

BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the April 7, 2021 Meeting
Via Webex Video Conference

MEMBERS PRESENT

Pamela Haley, City of Spokane Valley, Chair
Chris Grover, Small Cities Representative (Airway Heights), *Performance Monitoring & External Relations Committee Chair*, Chair Pro Tempore
Al French, Spokane County, *Planning & Development Committee Chair*
Karen Stratton, City of Spokane
E. Susan Meyer, Chief Executive Officer, *Ex-officio*

STAFF PRESENT

Emily Arneson, *Ombudsman & Accessibility Officer*
Dana Infalt, *Clerk of the Authority*
Monique Liard, *Chief Financial Officer*
Fred Nelson, *Interim Chief Operations Officer*
Karl Otterstrom, *Director of Planning & Development*
Brandon Rapez-Betty, *Director of Communications & Customer Service*
Nancy Williams, *Director of Human Resources & Labor Relations*

MEMBERS ABSENT

PROVIDING LEGAL COUNSEL

Laura McAloon, McAloon Law PLLC

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Haley called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and conducted roll call.

2. APPROVE COMMITTEE AGENDA

Mr. Grover moved to approve the agenda as presented, Mr. French seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

No comments.

4. COMMITTEE ACTION/DISCUSSION

a. March 10, 2021 Committee Minutes

Mr. Grover moved to approve the March 10, 2021, committee meeting minutes as submitted, Mr. French seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

5. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

a. Al French, Chair, Planning & Development (P&D)

The Committee discussed the selection of the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Division Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. Mr. Otterstrom and Ms. Liard gave reports on the 2022-2027 Transit Development Plan: 1) Planning Guidance; and, 2) Preliminary Revenue and Expenditure Forecast. Both reports will be presented at the April 15, 2021, Board of Directors meeting.

b. Chris Grover, Chair, Performance Monitoring & External Relations (PMER)

The Committee received an update on the Community Access Pass (CAP) Pilot Program, which has been very successful. The Committee discussed a proposal for a Regional Summer Youth Pass program using city and county libraries to distribute passes. The Committee agreed the program would be a benefit to the region as a pilot program this year to collect data and work with local jurisdictions on how a future program might be implemented. STA would fund the pilot program with savings from the Spokane Community College Transit Center that was completed under budget. If the Board approves a regional pilot program, the City of Spokane will be able to designate their summer youth pass funding for another transit purpose.

6. ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE

STA received an offer from Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) representatives to purchase surplus property located near Mission and Greene directly south of Spokane Community College (SCC). The parcels are approximately 5.95 acres with a purchase price of \$478,000. The price of the property is reflective of current market pricing based on location and condition. After completion of the North Spokane Corridor, STA will have the right of first refusal for an adjacent 5.4 acres bringing the total property acquisition to 11.8 acres. Staff sees value in the surplus property in affording various options of future use given the site's proximity to SCC and STA's expansion through *STA Moving Forward* and beyond demanding a broader footprint.

The site is contained in the Washington State Department of Ecology's hazardous sites listing. Since the parcels would be used in a light industrial capacity for transit purposes, per WAC 173-340-745, the level of site clean-up required is less rigorous than in residential applications. Mr. French suggested it may be a good location for a transit oriented development rather than light industrial. Specific use of the property will be considered during STA's update of the Facilities Master Plan.

Mr. Grover moved to recommend the Board approve, by resolution, the acquisition of two parcels, no. 35155.3901 and no. 35152.3902, along Mission Avenue to Thor Court, owned by the Washington State Department of Transportation in the amount of \$478,000, and authorize the CEO to execute the necessary documents on behalf of Spokane Transit Authority. Mr. French seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

7. BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA APRIL 15, 2021

The Committee reviewed an amended agenda. The Regional Summer Youth Pass Proposal was moved to Board Action.

Mr. Grover moved to approve the Board of Directors agenda as amended, Ms. Stratton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

8. BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE DRAFT AGENDA MAY 12, 2021

Mr. Grover moved to approve the draft Board Operations Committee agenda as presented, Ms. Stratton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

9. CEO REPORT

The Washington State House and Senate Transportation Committees have each released plans for sixteen-year Revenue packages. The Senate plan, Forward Washington, is \$18 billion. The House plan, Miles Ahead Washington, is \$22.3 billion. Both plans include \$50 million for the Division Street Bus Rapid Transit project.

STA is celebrating its 40 year anniversary. To mark the occasion, STA brought back a classic bus livery design to pay homage to our history. The vintage design was recreated digitally using historical photos and one bus was transformed by STA's body shop. The vintage livery bus will run on STA bus routes through 2021.

10. NEW BUSINESS

None.

11. ADJOURN

With no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Haley adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Roberson
Executive Assistant to the Chief Financial Officer