

**SOUND TRANSIT BOARD MEETING**  
**Summary Minutes**  
**January 28, 2010**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:46 p.m. by Chair Aaron Reardon, in the Ruth Fisher Boardroom, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

**Roll Call**

**Chair**

(P) Aaron Reardon, Snohomish County Executive

**Vice Chairs**

(P) Fred Butler, Issaquah Deputy Council President  
(P) Claudia Thomas, Lakewood Councilmember

**Boardmembers**

(P) Claudia Balducci, Bellevue Councilmember  
(P) Richard Conlin, Seattle Council President  
(A) Dow Constantine, King County Executive  
(A) Jan Drago, King County Councilmember  
(P) David Enslow, City of Sumner Mayor  
(P) Jake Fey, City of Tacoma Deputy Mayor  
(P) Paula Hammond, WSDOT Secretary  
(A) John Marchione, City of Redmond Mayor

(P) Joe Marine, City of Mukilteo Mayor  
(P) Pat McCarthy, Pierce County Executive  
(A) Mike McGinn, City of Seattle Mayor  
(A) Julia Patterson, King County Councilmember  
(A) Larry Phillips, King County Councilmember  
(P) Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember  
(P) Peter von Reichbauer, King County Councilmember

Ms. Marcia Walker, Board Administrator announced that a quorum of the Board was present at roll call.

**Report of the Chair**

Chair Reardon announced that Boardmember Drago requested to participate in the meeting by telephone, if her vote was needed to reach a supermajority of Boardmembers.

**It was moved by Chair Reardon, seconded by Boardmember Roberts, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that Boardmember Drago be allowed to participate in the Board meeting by telephone.**

**Chief Executive Officer's Report**

**I-90 Term Sheet Agreement with WSDOT**

Joni Earl, CEO announced that she and Boardmember Hammond signed the I-90 term sheet agreement. Under the terms of the agreement Sound Transit will pay for the completion of the new HOV lanes on I-90 between Seattle and Bellevue to replace the center roadway HOV lanes. The agreement is non-binding and follow-on agreements, including the Umbrella Agreement and an Operations and Maintenance Agreement, will require Board approval. The term sheet agreement framework was guided by a budget proviso passed by the Washington State Legislature in 2009. Essentially, Sound Transit is compensating WSDOT for the state gas tax funds used to construct the I-90 bridge. WSDOT and Sound Transit received a letter from US Department of Transportation Secretary LaHood stating that the federal government does not expect reimbursement for the federal share of funds used to construct the I-90 bridge.

**East Link**

Last fall, the Board directed staff to study four new alternatives for the downtown Bellevue alignment. The alternatives mainly arose from the work by the expert review panel. The review of the new alternatives is nearly complete. On January 25, 2010, the Bellevue City Council sent a letter to Sound Transit requesting evaluation of a new option in the South Bellevue corridor.

In discussions with Chair Reardon and East King County Boardmembers, a joint workshop between the Sound Transit Board and Bellevue City Council has been proposed to discuss East Link. Boardmember Balducci has been very active in coordinating the potential workshop targeted mid-February, and could be held in lieu of a Board meeting.

Boardmember Balducci noted that the Bellevue City Council is appreciative of the joint workshop offer. The opportunity for Sound Transit Boardmembers and Bellevue City Councilmembers to be briefed together on the downtown Bellevue alternatives provides a base for moving forward with making decisions on the East Link alternatives. Boardmember Balducci stated that the intent behind the letter requesting additional review of alternatives is not for a detailed examination, but for initial thoughts.

#### Update on Noise Related Issues

On September 24, 2009, the Board approved an emergency motion to respond to Link-related noise complaints in the Rainier Valley and Tukwila. The motion approved up to \$1 million to respond to Link-related noise issues. Sound Transit will attempt to alleviate the noise issues through rail grinding, lubrication, and crossover switch modifications. The work is expected to cost slightly less than \$1 million. Additional noise-related work for Tukwila may be necessary, and if so, will be discussed with the Board at a future meeting.

The rail grinding addresses high-frequency noise, wheel squeal and general train noise. The rail grinding has reduced the high frequency noise in many areas, however the high frequency noise still occurs in some areas, and the wheel squeal was not reduced substantially. The wheel squeal may improve through general train operation.

The installation of automatic lubricators is planned for mid to late March, and will mitigate wheel squeal through curves. Two crossover switches require modifications to decrease noise. The work on the crossover switches will also begin in mid to late March and will take up to two months to complete. The lubricator installation and crossover switch modifications will occur at night and on weekends to minimize service disruptions. The crossover switch modifications and lubricator installation is taking longer than originally forecasted due to contracting issues.

Sound Transit has been sending noise-related newsletters to affected communities. Seattle Department of Transportation has adjusted the pedestrian crossing bells to the minimum safe level and Sound Transit has reduced the train warning bell noise level at intersections. Loudspeakers at stations are now turned off at 10 p.m. In Tukwila, additional mitigation, either noise walls or insulation, will likely be needed.

Sound Transit will continue to monitor noise issues and report to the Board. The goal is to have Link-related noise below the FTA level by mid-April.

#### Chief Financial Officer's Report

Brian McCartan, CFO, reported that Sound Transit is completing the 2009 financial cycle. Reports will be shared with Sound Transit management later in January and with the Audit and Reporting Committee in March. KPMG, Sound Transit's internal financial auditor, will return in March to begin the audit cycle. Vice Chair Butler and Ms. Earl will meet with the State Audit Office to cover the 2008 compliance audit. As of today there are no significant issues. The State of Washington has completed the agency-wide risk assessment.

Ms. Earl stated that the federal government awarded grants to the State of Washington for High Speed Rail (HSR). Boardmember Hammond noted that President Obama and Secretary LaHood announced the \$8 billion National Recovery Act awards for HSR, of which Washington State will receive \$590 million of a \$1.3 billion request. Information is limited, but the speculation is that the awarded amount should allow for two additional trips between Seattle and Portland, provide funding for the D to M Street Track and Signal Improvements project, complete track improvements to Nisqually, aid in the Point Defiance bypass route, purchase two additional train sets, perform seismic improvements of King Street Station, and improve

various segments throughout the corridor to the Portland station. Those grant-funded improvements will help extend commuter rail to Lakewood and provide six Amtrak round trips between Seattle and Portland.

**Citizen Oversight Panel Year-End Report**

(Report on file with the Board Administrator)

Paul Wiesner, COP Chair, and Stuart L. Scheuerman, COP Vice Chair, gave the Panel's Year-End Report. Dr. Wiesner stated that over the last ten years, Sound Transit has received the benefit of an estimated 17,000 volunteer hours from COP members.

Vice Chair Thomas suggested that if the Board adopts a new committee structure, that the Board use COP recommendations when discussing and implementing new policies.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Action Items**

Item not referred by Committee

Voucher Certification for December 16, 2009 through December 31, 2009

**It was moved by Boardmember Roberts, seconded by Boardmember Marine, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that the Voucher Certification for December 16, 2009 through December 31, 2009 be approved as presented.**

Items referred by the Finance Committee

Resolution No. R2010-01 – Amending the adopted lifetime budget for the I-90 Two-Way Transit and HOV Operations Stage 2 Project by transferring \$12,311,378 from the East King County Program Reserve to the project and 2) amending the adopted 2010 budget for the I-90 Two-Way Transit and HOV Operations Stage 2 Project from \$1,127,629 to \$5,586,215, and 3) amending the adopted lifetime budget for the Regional Express Program Reserve from \$34,026,541 to \$21,715,163

**It was moved by Vice Chair Butler and seconded by Boardmember Balducci that Resolution No. R2010-01 be approved as presented.**

Chair Reardon announced that an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the entire Board is required to amend the budget. He asked Ms. Walker to conduct a roll call vote.

	<u>Ayes</u>		<u>Nays</u>
Claudia Balducci	Paula Hammond	Pete von Reichbauer	
Fred Butler	Joe Marine	Aaron Reardon	
Richard Conlin	Pat McCarthy		
Dave Enslow	Paul Roberts		
Jake Fey	Claudia Thomas		

**The motion to approve Resolution No. R2010-01 was carried by the unanimous vote of 12 Boardmembers present.**

Motion No. M2010-14 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute Agreement GCA 3361 Task Order A-12 with the Washington State Department of Transportation to provide construction and construction management services for the I-90 Two-Way Transit and HOV Operations Stage 2 Project in the amount of \$19,862,286, with a 15% contingency of \$2,979,343, for a total authorized amount not to exceed \$22,841,629

**It was moved by Vice Chair Butler, seconded by Boardmember Balducci, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2010-14 be approved as presented.**

Motion No. M2010-13 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a sole source contract with Knorr Brake Corporation to provide brake test bench equipment for Central Link for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$167,654

**It was moved by Vice Chair Butler, seconded by Vice Chair Thomas, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2010-13 be approved as presented.**

Motion No. M2010-15 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to increase the contingency for the contract with Hatch Mott MacDonald to provide additional civil engineering design services for the Central Link Light Rail Initial Segment - Tukwila Freeway Route contract and Airport Link project in the amount of \$330,000, for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$32,281,305, which includes reimbursable costs to Sound Transit from third parties for betterment work in the amount of \$6,399

**It was moved by Vice Chair Butler, seconded by Vice Chair Thomas, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2010-15 be approved as presented.**

Motion No. M2010-18 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to increase the contingency for the contract with Condon Johnson and Associates for the University Link I-5 Undercrossing Construction Pits in the amount of \$3,900,000 for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$26,537,810, which includes costs reimbursable to Sound Transit from third parties for betterments

**It was moved by Vice Chair Butler, seconded by Vice Chair Thomas, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2010-18 be approved as presented.**

#### **Executive Session**

At 2:36 p.m., Chair Reardon announced that the Board would convene an executive session that would last 30 minutes. Jennifer Belk, Legal Counsel, announced that the purpose of the executive session is to discuss real estate negotiations which is authorized under RCW 42.30.110 subsection (1)(c) and a potential litigation claim which is authorized under RCW 42.30.110 subsection (1)(h).

Prior to entering into executive session, Ms. Earl announced that the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Washington awarded the Link Light Rail Beacon Hill Tunnel and Station project ACEC's top honor; the Platinum Award. The Platinum Award automatically makes the Beacon Hill project a "National Finalist" in a competition that will be decided in April.

Chair Reardon reconvened the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

#### **Other Business**

None.

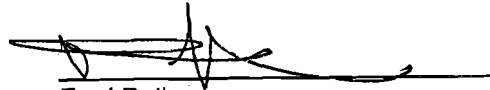
#### **Next Meeting**

Thursday February 11, 2010  
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.  
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

**Adjourn**


The meeting was adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

APPROVED on March 25, 2010.



Fred Butler  
Board Vice Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator