SCA Board of Directors

DRAFT Minutes

September 16, 2026

Bellevue City Hall

1) **Call to Order**
SCA President Armondo Pavone called the meeting to order at 10:07 AM. Present were members Armondo Pavone, Dana Ralph, Thomas McLeod, Angela Birney, Scott MacColl, Lynne Robinson, Amy McHenry, Annette Ademasu, Tom French, Sean Kelly, Tola Marts, and Lydia Assefa-Dawson; and staff Robert Feldstein, Leah Willoughby, Dax Tate, Aj Foltz and Amanda Hebert. Absent was member Troy Linnell.

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

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

Birney moved, seconded by Assefa-Dawson, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the July 15, 2026 SCA Board of Directors Meeting; and the financial reports of June 2026 and July 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

5) **President's Report**
SCA President Pavone reminded the board that appointments would be opening soon encouraged members to apply and to share the opportunity with their councils. Pavone reported on the multiple regional discussions SCA has been involved with, including early conversations on the Best Starts for Kids Levy and the potential affordable housing levy. Pavone thanked the SCA Legislative Committee for their work on the SCA 2027 State Legislative Agenda & Country Priorities, which are now at PIC for review and amendments.

6) **Executive Director's Report**
Executive Director Robert Feldstein provided updates on KCTD as well as the Transit Safety Workgroup and the Steering Committee. Feldstein reported on the upcoming call for nominations for 2027 SCA Regional Boards and Committees. He asked for assistance from the board in encouraging their electeds to apply. Feldstein shared the Microsoft AI Training that SCA staff will be participating in during the month of October. He also mentioned that he would like to extend the opportunity to the cities, allowing one intergovernmental or other staff from each city to attend as well.

7) King County Executive Meeting Group Report

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein presented topics discussed from the Executive Meeting, including the preview of the budget and concerns; information on the Best Starts for Kids levy, and concern around AI.

8) Treasurer's Report

a. Sponsorship Update

SCA Treasurer McLead reported on sponsorships invoiced and payments received since the last meeting of the Board. SCA Treasurer McLeod presented the total invoices is $91,000 and the total received being $79,500. Executive Director Robert Feldstein mentioned additional updates on acquiring new sponsors and asked for the Board to provide assistance if they are able with some of the sponsors who have not responded recently.

b. Retirement Program Update

SCA Treasurer McLeod discussed the Special Finance Committee meeting that was held on Friday, September 11th, to review proposed SCA staff retirement program. SCA Chief Operating Officer Leah Willoughby discussed the retirement plan in more detail to provide insight before approval. Robert Feldstein clarified how the transition from the previous collection of retirement funds to the new retirement program.

Birney moved, seconded by Ralph for approval for SCA to move forward with the new retirement plan, as recommended by the SCA Finance Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Other Updates

SCA Treasurer McLeod did not have any further updates for the Board.

9) PIC Chair's Report

PIC Chair Assefa- Dawson reported on the June 10, 2026 PIC Meeting.

a. Breaking the Cycle Investments & Revenue Workgroup Update

PIC Chair Assefa- Dawson presented the updates discussed during the PIC meeting. She mentioned that Marissa Chavez, the Directors of Policy and Innovation for the King County Executive, presented on the work of the Breaking the Cycle Investments & Revenue Workgroup. SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein mentioned that there is still not a unified and cohesive plan; SCA is waiting for a more cohesive plan before making any decisions and reacting.

b. SCA 2027 State Legislative Agenda & County Priorities

PIC Chair Assefa- Dawson reported on the discussion of the SCA 2027 State Legislative Agenda as well as the County Priorities documents during the Public Issues Committee, and that PIC offered initial feedback for these documents. SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein asked for comments to be presented to PIC to be submitted in written form.

Ballot Initiatives Roundtable Discussion

PIC Chair Assefa- Dawson reported on the discussion on the Ballot Initiatives Roundtable Discussion agenda item. This was an opportunity for PIC members to speak on upcoming levies and ballot measures with SCA staff. SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein commended the work being done by SCA Policy Analyst AJ Foltz in this area.

PIC Chair Assefa- Dawson thanked the Board for their questions and thanked SCA staff for their work.

10) City Manager's Report

City Manager Representative Scott MacColl reported on the City Managers/City Administrators meeting, which was a joint meeting with Snohomish County. Topics included: presentation from WSDOT staff on WSDOT Projects – How WSDOT works with jurisdictions; presentation from Issaquah and Kirkland staff on cybersecurity and combatting ongoing attacks; and a roundtable discussion on revenue challenges.

11) Regional Staff Committees

SCA Senior Policy Analyst AJ Folts reported on a vacancy on the Interjurisdictional Team (IJT) Growth Management Planning Council caused by a member leaving their city position, and potential replacement member from the city.

Birney moved, seconded by Robinson to approve the appointment of Becky Frye to the Interjurisdictional Team (IJT) Growth Management Planning Council. The motion passed unanimously.

12) Discussion Items/Updates

a. Boundary Review Board

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein reported on the allotted seats on the Boundary Review Board and the distribution of those seats; how the process has been handled in the past; and potential SCA involvement. Staff will continue to update and take feedback and direction from the Board.

Birney moved, seconded by Ralph to approve SCA supporting the King County Boundary Review Board in the work of supporting mayoral appointees on a biannual and as-needed basis. The motion passed unanimously.

b. 2027 PIC Meetings

This discussion item was brought for discussion as requested by the Board at their July meeting. SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein briefly reviewed the format of PIC minutes over the last few years, and asked the Board for direction regarding the format for 2027.

Marts moved, seconded by Kelly to direct the SCA Public Issues Committee (PIC) to meet every other meeting in person, with the intention of being fully in-person for 2028. The motion passed unanimously.

c. 2027 Caucus Meetings/Board Elections Format

SCA Chief Operating Officer Leah Willoughby presented the details for the upcoming Caucus meetings. She asked for direction on timing and format. SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein provided additional details to inform discussion.

d. Legislative Committee Strategy

SCA Senior Policy Analyst AJ Foltz discussed the strategy for the 2027 legislative committee. She provided information on the role and the importance of the State Legislative Committee. An open

discussion on this committee was then held with the Board about the value, as well as how these meetings can be run in the future, including the frequency of these meetings.

e. Other Updates

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein asked the board for direction regarding commenting to cities attendance of PIC representatives and Alternates at monthly meetings. Discussion was held on this issue for the board to provide guidance on this.

SCA Chief Operating Officer Leah Willoughby briefly reported on the the timing and process for the upcoming Board elections and 2027 Board Leadership. She noted that the 2027 Board Nominating Committee would be appointed at the October 2026 Board meeting.

13) For the Good of the Order

Executive Director Robert Feldstein mentioned the possibility of working with the keynote speaker, President of the University of Washington Robert J. Jones, and that they could be a good partner in the future.

Birney expressed concern for the elections update with mail-in ballots. She mentioned that the community needs to be uniformed about changes in the mail in ballots.

14) The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 PM.