



SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION

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SCA Board of Directors MINUTES

December 18, 2013 10:00 AM
Renton City Hall, Conferencing Center
1055 S. Grady Way, Renton 98057

1. **Call to Order**

Denis Law, SCA President, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Members present: Chris Eggen, Don Gerend, Mia Gregerson, Ken Hearing, Dave Hill, David Johnston, Matt Larson, Pete Lewis, John Marchione

Members absent: David Baker, Dini Duclos, Jamie Perry

Staff present: Deanna Dawson, Kristy Burwell

2. **Public Comment**

President Law asked if any member of the public had any public comment. Seeing none, President Law closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

3. **Consent Agenda**

Dave Hill moved, seconded by Pete Lewis, to approve the Consent Agenda. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **President's Report**

President Law thanked members for two great years as President of SCA. He is proud of, sees value, and embraces the organization. President Law stated that the Board has accomplished a lot thanks to dynamic members and wonderful staff.

5. **Executive Director's Report**

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, and members congratulated newly appointed State Representative Mia Gregerson.

ED Dawson also congratulated Chris Eggen, Don Gerend, and John Marchione on their reelections to the SCA Board of Directors. The North and Snoqualmie Valley Caucuses met on December 4, 2013 and unanimously reelected these three members.

ED Dawson reported that the South and South Valley Caucuses will meet on December 18, 2013, where 15 of the 16 cities plan to attend. ED Dawson continued that there is a good slate of candidates to represent the South Caucus on the SCA Board of Directors.

ED Dawson then reported on upcoming SCA events. There will be a pre-PIC workshop, PIC 101, on January 8, 2014 prior to the PIC meeting. The SCA Board & Committee Appointee Orientation will be on Wednesday, January 15, 2014 at SeaTac City Hall and will feature regional leaders as speakers. The SCA Newly Elected Workshop will be held prior to the SCA Board & Committee Appointee Orientation and the newly elected officials are invited to stay for the orientation. Prior to the February 12, 2014 PIC Meeting, there will be a pre-PIC Workshop with Ann Macfarlane from Jurassic Parliament to provide training on parliamentary procedure.

ED Dawson announced that the first two SCA Networking Dinners in 2014 will be held on Wednesday, February 19, where SCA will be joined by Seattle Mayor Ed Murray as the keynote speaker, and Wednesday, March 19, where King County Executive Dow Constantine will address the attendees as the keynote speaker.

Lastly, ED Dawson reported that the PIC elected its leadership for 2014: Bernie Talmas, Mayor of Woodinville, as Chair and Marlla Mhoon, City of Covington Councilmember, as Vice Chair.

6. City Manager's Report

The City Manager's report was postponed until later in the meeting.

7. PIC Chair's Report

Mia Gregerson, PIC Chair, thanked the SCA Board of Directors for two great years and stated that it was wonderful to work with the members.

Mia Gregerson moved, seconded by John Marchione, to:

- A. Recommend Councilmember Bill Thomas, Algona, for appointment to the King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee, as recommended by the PIC on December 11, 2013;
- B. Appoint Mayor Matt Larson, Snoqualmie, to the Regional Transit Committee, as recommended by the PIC on December 11, 2013;
- C. Adopt the following public policy position as recommended by the PIC on December 11, 2013:

SCA supports the following guiding principles to inform Metro's Transit Service Cut Proposal:

1. Public Process Highlighted by Public Education and Engagement:
 - a. Clear and transparent process.
 - b. Public engagement, including major transit stakeholders, that seeks input on specific impacts resulting from Metro's proposed service cuts and ideas to lessen these impacts, while still reducing service hours in these areas and routes.
 - c. Robust public communications, including but not limited to: (1) Explanation of Metro's current financial situation including the latest revenue estimate, revenue shortfall, and the number of service hour cuts that would be required to balance updated costs and revenue, in a way that is clearly understandable to stakeholders, including the average commuter; (2) explaining the need for service cuts and the methodology used to develop service cuts so that the public can understand why specific cuts are being proposed, (3) reporting on public engagement, including the effect of public input on proposed service

- cuts and (4) the effective use of technology to inform and involve the public on the service reduction process and proposed service changes and cuts.
- d. Timing that makes sense given the speed of the decision-making process.

2. Service Cut Proposal and Sequencing/Phasing of Service Cuts:

- a. Implement the Service Guidelines to the fullest extent practicable.
- b. Transmit one service cut package to the King County Council for the for the full amount of service cuts that are necessary, recognizing that service cuts may be implemented in 2014 and 2015 (during service changes in September 2014 and February, June and September 2015). The County's development, review and adoption of one service cut package will promote public awareness of the magnitude of upcoming service cuts.
- c. Service Cuts should be done in a manner that is directly tied to changing revenue conditions. The amount of service hours cut should only be the amount necessary to balance revenues and costs.
- d. Ensure that service cuts throughout the county are done in a fair manner and clearly demonstrate geographic and social equity throughout the entire county. Considerations of geographic equity are of particular importance to cities and we request that Metro provide data on the distribution of transit service hours and proposed service hour cuts by sub-area.
- e. Make service changes by restructuring service within and across jurisdictions, not solely by cutting existing routes. Service changes across large geographies or that cross multiple jurisdictions should provide for an interconnected transit network.
- f. Consider partnerships with regional organizations, tribes, local jurisdictions, and the private sector that are willing to fully or partially fund transit service to lessen the impacts of cuts, including alternatives to traditional service.

D. Adopt the following public policy position as recommended by the PIC on December 11, 2013:

In order to balance the PSRC T2040 financial strategy, SCA supports adopting a hybrid approach rather than basing decisions solely on the PSRC prioritization scorecard. While this scorecard is a valuable source of information, it was not designed for or intended to be used as the sole tool for evaluating projects.

Discussion on the motion included Gregerson commenting that the PIC had a very good conversation on potential King County Metro transit service cuts. It's important to share each city's stories of how the cuts are affecting communities. ED Dawson added the Monica Whitman, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, is working with King County Metro staff to address SCA concerns about geographic equity. Dave Hill commented that social equity is also an important piece to consider when looking at service cuts.

Don Gerend commented that the SCA-TPB Caucus appreciated having this potential position language recommended by the PIC for the meeting of the TPB on December 12, 2013. Even though, the SCA Board had not taken action on this potential policy, it was helpful to show the support of the PIC.

The motion passed unanimously.

8. **SCA Policies**

ED Dawson reported that she has been working with SCA attorneys to draft policies regarding the Open Public Meetings Act and the Public Records Act. They will be brought back at a future meeting.

9. **City Manager's Report**

David Johnston reported that 2014 will be a busy year. Seattle is serving as host of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Conference in 2015, and the majority of the planning will be done in 2014. Seattle seems to be a destination of choice; the American Planning Association is also hosting a conference in Seattle. Committees have been set up for fundraising and programs for the ICMA Conference. Johnston encouraged members to submit ideas to showcase an exhibit highlighting public policy in action. Ideas can be submitted to a City Manager/Administrator or to Johnston directly.

Johnston announced that Covington City Manager Derek Matheson will be the next City Manager representative on the SCA Board of Directors. Johnston continued that he is will be an asset and is interested in good government.

10. **Discussion of 2014 Board Retreat**

President Law opened up a discussion on topics for the 2014 SCA Board Retreat. ED Dawson added that the retreat is scheduled for Friday, January 31, 2014 and dinner to follow. Some topics that have already been identified include: caucus system, board structure, financial reserves, and long range strategy for SCA.

Pete Lewis suggested that the Board should review long term needs of cities and the long term structural needs of SCA. Matt Larson added that the North and Snoqualmie Valley Caucuses shared an interest in this topic and suggested discussing ways to increase SCA staff. Mia Gregerson continued that SCA staff is attending almost every regional meeting and inquired if that's the best use of time. Members requested a list of all committees and the amount of time each staff person puts into each committee. Lewis added that city staff can sometimes help if SCA staff cannot attend a meeting. Larson suggested that city staff could be pooled into a technical committee.

The Board also discussed reviewing the timing of Board elections.

Chris Eggen brought up a suggestion from the North and Snoqualmie Valley Caucus meeting regarding immersing issues, such as the shortening of federal grant timelines.

ED Dawson advised Board that the County is looking at proceeding with the formation of a Transportation Benefit District. Don Gerend commented that the PSRC Transportation Policy Board (TPB) has also discussed this issue.

Pete Lewis suggested that the Board discuss if SCA is potentially going to grow outside of King County and what that would look like. Is it in the best interest of SCA and why?

John Marchione invited members to suggest different locations for the 2014 SCA Board Retreat.

11. January 2014 Board Meeting Date

ED Dawson inquired with members about having a Board meeting on January 15, 2014 to elect 2014 Board Officers and act on potential recommendations from the PIC. Members agreed to have a meeting on January 15, 2014.

12. For the good of the order

Ken Hearing thanked members for seven years on the SCA Board of Directors.

John Marchione asked Don Gerend to share his comments from the SCA Annual Meeting with Board members.

Chris Eggen shared that the PSRC Project Selection Committee voted to have the Transportation Policy Board and Executive Board take action on the concept of pursuing a revolving regional Transit Oriented Development (TOD) fund. \$5 million of seed money, to establish a regional TOD fund, is being considered. The Boards will be discussing potential public sources for such a fund, either from PSRC or other sources.

Pete Lewis stated that as members retire, the knowledge of SCA history goes with them. It's important to have history and methods for dealing with issues to find consensus and urge cities to work together.

Lewis also stated that a potential retreat topic is to encourage cities to endorse grants for which others cities apply. There are so many grants that it is likely that others cities will not be affected. It's often difficult for small to medium sized cities to obtain grants due to city size. This could be used as a tool for SCA members.

Don Gerend stated that it's valuable to have City representatives elected into the Legislature. It's important to stay connected with them and encourage legislators to come back to SCA and report on the work of the legislature. ED Dawson suggested that SCA invite Legislators to SCA functions.

President Law thanked members again, and wished all a wonderful holiday season.

Members thanked President Law for his leadership as SCA President.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.