



SCA Board of Directors Minutes

August 15, 2012 10:00 AM
Renton City Hall
1055 South Grady Way, Renton 98057

1. Denis Law, SCA President, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
Members present: Dini Duclos, Chris Eggen, Don Gerend, Mia Gregerson, Ken Hearing, Dave Hill, David Johnston, Matt Larson, Pete Lewis, John Marchione, and Bob Sternoff
Members Absent: Jamie Perry
Staff Present: Deanna Dawson and Kristy Burwell
2. Pete Lewis moved, seconded by Bob Sternoff, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
3. President Law reported that SCA is moving forward with re-branding the organization and creating a new website. At the August 8, 2012 SCA Leadership meeting with King County Executive Dow Constantine, many topics were discussed. Of those topics, the Solid Waste Interlocal Agreement (ILA) rose to the top. Executive Constantine is very committed to working with the suburban cities.
4. Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, reported that SCA is working with the City of Tukwila to expand current office space. The architect that has been chosen is Heery International, Inc. SCA will pay for the tenant improvements of approximately ten thousand dollars and the City of Tukwila will build in a reduced rate for rent in the office lease. Bob Sternoff encouraged remodel to be completed as soon as possible. Matt Larson inquired on the possibility of the City of Tukwila demolishing the building and constructing a new building. ED Dawson shared that the possible demolition and construction would start at least two years from now and the City of Tukwila would provide space for SCA in the new building. ED Dawson is pleased with that the City of Tukwila is working with SCA and wants to continue to provide space for SCA. ED Dawson reported that in addition to the architectural and construction costs, that new furniture is needed. Pete Lewis commented that new furniture is needed since the current furniture is splintering. There will be more information including a revised proposal for action at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

ED Dawson reported that SCA staff will be meeting with Ken Saunderson of Saunderson Marketing Group regarding the re-branding of SCA. She hopes that members of the Board have had a chance to meet with Ken to provide input.

ED Dawson reported that the SCA Membership Survey is ongoing and many members have met with Ella Williams. She encouraged members who have not yet scheduled time to provide feedback to the survey to contact Ella, ella@suburbancities.org. There has been good feedback from the completed surveys to date. King County Executive's staff asked if they could have a copy as they are thinking about conducting a survey themselves.

ED Dawson reported that the 2011 Form 990 Taxes have been completed. ED Dawson and Kristy Burwell, Administrative Services Manager, met with the auditors to review the accuracy of the responses and asked for direction on some items. Dave Hill commented on the number of volunteers listed and

agreed that 98 is an adequate estimate. The SCA Board of Directors has reviewed the 2011 Form 990 Taxes and agreed that the document can be mailed today as completed.

5. David Johnston, Maple Valley City Manager and Ex Officio member, reported on the recent meetings of the City Managers and Administrators meetings. In July, there was a Solid Waste Regional Workshop that was attended by the city managers and administrators in lieu of the July 11, 2012 City Managers and Administrators meeting. The August meeting was also cancelled due to the Annual Washington City/County Management Association (WCMA) Conference. A copy of the conference program has been provided in the meeting materials. WCMA is an affiliate of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). Members of ICMA will occasionally go to other countries to assist emerging cities set up their governance structure. In 2015, WCMA will host the ICMA Conference in Seattle. Over the next couple of years WCMA members will be coordinating logistics such as hotels accommodations and scheduling local speakers into conference agenda. David is excited that the ICMA conference will be hosted in our region.
6. Matt Larson, Events Committee Chair, asked for ideas that members of the Board would like to hear Michael Young, President of the University of Washington, speak to at the September 19, 2012 SCA Networking Dinner. These included how the UW can partner with cities and share resources including but not limited to internship programs; what the UW is doing to promote public services, specifically at the local level; how the UW can collaborate with cities on economic development, specifically; and how the UW can help the community understand how it benefits the region

Chair Larson gave an update on the RISE Presentations at SCA Networking Dinners. SCA staff will be sending out an e-mail requesting cities to submit ideas for a five minute presentation by September 4, 2012. The SCA Events Committee will review the submissions on September 11 and notify the chosen project by September 12. The first RISE Presentation will be included at the September 19, 2012 SCA Networking Dinner. He encouraged Board members to bring forward ideas for consideration.

Chair Larson reported that the SCA Events Committee is discussing adding an event in October, likely as a breakfast or lunch. Members asked that ED Dawson work with Regional Associate Member, Cathy Allen, to put together a bipartisan and balanced panel to discuss the changing electorate, engaging communities, and using new media at this event.

Chair Larson commented that the SCA Events Committee agreed with Mayor Lewis that SCA should invite the Mayors in Pierce County to an SCA Networking Dinner. ED Dawson added that two of our Regional Associate Members would like to host the Pierce County Mayors at an upcoming SCA Networking Dinner. By doing this, Pierce County Mayors can have an inside look at one of the ways that SCA brings value to the suburban cities of King County. Mayor Lewis asked that ED Dawson reach out to the Mayor of Fife's Executive Assistant with an invitation to all Pierce County Mayors.

7. Mia Gregerson, PIC Chair, reported that members of the PIC have a good dialogue expressing concerns and opinions. Chair Gregerson highlighted that Auburn Councilmember Pelosa brought an amendment regarding the KCD action item that addresses the need for water based investment funding strategies. This amendment was brought forward in the afternoon on the day of the PIC meeting. Board members discussed that a deadline for submitting amendments needs to be in place so that Councils have adequate time to discuss the issue and provide direction to their representative on the PIC. ED Dawson commented that with advance notice of an amendment, staff can research and provide information at the meeting where the amendment is introduced. Members of the PIC asked that SCA staff provide more background information at the next meeting of the PIC.

Mia Gregerson moved, seconded by Ken Hearing, to adopt the following policy position:

- *SCA believes that solid waste system costs, which includes liability, should be funded by the utility;*
- *The solid waste interlocal agreement (ILA) between King County and participating cities should fairly allocate risk between both the cities and the county and should, to the greatest extent possible, protect both the county's general fund and cities' general funds against liability for cleanup claims arising at Cedar Hills Landfill;*
- *Neither party should receive priority in terms of the use of grant funds, insurance proceeds, reserve funds, or disposal rates to satisfy environmental liability;*
- *The ILA should establish that grant funding, if available, and disposal rates shall be used to set up a line of first defense to protect both the county's general fund, and the cities' general fund. The ILA should provide that:*
 - *The county will purchase and maintain liability insurance using disposal rates to cover liability arising out of the Cedar Hills Landfill, if such insurance is available under commercially reasonable terms and conditions. Said insurance shall cover both the county, and the cities;*
 - *The county will establish and maintain a reserve fund from disposal rates to cover both the city and the county for liability not covered by insurance. The county shall consult with the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee (MSWMAC) as to the amount of the reserve fund;*
 - *In the event that liability for cleanup exceeds the funds available through the insurance and reserve fund, disposal rates should be used to cover both county and city liability to the fullest extent legal and feasible.*

Discussion of this item included ED Dawson providing background on this issue. She reported that there were many meetings with the King County Executive's staff and a letter sent by President Law to propose additional liability language to be added to the Solid Waste ILA. ED Dawson thanked Pete Lewis for bringing this issue forward at a recent PIC meeting. Chris Eggen provided insight from the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee (MSWMAC). He noted that the ILA will still be reviewed by lawyers who could deem some of the language illegal. Chris is glad that MSWMAC Chair Joan McGilton and himself as MSWMAC Vice Chair are included to help settle issues. ED Dawson reported that a negotiating team is being assembled and will consist of city staff, including Shoreline City Manager Julie Underwood and Renton Chief Administrative Officer Jay Covington, and will also include ED Dawson as a conduit for electeds. She thanked all the city staff that have been involved in the process as it has taken a lot of work to arrive at the current agreement.

Dini Duclos and Pete Lewis are concerned that proposed rate in draft ILA are too high. Programs that were cut in past are now being resurrected and rates reflect the funding for those programs. Bob Sternoff inquired if the rate for solid waste is revenue neutral or profit for King County. John Marchione commented that the extra money from ratepayers is transferred to the county's general fund. Dave Hill is concerned that the issue of mitigation is being ignored. Cities that have transfer stations do not receive any funds for maintenance of the roads on which the solid waste trucks travel. In the example of the transfer station located in Algona, a small city has the burden of repairing/replacing a large section of W Valley Highway where the transfer station is located when the transfer station receives solid waste from outside city limits. It is a regional maintenance cost not just the City of Algona's cost. In Snohomish County, \$0.75/ton is set aside for mitigation. John Marchione asked if it would be appropriate for PIC to address the importance of mitigation. Pete Lewis asked that a policy position be brought to PIC at its September meeting.

The motion passed. Dave Hill voted no on the motion.

Mia Gregerson moved, seconded by Ken Hearing, to adopt the following policy position:

- 1) *SCA recognizes the value of the King Conservation District (KCD), and supports continued funding of the KCD;*
- 2) *SCA supports the continuation of WRIA funding through the KCD in 2013, and the future;*
- 3) *Given the current economic climate and the heavy tax burdens on property owners in our communities, SCA supports a revenue neutral direction for the KCD at this time. Should future funding for programs currently funded through KCD come through an alternative source, SCA would support a proportional decrease in revenues collected by KCD. For example, if the King County Flood Control District were to fund the WRIAs in the future, SCA would support a corresponding decrease in revenue collection for the KCD;*
- 4) *SCA supports continued funding of the KCD Jurisdictional Grant Program. The current processes for grant application and compliance may place unduly onerous burdens on cities. SCA supports reducing these administrative burdens in order to maximize the value of grants to cities;*
- 5) *SCA supports the creation of a formal advisory committee to provide direction to the KCD in the future. Such a body would ensure that KCD expenditures provide value to taxpayers throughout the County- from rural, urban, and suburban communities alike. Representation on this advisory committee should include proportional representation from elected officials in the Suburban Cities.*

Pete Lewis moved, seconded by John Marchione, to amend this motion by adding the word *if* to the end of section number 1:

- 1) *SCA recognizes the value of the King Conservation District (KCD), and supports continued funding of the KCD, if;*
- 2) *SCA supports the continuation of WRIA funding through the KCD in 2013, and the future;*
- 3) *Given the current economic climate and the heavy tax burdens on property owners in our communities, SCA supports a revenue neutral direction for the KCD at this time. Should future funding for programs currently funded through KCD come through an alternative source, SCA would support a proportional decrease in revenues collected by KCD. For example, if the King County Flood Control District were to fund the WRIAs in the future, SCA would support a corresponding decrease in revenue collection for the KCD;*
- 4) *SCA supports continued funding of the KCD Jurisdictional Grant Program. The current processes for grant application and compliance may place unduly onerous burdens on cities. SCA supports reducing these administrative burdens in order to maximize the value of grants to cities;*
- 5) *SCA supports the creation of a formal advisory committee to provide direction to the KCD in the future. Such a body would ensure that KCD expenditures provide value to taxpayers throughout the County- from rural, urban, and suburban communities alike. Representation on this advisory committee should include proportional representation from elected officials in the Suburban Cities.*

Discussion on the amendment included Chris Eggen providing the funding structure of the KCD. Historically, the KCD funds distributed 50% to the WRIAs, 20% to jurisdictional grants, and 30% to other programs. Chris continued to explain that the other programs are the prime reason for having the KCD. He is concerned about the rural projects that need funding. Because of the change in funding allocation, the King County Flood Control District will now provide the funding for WRIAs. Chris stated that he would not be able to support the amendment. Dave Hill agreed that rural work is very valuable. However, he inquired that since King County is an urban county, what is the tax benefit to the urban areas. Pete Lewis commented that if the urban areas are exempt from the tax, there won't be enough tax monies for the rural areas. David Johnston added that in 2012, KCD tried to sweep the jurisdictional grants and funds. Tax money from property owners should be available for use within the jurisdiction not upstream in rural area. ED Dawson clarified that King County is the only county in WA to have a \$10 property tax, all other counties have a \$5 property tax.

The amendment passed. Matt Larson and Chris Eggen voted no on the amendment.

The main motion as amended passed unanimously. ED Dawson confirmed that the members of the Board ask that President Law send a letter to the KCD, Metropolitan King County Council (MKCC), and King County Executive concerning this policy position. David Johnston asked that a deadline suggestion be included in the letter. ED Dawson added that the MKCC has the option to reduce the property tax assessment. Dave Hill commented that the WRIAs lobbied in Olympia to raise the tax to \$10 per property.

Pete Lewis moved, seconded by Ken Hearing, to:

- *Accept the resignation of Councilmember Don Gerend as alternate to the PSRC Executive Board, and recommend appointment of Councilmember Gerend as second alternate to the PSRC Executive Board for the remainder of 2012.*
- *Recommend the appointment of Mayor John Marchione of Redmond to the alternate seat on the PSRC Operations Committee for the remainder of 2012.*

The motion passed unanimously.

8. For the good of the order

Mia Gregerson noted that the SeaTac Parks Director was elected to the KCD and can provide some insight.

Pete Lewis reported that there will be increases in the PERS rates in 2013. There are more unfunded mandates that are being transferred from the state back to the cities. Another example is the recent State Supreme Court decision to change in public defender caseload standards.

9. Bob Sternoff moved, seconded by Pete Lewis to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:39 a.m.