

## KITSAP TRANSIT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

### MINUTES OF JUNE 7, 2022

#### **Board of Commissioners Present:**

Deets, Joe, Council Member, City of Bainbridge Island  
Erickson, Becky, Mayor, City of Poulsbo, **Vice Chair**  
Fuller, Mark, Teamsters Local No. 589, *non-voting member*  
Garrido, Charlotte, Kitsap County Commissioner  
Gelder, Robert, Kitsap County Commissioner  
Mockler, Anna, Council Member, City of Bremerton  
Puttaansuu, Robert, Mayor, City of Port Orchard  
Schneider, Leslie, Mayor, City of Bainbridge Island  
Wheeler, Greg, Mayor, City of Bremerton  
Wolfe, Edward, Kitsap County Commissioner, **Chair**

#### **Staff Present:**

Sanjay Bhatt, Marketing Director; Michael Bozarth, Operations Director; Jill Boltz, Clerk of the Board; John Clauson, Executive Director; Steffani Lillie, Service & Capital Development Director; Mary Pauly, Human Resources Director; Charlotte Sampson, Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk of the Board; Ray Scott, Marine Services Director; Paul Shinnars, Finance Director.

**Also Present:** David Weibel, Legal Counsel

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Wolfe called the meeting of the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners to order at 8:30 AM.

Clerk of the Board Boltz shared the following opening statement: This meeting of the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners is being held virtually in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. In addition to the numerous resources provided for the public to listen, view and provide comment for this meeting, in-person attendance for the public is now available. The meeting will also be recorded and available for viewing at the public's convenience on the Kitsap Transit website or through Bremerton Kitsap ACCESS Television. This information was provided to the public through regular distribution of the agenda, posting on Kitsap Transit's website and Rider Alert.

The public was invited to submit written comments to be included in the record by 4:00PM on June 6, 2022, to myself, Jill Boltz, Clerk of the Board. No comments were received. The Board will also take comments from the public at the designated time on the agenda. When called upon, please state your name for the record and you will have (3) three minutes to address the Board.

#### **2. AGENDA REVIEW**

None.

### 3. CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

None.

### 4. CONSENT/ACTION ITEMS

- a. Warrants for April 2022
  - Warrant numbers transit fund 160437 to 160716 in the amount of \$1,571,383
  - Warrant numbers ferry fund 604939 to 605050 in the amount of \$1,990,876
  - Payroll transfer in the amount of \$1,988,440 \$1,995,566
  - ACH clearing account payments in the amount of \$41,422
  - Travel Advances of \$5,267
- b. Minutes of May 3, 2022 Board Meeting

Executive Director Clauson pointed out the scrivener's error in payroll transfers. The correct amount is \$1,995,566.

**Commissioner Putaansuu moved and Commissioner Deets seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the correction of the scrivener's error in payroll transfer. Discussion: None. Motion passed unanimously.**

### 5. FULL DISCUSSION /ACTION ITEMS:

- a. *Presentation: Long Range Transit Plan*

Transportation and Land Use Planner Edward Coviello introduced James Gamez and Joe Poirier, Nelson\Nygaard. Coviello spoke to the extensive public outreach and the public and customer comments that will be shared in the presentation.

Gamez provided an overview of the Long-Range Transit Plan (LRTP), project timeline, community survey results and feedback from respondents, and LRTP scenarios presented to the public with associated revenue impacts. The service investments will also require associated capital projects including facilities, bus-stop improvements, mobility hubs, and speed, reliability, and technology improvements. Coviello asked the Board for comments and input prior to final board review and adoption in the Fall.

Executive Director Clauson acknowledged Gamez, Poirier and KT staff for work on the plan and thanked everyone for the process and outcome. Clauson reiterated the need for Board comments either now or by contacting staff later for incorporation into the plan.

Commissioner Deets asked if there was any indication as to expansion of routes for various areas. Gamez stated there were some open-ended comments about additional routes and noted that all the survey responses and open-ended comments will be provided.



Commissioner Mockler asked about the definition of high-capacity transit (HCT). Coviello explained that in the Puget Sound area specifically, the light rail in Seattle would be an example of HCT. The service runs over 16 hours per day, holds hundreds of people per train and offers 15-minute frequency. For Kitsap, it would be bus rapid transit, which would mimic light rail stops with frequency and level/ADA boarding, etc. From a planning perspective, Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) is using the definition of HCT to steer employment and population growth toward HCT lines. The three planning areas in Kitsap County are Poulsbo to Bainbridge (SR305), Silverdale to Bremerton (SR303), and Port Orchard Ferry Terminal via Bethel Avenue. As the comprehensive planning cycle begins, it will be necessary to look at these corridors and zone accordingly.

Mockler noted the survey showed the greatest interest was in modest investment and asked if the question was posed prior to knowing how much the sales tax increase would be. Gamez stated yes, more information was provided as the survey progressed.

Mockler asked if the break down in interest (greatest to least) was by also broken down by geography. Gamez stated it was broken down and can be provided at a later date.

Commissioner Erickson stated a lot of time has been spent at PSRC and watching Sound Transit spend hundred of millions of dollars on right-of-way acquisition for future capacity. The hope is that the KT Board would have a conversation about the high-capacity lines as outlined and the future for transit and mobility along those lines. There needs to be foresight and an analysis of right-of-way.

*b. Presentation: Federal Funding Methodology Distribution Update*

Executive Director Clauson introduced Josh Brown, Executive Director of Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), who will be presenting the process and formulas used for distribution of federal funding, which is also a planned discussion at PSRC level.

- Federal funding accounts for 10 percent of revenue sources for transit agencies.
- Federal Transit Administration (FTA) vs Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) dollars.
- Funding distribution in Seattle-Tacoma-Everett UZA by transit agency.
  - Questions have arisen on whether the process for dividing the funding in the Seattle urbanized area is fair, equitable and balanced.
  - Questions on the fairness in using the earned share methodology for the \$2 billion in federal direct funding allocation.
- Next steps include briefing PSRC Transportation Policy Board.

Clauson thanked Brown for the presentation and reiterated this will be a discussion item at PSRC with potential creation of a work group and asked Commissioner Erickson, as the PSRC Vice President, to share any comments.

Commissioner Erickson stated that some organizations feel they have not received a fair share of the federal dollars primarily due to a lack of understanding on how the numbers are calculated.

Commissioner Putaansuu asked for confirmation that this will not affect Bremerton UZA funding. Brown confirmed that Kitsap Transit is the only agency eligible, and it is anticipated the \$1.2 million (2021) will grow due to the expansion of the fast ferry program.

*c. Resolution No. 22-35, Worker/Driver Replacement Contract*

Executive Director Clauson explained this Resolution approves the collective bargaining agreement for Worker/Driver program represented by the Teamsters. Clauson extended thanks to our staff as well as Teamsters Local 589 for beginning the process early and working on and reaching a tentative agreement prior to the contract expiration. This is a three-year agreement with 4.5 percent wage increase the first year and wage reopeners the next two. Clauson clarified there is a scrivener's error in the Resolution; the three-year term should be May 16, 2022, through May 15, 2025.

**Commissioner Putaansuu moved and Commissioner Garrido seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-35, approving the replacement contract for Worker/Drivers, effective May 16, 2022 reflecting scrivener's error in term of contract. Discussion: None. Motion passed unanimously.**

*d. Resolution No. 22-36, Bid Award – M/V Lady Swift Engine Removal & Rebuild*

Executive Director Clauson explained this Resolution is requesting permission to award a contract to Pacific Fishermen Shipyard, LLC for the Lady Swift engine rebuild.

**Commissioner Putaansuu moved and Commissioner Deets seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-36, authorizing staff to contract with Pacific Fishermen Shipyard and Electric for the replacement and rebuilding of the main engines on the M/V Lady Swift in the amount of four hundred forty four thousand nine hundred fifty nine dollars (\$444,959).**

**Discussion: Gelder questioned the redundancy and back up for this particular vessel. Clauson stated this process will use engines currently in our inventory. When the engines come out of the of the Lady Swift, they will be rebuilt and will be put in the warehouse.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

*a. Resolution No. 22-37, Designating June 2022 as Ride Transit Month*

Executive Director Clauson explained this Resolution designates June as Ride Transit Month, a program developed by Transportation Choices Coalition.

**Commissioner Gelder moved and Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-37, designating June 2022 as Ride Transit Month and encouraging**



**localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other entities, along with the people of Kitsap County, to observe Ride Transit Month and promote public transportation.**

**Discussion: Mockler stated this is a fantastic idea and asked if this the first time this has been launched. Clauson stated he believes this is the first event through Transportation Choices. Mockler asked if there will be any collection of data to determine if there is an increase in ridership. Clauson stated he was not certain, but it is more of an encouragement to the community to take advantage of public transit this month.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ITEMS**

Executive Director Clauson gave an update on the following:

- National Safety Council has selected one of our operators, Val Quill, as recipient of 2022 Joseph M. Kaplan Safe Driver of the Year Award for the Pacific Region. Quill will be recognized at national event in San Diego, CA. Clauson stated he had an opportunity to talk with her last night to let her know about the award and attendance at the event.
- Fuel Stabilization Reserve Update – in response to Mayor Erickson's request for information on stabilization fund. The average is currently \$3/gallon. Finance Director Shinnars has done an estimate with average \$4.30 at the end of 2022. With the creation of the Fuel Stabilization account and the projection for the estimated average, there should still be a remaining balance at end of year.
- Ridership – starting to see increase in ridership. A quick calculation through April shows about 52 percent of ridership pre-Covid. Commissioner Putaansuu spoke to the ridership on KT's Southworth boat. Commissioner Erickson spoke to the potential for increased ridership with rising fuel costs.

## **6. PROGRESS REPORTS**

- a. Draft Financial Reports through April 2022
- b. Capital Work in Progress
- c. Fuel Costs Report through the end of May 2022

## **7. STAFF INFORMATION / EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

- a. May 2022 Report from KT Lobbyist
- b. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2022 System Performance Report
- c. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2022 Financial Report – Transit
- d. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2022 Financial Report – Ferry
- e. Recognizing the April Driver of the Month in Routed – Helen Henry
- f. Recognizing the April Driver of the Month in ACCESS – Robert Pilon
- g. Recognizing the April Worker/Driver of the Month – Jason Kehm

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comments.

## **10. GOOD OF THE ORDER**


Commissioner Mockler spoke to the increased ridership in Bremerton is due to Washington State Ferries (WSF) running a one boat service.

Commissioner Garrido asked Clauson to give great kudos to Val [Quill] from the Board.

## **11. CLOSED SESSION – Collective Bargaining, Pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a)**

**12. ADJOURN:** At 9:50AM Chairperson Wolfe adjourned the regular meeting. Board Members will reconvene into a Closed Session. No action will be taken.

**ADOPTED** by the Board of Commissioners of Kitsap Transit at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022.

  
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Edward Wolfe, Chairperson  
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Jill A. Boltz, MMC  
Clerk of the Board