

**PIERCE TRANSIT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

January 13, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Woodards called the Board meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

For those attendees who chose to participate, Chair Woodards led attendees in the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present:

Victoria Woodards, Chair of the Board, Mayor of the City of Tacoma
Marty Campbell, Vice Chair of the Board, Pierce County Councilmember
Nancy Henderson, Town of Steilacoom Councilmember
(representing Auburn/Gig Harbor/Fircrest/Pacific/Ruston/Steilacoom)
Daryl Eidinger, City of Edgewood Mayor *(representing Fife/Milton//Edgewood)*
Robin Farris, Puyallup City Councilmember
Don Anderson, City of Lakewood Mayor
Bruce Dammeier, Pierce County Executive

Commissioners excused:

City of Tacoma Councilmember (vacant)
Kent Keel, City of University Place Mayor

Staff present:

Sue Dreier, Chief Executive Officer
Deanne Jacobson, Clerk of the Board
Aaron Millstein, General Counsel from K&L Gates
Tom Wolfendale, General Counsel from K&L Gates

Introduction

CEO Sue Dreier introduced Tom Wolfendale and Aaron Millstein, attorneys for K&L Gates, who will be serving as the Agency's general counsel.

PRESENTATIONS

1. December 2019 Operator of the Month ~ Steve Hettinger

Transit Operator Assistant Manager Scott Gaines honored Operator Steve Hettinger for being selected Operator of the Month for December 2019. He detailed his

accomplishments and service to the community, stating that Mr. Hettinger always demonstrates a positive attitude and steps up to provide quality service to the community. He also noted that a suggestion provided by Mr. Hettinger to add reflective tape to bus stops has helped to alleviate operators from passing up stops. He reported that Mr. Hettinger will be starting a new job in the Communication Center serving as a Relief Communication Controller.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Chair Woodards thanked Mr. Hettinger for his service to the community.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

1. FS 2020-001, Election to Puget Sound Regional Council Transportation (PSRC) Policy Board for Calendar Year 2020

Chair Woodards opened the floor to receive nominations for the primary representative on the PSRC Transportation Policy Board.

Commissioner Eidinger nominated Commissioner Anderson. No other nominations were provided.

Commissioners Eidinger and Henderson **moved** and seconded to close nominations.

Motion **carried**, 7-0.

Chair Woodards declared Commissioner Anderson the primary representative on the PSRC Transportation Policy Board.

Chair Woodards opened the floor to receive nominations for the alternate representative for the PSRC Transportation Policy Board.

Commissioner Henderson nominated Commissioner Eidinger to serve as the alternate representative on the PSRC Transportation Policy Board.

Commissioners Campbell and Dammeier **moved** and seconded to close nominations for the alternate representative on the PSRC Transportation Policy Board.

Motion **carried**, 7-0.

Chair Woodards declared Commissioner Eidinger the alternate representative for the PSRC Transportation Policy Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Woodards provided directions for participating in public comment and the following individuals spoke:

- Jeanette Martin, Parkland, commented that people who live in the eastern corridor of Pierce County and in the Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) area have no

service. She hopes that transportation will be extended to areas such as Spring Brook and out towards JBLM. She noted that she is happy to see that the Agency is trying to provide ways to serve areas that are currently underserved. She encouraged the Agency to continue to make decisions that will improve connections to areas that have very little service or no service.

- Jay Harring, Tacoma, commented that public transit should be treated as a public utility. He reported that he tried to provide comments on the Long Range Plan (Destination 2040) through the Agency's website, but experienced issues with the system, and staff was unable to provide him with help because they were not aware of the website. He noted that he lives on the east side of the county and that he tries to use transit and it doesn't work well in Pierce County, particularly in Tacoma. He stated if people don't want service in the outlying areas, then service should be cut in those areas and then put more service in Tacoma. He stated a lot of people have been fired because there is not a lot of reliable transportation to and from work after 6:00 p.m. and on weekends.

He inquired about how many commissioners ride the bus after 6:00 p.m. and he encouraged commissioners to ride the bus in the evening. He noted that he would like to see an increase in weekend and late-night service.

Mr. Harring noted that surveys need to be done at transit centers on the weekends and after 6:00 p.m. He reported that most times it takes longer to get from 38th/Portland to Tacoma Dome Station than it takes to get from Tacoma Dome Station to Seattle and that just isn't right. He advocated for a simpler service/scheduling app.

- Julian Wheeler, Lakewood resident and Chair of the Pierce County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee, invited members to attend their next meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 2020. He encouraged Pierce Transit to submit transit-related projects to this committee for assistance with funding.

Public comment was closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

(Items listed below were distributed to Commissioners in advance for reading and study and are enacted with one motion. Item(s) may be moved to the Action Agenda at the request of a Commissioner.)

Commissioners Campbell and Anderson **moved** and seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion **carried**, 7-0.

1. Approval of Vouchers, December 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019
Operating Fund #10
Self-Insurance Fund #40
Capital Fund #90

Payment Nos. 372314 through 372604
Wire Nos. 2977 through 3190
Advance Travel Nos. 1435 through 1437
Total \$5,748,013.43

2. Minutes: December 9, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.
3. FS 2020-002, Authorized Pierce Transit staff to combine the Facilities Workorder Management System and Maintenance Management Systems into one project – EAM Replacement Project.
4. FS 2020-003, Approved Resolution No. 2020-002, amending the 2020 Capital Budget to include \$200,000 for miscellaneous capital equipment.
5. FS 2020-004, Approved Resolution No. 2020-003, authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to enter into and execute Amendment No. 5 to the Transit Service Direct Financial Partnership Agreement between King County, the City of Auburn, and Pierce Transit for Lakeland Hills-Auburn Sounder Station Service.
6. FS 2020-005, Approved Resolution No. 2020-004 amending the 2020 Budget to convert two (2) Limited Term Employee positions to two (2) Full Time Equivalent positions in Support of the refreshed Maintenance Apprentice Program as presented.

ACTION AGENDA

1. **FS 2020-006, Authorization to Execute a Reimbursable Agreement with WSDOT for Project Review of the Bus Rapid Transit Pacific Avenue/State Route 7 Corridor Project**

Senior Construction Project Manager Sean Robertson presented on the item, reviewing the scope of the project and discussing the services WSDOT will review for this project. (*The presentation was provided after the vote.*)

Commissioners Campbell and Dammeier **moved** and seconded to approve Resolution No. 2020-005 authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to execute a reimbursable agreement with an authorized total amount not to exceed \$70,000, and to further authorize the CEO to execute any amendments to this agreement up to the not to exceed amount of \$200,000.

Motion **carried**, 7-0.

2. **FS 2020-007, Authorization to Execute Contract No. PT-68-19 with Granite Construction for General Contractor/Construction Manager (GC/CM) Pre-Construction Services for the Bus Rapid Transit Pacific Avenue State Route 7 Corridor Project**

Senior Construction Project Manager Sean Robertson noted that staff from Granite is available today for questions if need be. He reviewed preliminary design concepts. He reported that the preliminary design considers potential roundabouts; that each intersection

must be reviewed for potential roundabouts and there is a potential for 7 to 8 roundabouts for the project.

He reviewed the criteria for utilizing the GC/CM contracting method and described the elements of work that Granite Construction will be assisting with the project. He noted Granite Construction has BRT project experience.

A discussion ensued between staff and various members of the Board about attracting local workers and Disadvantaged Businesses from the Pierce County area to work on this project.

A discussion also ensued about the Agency's policy for Disadvantaged Businesses. Commissioner Woodards noted that she would like to see the Agency's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program/policy come before the Board for consideration.

A representative from Granite Construction reported that his company is already working with local companies on this project. He noted that he believes that there will be opportunities for local companies to participate in this project.

Commissioner Farris and Henderson **moved** and seconded to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to enter into and execute Contract No. PT-68-19 with Granite Construction for the Bus Rapid Transit Pacific Avenue/State Route 7 Corridor Project Pre-Construction Services, with an authorized total amount/not to exceed amount of \$1,150,603.

Motion **carried**, 7-0.

3. FS 2020-008, Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to Execute a Contract with Medstar to Provide Microtransit Pilot Services to Ruston Way for One Year

Business Partnership Administrator Penny Grellier presented on the item. She reviewed the proposed service area zone for the Ruston Way Microtransit service. She noted that this pilot program will be app based and will be an on-demand service with alternatives for citizens who do not have technology to access apps. The service would be available 7 days a week from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., ADA services available, and a call center for those without cell phones.

Discussion ensued about the service area route, with some commissioners questioning why the route includes the east side near the Foss area in Tacoma and questioning if the service route could be expanded to include J Street and the Museum of Glass.

Ms. Grellier noted that the program does allow for modifications and indicated that the Foss area is being included to test whether service should be expanded to the Port of Tacoma.

Other details about the pilot project include the following:

- Wait times should be no more than 15 minutes;
- Vehicle capacity will be comparable to a Dodge Caravan;
- Vehicles that support mobility devices will be utilized when needed;
- Dynamic routing will allow for other riders to join in along the route; and

- The service is intended to be feeder service and not overlap with fixed route.

Commissioner Campbell and Anderson **moved** and seconded to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to enter into and execute a contract with Medstar in the amount of \$313,000 to provide Microtransit pilot service for one year to Ruston Way.

Motion **carried**, 7-0.

STAFF UPDATES/DISCUSSION

CEO's Report - CEO Dreier reported on the following:

- An appropriations bill that includes the 2020 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development spending bill was passed out of both houses in December. Division Q of the bill retroactively amends and extends the alternative fuel tax credit through December 31, 2020 and is retroactive for 2019. This is great news for Pierce Transit since 80 percent of its fleet runs on alternative fuels. Pierce Transit should receive the alternative fuel tax credit for 2019 and 2020.
- 2020 marks Pierce Transit's 40th anniversary. Prior to the Public Transportation Benefit Area (PTBA) language approved by the legislature in 1979, public transportation was provided by Tacoma Transit from 1941 to 1961, followed by Tacoma Transit System from 1961 to 1980. Then with the passage of the PTBA language and subsequent taxing authority votes Pierce Transit was born to all of Pierce County. Pierce Transit will be kicking off the celebration by thanking customers at transit centers, kicking off a big social media campaign, inviting community leaders including former and current Board members to celebration events. [40th anniversary pins were distributed to the Board Members.]
- Staff recently completed a project by updating approximately 2200 bus stop signs with white reflective signs showcasing bigger numbering and the new logo. Stops that signify a timepoint were marked with a blue reflector, an idea introduced by a transit operator.

Chair Woodards extended thanks and gratitude to staff for completing the project.

INFORMATIONAL BOARD ITEMS

Chair Report - Chair Woodards announced that the January 16, 2020, Executive Finance Committee meeting is being cancelled. The Board retreat meeting date has been set for March 5, 2020, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Rainier Room.

Sound Transit Update – Commissioner Dammeier announced that Commissioner Keel was elected to Chair of the Sound Transit Board. He also reported that Connect 2020 is underway, which could impact commuters traveling to and from Seattle. He encouraged regular commuters to Seattle allow for extra time and check the Sound Transit website for updates.

PSRC Transportation Policy Board Update

Commissioner Anderson reported there was a meeting January 9, 2020, and the Transit caucus and PSRC Transportation Policy Board recommended for adoption the 2020 policy framework for distribution of PSRC federal funds for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 which amounts to about \$270 million in PSRC funding. The Executive Board will vote on it January 23.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Anderson reported on a meeting he had with Senator Cantwell, who indicated that there would most likely be a replacement for the current transportation bill that is due to expire this year. There was uncertainty about what is in the bill and of how the funds would be distributed.

Commissioner Dammeier inquired if the Agency's three electric buses could be prioritized so that they operate in areas that have been underserved.

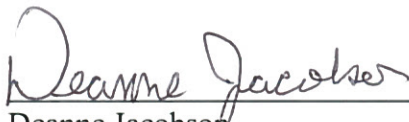
EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN

Commissioners Campbell and Farris **moved** and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:14 p.m.

Motion **carried**, 7 -0.



Deanne Jacobson
Clerk of the Board



Victoria Woodards, Chair
Board of Commissioners