to the Regional Outreach Committee, had determined a need for clearer direction from the Board regarding a ballot date and whether the RTA would stay "within the box." A series of scenarios were put together and were sent out to the Board for input. The Executive Director has been asked to reach out to Board members and report back.

Mr. White reported that he had contacted all but five Board members. All of the members he spoke with favored a vote at some time other than in the spring of 1996. Four of those Board members indicated that they were leaning toward a 1997 vote. Mr. White concluded his report by stating that each of the 13 Board members he spoke with expressed an interest in further discussing a broadening of the RTA's mandate.

Mr. Miller referred the Board to Motion No. 8 (copy on file).

Mr. Drewel stated that he had distributed a related memorandum from Snohomish County Board members (copy on file).

Mr. Laing stated his intention to ask the Chair of the Legislative Task Force to review Motion No. 8 and to start preparing a related legislative strategy. The motion will appear before the Board for action at a subsequent meeting.

Mr. Miller, in response to a question from Mr. Hansen, indicated that he would raise the question of a superstructure of citizen committees that would represent each subregion at the next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Other Business

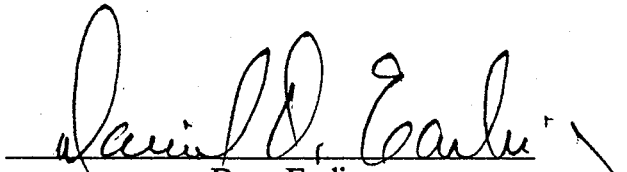
Mr. Laing stated that he planned to schedule a special meeting of the Board to take action on the above items on Friday, October 20, from 1:30 to approximately 3:00 p.m. The meeting would be held in Seattle. The regularly scheduled Board meeting on Friday, October 27 will be held in Edmonds.

Next Meeting

Friday, October 20, 1995.

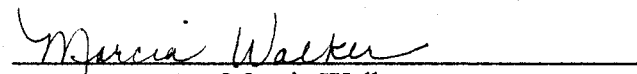
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.



Dave Earling
Vice Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator