SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION

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SCA Board of Directors

Minutes

May 20, 2026

Bellevue City Hall

1) **Call to Order**
SCA President Armondo Pavone called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM. Present were members Dana Ralph, Troy Linnell, Angela Birney, Scott MacColl, Lynne Robinson, Amy McHenry, Anette Ademasu, Tom French, Sean Kelly, Tola Marts, and Lydia Assefa-Dawson; and staff Robert Feldstein, Leah Willoughby, Aj Foltz, Laura Belmont, Dax Tate and Amanda Hebert. Absent was member Thomas McLeod.

2) **Approval of the Agenda**
President Pavone called for any amendments to the agenda. There were none.

Birney moved, seconded by Ademasu, to approve the meeting agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

3) **Public Comment**
President Pavone asked if there were any written public comments submitted. Hearing none, this portion of the agenda was closed.

4) **Consent Agenda**
SCA President Pavone asked for any questions or concerns regarding the items on the Consent Agenda. There were none.

Ralph moved, seconded by Birney, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the March 18, 2026 SCA Board of Directors Meeting; and the financial reports of January 2026 and February 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

5) **President's Report**
President Pavone provided information on Sound Transit Update.

6) **Executive Director's Report**
Executive Director Robert Feldstein provided an update on the Regional Safety Taskforce and King County Transportation. He noted productive conversations.

7) **King County Executive Meeting Group Report**
Executive Director Robert Feldstein reported on a previous meeting of SCA Leadership with the County Executive and discussed issues cities were having with Hazardous Waste

8) **Treasurer's Report**
As Treasurer SCA Treasurer McLeod was not present, SCA Chief Operating Officer Leah Willoughby reported on the April 28, 2026 SCA Finance Committee.
    a. Member City Dues Update

Willoughby reported that all Member City dues invoices had been paid.

b. Sponsorship Update
Willoughby reported on sponsor invoices paid since the last meeting of the Board. She reported no new invoices sent since the last meeting. As of the day of the meeting, The total invoiced for sponsorships is $70,000 and total received is $33,000. SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein noted potential future sponsors and provided update on recruiting progress.

c. Staff Transportation
Willoughby provided overview of the proposed changes to the Staff Transportation Expenses Policy. The proposed revision updates the policy to better reflect hybrid work arrangements and evolved operational practices since the original policy was written and adopted. Its purpose is to create greater clarity, consistency, and equity in how travel and mileage reimbursement is applied. At the April Finance Committee meeting, the Committee directed SCA staff to discuss the policy with the full staff. At the May meeting, the Committee recommended approval of the draft policy update to the full Board.

Birney moved, seconded by McHenry to approve the updated Staff Transportation Expenses Policy within the SCA Personnel Policies, as recommended by the Finance Committee and included in the meeting materials. The motion passed unanimously.

9) PIC Chair's Report
PIC Chair Lydia Assefa-Dawson reported on the May 13, 2026 PIC Meeting.

a. Potential Affordable Housing Regional Initiative
Assefa-Dawson reported that Housing Development Consortium (HDC) Executive Director Patience Malaba and Associate Director of Government Relations and Policy Brady Nordstrom presented to members regarding the Potential Affordable Housing Regional Initiative. Due to time constraints on the presentation, the presenters will be returning for the July PIC. SCA Policy Analyst Laura Belmont noted that Malaba and Nordstrom offered presentations for individual cities.

b. 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter
SCA Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz introduced the item. SCA Policy Analyst Laura Belmont provided an overview of discussion and actions by the PIC regarding the 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter.

Staff recommend that the Board consider an amendment to the letter as recommended by PIC, to replace the word "summit" in the third sentence of the fourth paragraph with the words "Regional Utility Rate Summit." The recommendation was for clarity and did not alter intention or meaning.

Following extensive discussion, the Board took the following action:

Birney moved, seconded by Assefa-Dawson, to approve the final draft letter as recommended by PIC, including amendment as recommended by staff, and direct SCA staff to send the letter to the King County Council. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative
SCA Policy Analyst Dax Tate provided an overview and expected timeline of the Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative. Tate reported on the discussion and actions by the PIC regarding the initiative.

Following discussion, the Board took the following actions:

Marts moved, seconded by Assefa-Dawson to adopt the Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative SCA policy position as recommended by PIC. The motion passed with Kelly and Birney abstaining.

d. Updates and Informational Items
This item was not discussed.

10) City Manager's Report
City Manager Representative Scott MacColl reported on the June 2026 City Managers and Administrators meeting. Topics included a World Cup Update, including a presentation by FIFA staff and Renton staff and group discussion on how cities are preparing; King County Regional Homelessness Authority overview discussion from ARCH Executive Director Lindsay Masters; and Day with ICMA update.

McColl noted that he will be transitioning to a new position in Auburn and will keep Board updated. With Board direction, McColl intends to continue on the Board in his new position.

11) Equity & Inclusion Cabinet
Executive Director Robert Feldstein provided an overview of the recruitment and appointment process for the 2026. Equity & Inclusions cabinet. Feldstein provided an update on direction to the Board from the existing members, as discussed at their April 28 meeting. These directions included:

- A Maximum of two (2) members from any one SCA city may be appointed to the EIC at one time. Board Liaison members are included in this count.
- Each individual city will be responsible for determining which two candidates will apply from that city.
- While there is no formal policy on term limit, the Cabinet will consider six (6) years to be a soft limit, while also taking into consideration participation, applications, equity, and continuity when making appointment decisions.

The committee further recommended that the Board reappoint all existing members; and that all new applicants that submitted an 2026 application be appointed, subject to the above guidelines.

Following discussion, the Board took the following action:

Ralph moved, seconded by Kelly, to appoint the following individuals as members to the SCA Equity & Inclusion Cabinet:

- ***Lydia Assesfa-Dawson (Board Liaison)***
- ***Annette Ademasu (Board Liaison)***
- ***Ed Prince, Renton***
- ***Bill Boyce, Kent***
- ***Hugo Garcia, Burien***
    - ***Alex Andrade, Burien***
    - ***Sun Burford, Newcastle***
    - ***Julie Hsieh, Mercer Island***
    - ***Andy Jacobs, Newcastle***

        - ***Ruth Pérez, Renton***
        - ***Paul Adair, Issaquah***
        - ***Sharn Stoker, Kent***
- ***The motion passed unanimously.***

12) Discussion Items/Updates

a. SCA Press Policy

1. SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein reviewed for the Board current policies regarding press contacting SCA committee members for comment. Board was asked for direction on any changes to policy or communication of policy as and if needed. There was no action to report.

b. Built for Zero Leadership Table

2. SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein reported on possible new committee and potential SCA seats. Board members expressed need for additional information. Staff will continue to update the Board.

c. Potential Contact List Swapping with the County

3. SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein asked for direction regarding the sharing of contact information with regional partners. There was no action to report.

d. Call for Nominations Update

4. SCA Chief Operating Officer Leah Willoughby provided an overview of the last call for nominations process, including number of applications and applicants; and remaining vacancies.

e. Other Updates

5. There were no other updates.

13) For the Good of the Order

Birney shared information regarding a World Cup watch party at Marymoor park for the final FIFA game in Seattle.

Ademasu shared updated regarding an affordable housing presentation, and asked any members with experience with modular or offsite construction to share insight.

French shared on Lake Forest Park’s Farmers Market annual opening.

The were no additional items for the good of the order.

14) The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 AM.