Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority

April 24, 1997 Board Meeting Summary Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. by Mr. Miller in the sixth floor conference room of the Puget Sound Regional Council offices, 1011 Western Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

Attendance

Chair

(A) Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive

Vice Chairs

- (P) Paul Miller, City of Tacoma Councilmember
- (A) Greg Nickels, King County Councilmember
- (P) Sarah Casada, Pierce County Councilmember
- (P) Dave Earling, City of Edmonds Council President
- (P) Mary Gates, City of Federal Way Councilmember
- (P) Jane Hague, King County Council Chair
- (P) Ed Hansen, City of Everett Mayor
- (A) Ann Kirk Davis, City of Lakewood Councilmember
- (P) Richard McIver, City of Seattle Councilmember
- (P) Rob McKenna, King County Councilmember

- (P) Renee Montgelas for Sid Morrison, WSDOT
- (A) Norm Rice, City of Seattle Mayor
- (A) Dave Russell, City of Kirkland Councilmember
- (P) Ron Sims, King County Executive
- (A) Cynthia Sullivan, King County Councilmember
- (P) Doug Sutherland, Pierce County Executive
- (P) Jim White, City of Kent Mayor

The Board Administrator indicated that a quorum of the Board was present.

Mr. Miller announced he would chair the meeting as Mr. Drewel had been called out of town.

Public Comment

The following individual presented comments to the board:

Mr. Philip Grega

Comments are on file with the Board Administrator.

Minutes

It was moved by Ms. Gates, seconded by Mr. White and carried by the unanimous vote of all board members present that the minutes of the January 9, 1997 RTA Board meeting be approved as mailed.

Report of the Chair

Mr. Miller introduced Ms. Helen Knoll, Regional Administrator of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). He also introduced his daughter, Michelle Miller, accompanying him today for Take Your Daughter to Work Day.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director White announced that three key senior management positions have been filled: 1) Mr. Desmond Brown, formerly with the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, as the RTA's Chief Counsel; 2) Mr. Paul Price from the North County Transit District in San Diego County, as the Director of Commuter Rail; and 3) Ms. Agnes Govern, from the Snohomish County Public Utilities District, as the Director of Regional Express Bus/HOV.

Executive Director White expressed his appreciation to Mr. Matsuoka, Ms. Hendrickson and Ms. Walker for their assistance in developing the organizational structure for the RTA.

Secondly, Executive Director White announced that the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), had formally approved the RTA's major investment study (MIS), representing the completion of the planning process and clearing the way for the RTA to receive federal funds for preliminary engineering.

Executive Director White expressed his appreciation to the staff of the PSRC and the FTA for completing the approval process.

Committee Reports

Public and Government Affairs Committee

Briefing on Federal New Starts Funding Requests

Mr. Earling introduced Mr. Tim Lovain from Denny Miller and Associates, Ms. Helen Knoll, FTA Regional Administrator, and Ms. Sheila Dezarn of the RTA staff.

Ms. Dezarn presented a graph which illustrated the new rail start funding "pipeline." The RTA's project is very competitive, but others, such as Los Angeles, Portland and Salt Lake City, are in construction and are ahead in line for funds. Ms. Dezarn indicated there are three reasons why the RTA is so competitive: 1) strong local support, with a 57% favorable vote; 2) a high local match; and 3) high ridership numbers.

Ms. Dezarn reviewed the information contained in a handout titled "RTA Federal New Starts Funding Requests" (copy on file).

Ms. Helen Knoll distributed and reviewed a handout detailing the FTA grant development process (copy on file).

Finance Committee

Mr. Miller reported that the Finance Committee received an update on the Citizen Oversight Panel's (COP) meeting of April 3. Board members were provided a summary of that meeting (copy on file).

Mr. Miller indicated that the Finance Committee also considered Resolution No. 88 (copy on file). While the committee lacked a quorum, members present expressed support of the resolution.

Executive Committee

Resolution No. 88 - authorizing the Executive Director to award a tenant representation services contract to Craig Kinzer & Co., Domoto Company and The Seneca Real Estate Group, Inc., and a space planning contract to Allbee Romein, for purposes of securing the RTA with interim and permanent headquarters office space

Mr. Miller reported that there was no quorum at the time the Executive Committee reviewed Resolution No. 88, but the members present did express support for the resolution.

It was moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Gates and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Resolution No. 88 be approved as presented.

Mr. Miller concluded his report by stating that the Executive Committee would continue its discussion of Resolution No. 87, containing policies and procedures for reporting improper governmental action and protecting reporting individuals from retaliation.

Continued Briefing on Federal New Starts Funding Requests

Mr. Lovain reviewed a New Starts status report (copy on file).

Mr. Earling referred board members to a legislative bill tracking report (copy on file). He thanked board members for contacting Senators and House members regarding the proposed gas tax increase, and expressed his appreciation to Senator Prince in putting together a package with bipartisan support.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the RTA Board of Directors is scheduled for May 8, 1997 in Everett.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Bob Drewel Board Chair

ATTEST:

Marcia Walker

Board Administrator

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