

Minutes
Puget Sound Regional Council General Assembly
Thursday, May 31, 2018
The Sanctuary at The Mark Seattle
811 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104
Seattle, Washington

Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting of the General Assembly was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Executive Dave Somers, President. President Somers announced that a quorum was present. Attendance was determined by the signatures on the registration sheets, and registration check-in by staff, both included with the official copy of these minutes.

President Somers welcomed everyone to the 2018 Annual General Assembly. He introduced the following other members of PSRC's leadership: Pierce County Executive Bruce Dammeier, PSRC vice president and chair of the Operations Committee; Tacoma Councilmember Ryan Mello, chair of the Growth Management Policy Board; Redmond Councilmember Hank Margeson, vice chair of the Growth Management Policy Board; Seattle Councilmember Rob Johnson, chair of the Transportation Policy Board; Poulsbo Mayor Becky Erickson, vice chair of the Transportation Policy Board; Snohomish County Councilmember Terry Ryan, president of the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board; Pierce County Councilmember Connie Ladenburg, vice president of the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board; Redmond Mayor John Marchione, PSRC's immediate past president; and Josh Brown, PSRC's executive director.

Public Comments

The following people addressed the Assembly: Vic Bishop, David Goebel, Will Knedlik, Paul W. Locke, John Niles, Earnest Thompson, and Alex Tsimerman. Comments are on file with the official copy of these minutes.

President's Report

President Somers stated, "Thank you all for attending to focus on the work of the region and our roles at PSRC. It has been a good year, and we have another exciting year ahead of us. We all have lots of work to do in our cities and counties, but there are also things we really need to do together as a region. It's important that you are here today, and believe me, I know how hard it can be to get here. Given the diversity of our communities and our residents, it can sometimes be hard to find common ground. The region has a lot of work to do to prepare for the day when almost two million more people will be living here. The good news is that we are coming together to find solutions that will have a positive impact for generations.

"Over the next year, we need to update our VISION 2040 plan to get us ready for VISION 2050. The Growth Management Policy Board is starting discussions that will engage us over the next year. We need to look at where we've been and where we're headed. I would like to offer three examples of opportunities that are in front of us. First, the NMA – the new 757 or Middle of the Market Aircraft. Many here are helping to lead the charge to secure the next new Boeing jet for Washington state. That effort has brought together leaders from across the region and partners across the state. It is a good example of how we can work together to secure a better future and opportunity.

“Second, airports. After all necessary regulatory approvals, three national airlines will be providing new commercial jet service out of Paine Field in Everett. Major construction is underway at Sea-Tac and even more is on the way. We need to get ahead of this issue regionally, since our ability to grow is in many ways directly tied to our airports’ capacity. That’s why PSRC is leading a new regional aviation baseline study. That’s important to sustaining our competitive edge, keeping cargo moving and supporting manufacturing jobs all over the region. Of course, we must also understand the impacts of growth on our airport communities.

“And, third, our transportation network. The region’s transportation improvement program for the next four years includes over 600 active projects worth a combined \$37 billion. We have achieved this progress working together. That puts us ahead of our peers. However, the improvements can’t come soon enough for everyone here and the millions of people we represent. Later this year PSRC will add more projects to the transportation pipeline, selecting projects for \$525 million in federal funds. As the annual report highlights, we are a region under construction. And we will be more resilient because of it and our economy will benefit because of it.

“But we have many big challenges facing us that we need to get right, if we’re going to sustain our extraordinary quality of life and unparalleled natural environment. These challenges include a rising cost of living, adequate affordable housing, homelessness and the opioid epidemic.

“As we plan for growth, we must be realistic and look at the process from a regional perspective. Let me take just one example. We might make a compelling case for expanded growth in a particular part of the region and assign a certain number for growth. However, if there isn’t adequate affordable housing in that area, we will never reach our targets. We must take a hard look at what we’re doing as governments to make more affordable housing available. We cannot continue to have extraordinary growth if we don’t also have a significant improvement in the stock of affordable housing.

“We must work as a region to tackle these issues, with both our urban and rural areas contributing to the solutions. To help move Snohomish County forward on these issues, I held a VISION 2050 Summit for elected officials in the county. I think this is a good model for spurring collaboration across the region.

“We provided maps and gave our local elected officials a chance to go through real-time exercises in figuring out how we plan to grow. It was a great way to get everyone thinking about what we need to do for VISION 2050. I encourage others to try this model for kick-starting conversations. It is a great way to get local communities focused on the issue of growth. There’s a lot of work ahead - so let’s get started.”

Consent Agenda

Adoption of Minutes of PSRC Assembly Meeting held May 31, 2017

ACTION: It was moved and seconded to adopt the minutes of the Puget Sound Regional Council Assembly meeting held May 31, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Adoption of FY 2018-2019 Supplemental Biennial Budget and Work Program

Executive Bruce Dammeier, Vice President; Chair, Operations Committee, reported that the FY 2018-2019 Supplemental Biennial Budget and Work Program was developed by the Operations Committee and has had an in-depth review by the Transportation Policy Board, Growth Management Board, and Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board and

comes to the General Assembly today with a unanimous vote of support from the Executive Board.

He reported, "The proposed Supplemental Budget and Work Program reflects a steady-state budget with no change to overall revenues and expenditures for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019. The budget of \$27.5 million provides for continuing the excellent work we have come to expect from PSRC in the areas of Growth Management, Transportation, Data, Economic Development, and Administrative services.

"In the coming year, major activities will build on and enhance efforts carried forward from the current fiscal year. Our work will continue to focus on meeting mandates and providing essential services to members as illustrated in the Integrated Planning Timeline."

He stated that a lot of work goes into developing the budget and overseeing the ongoing financial management of the PSRC. He recognized members of the Operations Committee, noting that, "they show up bright and early for the Operations Committee on the days the Executive Board meets. And they do their homework in between meetings."

He stated, "The committee reviews and makes recommendations to the Executive Board on the budget and work program, and on contracts and other financial and personnel issues. These folks are key to keeping this agency running smoothly. They don't just rubber stamp what is presented to them. They ask tough questions to make sure the agency is making solid financial decisions."

He then provided a quick overview of the revenues and expenditures for the budget, noting that "for those of you who were here at last year's General Assembly, these charts will look a little familiar. There are minimal changes from the budget approved last year. We're in our second year of our two-year supplemental budget. It's a steady state budget that provides a clear path for carrying out the PSRC's regional planning mission.

"In regard to the revenues, of the \$27.5 million budget, 57 percent of the funds originate from Federal Grants, 4 percent of the funds originate from State Grants, 16 percent provide the match for the Federal and State grants, 21 percent represents carryover funds from the prior biennium, and 2 percent is anticipated funds.

"For expenses, the revenues support the following expenditures: 67 percent for salaries and benefits (which supports 69 employees); 14 percent to overhead which supports the internal operating costs like rent, and information technology; 8 percent to direct project costs and consultants/partners; 5 percent is encumbered; and 6 percent is reserved for contingency fund."

ACTION: It was moved and seconded to (1) adopt the Fiscal Years 2018-2019 Supplemental Biennial Budget and Work Program as recommended by the Executive Board and (2) adopt Resolution PSRC-A-2018-01 (Attachment A) authorizing the submittal of the adopted Fiscal Years 2018-2019 Supplemental Biennial Budget and Work Program to the appropriate federal and state funding agencies. The motion passed unanimously.

Adoption of the Regional Transportation Plan

Councilmember Rob Johnson, Chair, Transportation Policy Board, thanked members of the Transportation Policy Board for their work on the plan, which included a year and a half of extensive engagement, good discussion and consensus. He also thanked Mayor Becky

Erickson for chairing the Finance Working Group, which met for about nine months and helped form the plan's balanced financial strategy.

He commented, "Adopting the plan is how we keep federal transportation dollars flowing to the region. The plan supports one of the nation's most aggressive transportation improvement programs – our region's current four-year transportation improvement program supports over 600 projects worth a combined investment of \$37 billion. All the investments represented in the plan support the region's vision for growth over the next 20 years and sustaining a healthy environment and a strong economy.

"The plan also builds a more equitable transportation system – more choices are available to more people regardless of income or geography. The plan gets ahead on emerging issues such as technology and climate change. It anticipates the need for the region to look ahead amid great uncertainty in transportation – driven by technology and changes in how people move around the region.

"The plan sets up actions to better understand a future of vehicles that are connected, autonomous and cleaner – and the potential impacts to safety, the environment, lifestyles and our economy. The pace of change is something the region needs to watch closely so we can adjust the plan that take advantage of new developments – so that we can continue to move people and goods better as we grow."

ACTION: It was moved and seconded to (1) adopt the Regional Transportation Plan in accordance with Resolution No. PSRC-A-2018-02 (Attachment A), which describes the documents being adopted, gives the Executive Board authority to make minor future changes, and sets out the findings that support adoption of the plan; and (2) direct staff to prepare, reproduce, and distribute the Regional Transportation Plan document with any final minor corrections that may become necessary. The motion passed 99 percent.

Election of Officers – Report of the Nominating Committee

Mayor John Marchione, Immediate Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, stated that on April 27 the Nominating Committee had a conference call to discuss the PSRC 2018 Officers. The Nominating Committee included King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci, Pierce County Councilmember Doug Richardson, City of Poulsbo Mayor Becky Erickson, Kitsap County Commissioner Charlotte Garrido, City of Tacoma Mayor Victoria Woodards, Port of Tacoma Commissioner Dick Marzano, Snohomish County Councilmember Terry Ryan, and City of Everett Mayor Cassie Franklin.

He reported that the Nominating Committee recommends our officers be Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers as President and Pierce County Executive Bruce Dammeier as Vice President.

There were no nominations from the floor.

ACTION: It was moved and seconded to adopt the slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Panel Featuring Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan, Poulsbo Mayor Becky Erickson, Everett Mayor Cassie Franklin and Tacoma Mayor Victoria Woodards

President Dave Somers introduced the panel. Mayor Erickson moderated the panel and asked the following three questions to each mayor: (1) Each of you come from different places and

bring different priorities to your work. Tell us something about the priorities within each of your cities and how you see those priorities being impacted by working regionally. (2) This year the PSRC launched planning for the year 2050, when nearly two million more people are expected to be living in the region. When you look long term, to 2050, what are your hopes and dreams for your city and the region as a whole? (3) What are a few things the region needs to get right over the next few years to ensure a bright future for the whole region?

Other Business

There was no other business brought before the Assembly.

Adjourn -- The meeting adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

ADOPTED by the Assembly this 30th day of May, 2019.

Executive Dave Somers
President, Puget Sound Regional Council

ATTEST:

Josh Brown, Executive Director

(To listen to a recording of the meeting, please contact the PSRC Information Center at info@psrc.org; 206-464-7532.)