

**Regional Transit Authority
Executive Committee Meeting Highlights
November 7, 1997**

Call to Order

1:40 by Board Chair Bob Drewel.

Attendance

(P) Bob Drewel, Chair	(A) Greg Nickels
(P) Paul Miller, Vice Chair	(A) Ron Sims
(P) Dave Earling	(A) Cynthia Sullivan
(P) Mary Gates	(A) Doug Sutherland
(P) Jane Hague	

Report of the Chair

None.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director White reported that Puget Sound Transit Consultants has been selected for the contract for civil facilities design and preliminary engineering for Sound Transit's Link light rail system. The team consists of the engineering firms of Parsons, Brinkerhoff, Quade and Douglas; ICF Kaiser; and BRW as well as 35 subcontractors, 30 of which are Washington state firms.

Public Comment

None.

Motion No. 44 – Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into agreements with Robert Kessler, Esq., and with a joint venture comprised of the Gordon, Thomas, Honeywell, Malanca, Peterson & Daheim law firm and the Harkins Cunningham law firm to provide commuter rail legal negotiations support to the Regional Transit Authority

Contact: Desmond Brown, Chief Legal Counsel, at 684-6758

Mr. Brown provided an overview of Motion No. 44 (copy on file).

Ms. Gates pointed out that staff may want to develop an incentive program to help keep costs of contracts low.

Mr. Miller asked that staff insert a box in the background and comments cover sheets to motions and resolutions that provides information about next steps, i.e., whether an item needs to go to the full board, etc.

It was moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Gates and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that Motion No. 44 be approved as presented.

Motion No. 48 – Authorizing the Executive Director to execute contracts for bond counsel services

Contact: Desmond Brown, Chief Legal Counsel, at 684-6758

Mr. Nickels indicated he had asked staff to delay action on Motion No. 48 until the November 21 Executive Committee meeting (copy on file). Staff went through the selection process for bond counsel and is recommending that the Preston Gates & Ellis and Foster Pepper & Shefelman law firms serve as joint bond counsel to the RTA. However, staff still needs to define how the team will work together and get assurances that the team approach won't result in higher costs to the RTA.

Regional Fare Integration Activities

Contact: Agnes Govern, Regional Express Department Director, at 684-1673

Ms. Govern reported on the regional fare integration meeting that was held in the end of October. All of the transit agencies were represented and seven elected officials were in attendance, including four Executive Committee members. Ms. Govern indicated that the following "key messages" came out of the meeting:

- ◆ Let's do a better job than we are now
- ◆ We need to move quickly – something should be in place by the third quarter of 1998
- ◆ Focus on benefits to the customer before internal operations
- ◆ Need to commit to a process
- ◆ Fare integration is only the first step, with service integration the goal

Next steps for regional fare integration activities are: 1) regional fare policy forum in December, where a few options will be selected for further review; 2) meeting in January to narrow the choices; and 3) 3rd meeting to achieve consensus, with the goal of adoption of regional strategy by the 3rd quarter of 1998.

Motion No. 49 – Authorizing the execution of a contract with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF), in an amount not to exceed \$3,711,000, for the Advanced Planning Engineering of the Seattle-to-Tacoma, Sounder (commuter rail) civil, track signal and structural design

Contact: Paul Price, Commuter Rail Director, at 689-4760

It was moved by Mr. Earling, seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that Motion No. 49 be approved as presented.

Next Meeting

Friday, November 21, 1997 from 1:30 to 3:00 at the RTA Conference Room, 1100 2nd Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Recorded by Amy Ebersole
Board Coordinator