

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

FRIDAY

1:01 P.M.

April 20, 2017

PRESENT:

**Ron Smith, Sparks City Council Member, Chairman
Bob Lucey, Washoe County Commissioner, Vice Chairman
Paul McKenzie, Reno City Council Member
Marsha Berkbigler, Washoe County Commissioner
Neoma Jardon, Reno City Council Member**

**Lee G. Gibson, RTC Executive Director
Dale Ferguson, Legal Counsel
Rudy Malfabon, Director of NDOT (arrived at 1:12)**

The regular monthly meeting, held in the Chambers of the Washoe County Commission, 1001 E. 9th Street, Reno, Nevada, was called to order by Chairman Smith. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our country and the roll call, the Board conducted the following business:

INTRODUCTION OF BRIAN STEWART, RTC'S NEW DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

Executive Director Lee Gibson introduced Brian Stewart as the new Director of Engineering and provided some work history and background about him to the Board.

Item 1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Vice Chairman Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Jardon, which motion unanimously carried, Chairman Smith ordered that the agenda for this meeting be approved.

Item 2.1 PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Smith opened the meeting to public input and called on anyone wishing to speak on topics relevant to the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) that are not included in the current agenda.

Carlos Elizondo, local resident, submitted a request to speak but was not present when his name was called.

There being no one else wishing to speak, the Chair closed public input.

Item 2.2 *ADVISORY COMMITTEES SUMMARY REPORT*

On motion of Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Commissioner Berkbigler, which motion unanimously carried, Chairman Smith ordered that receipt of the monthly Summary Report for the Technical, Citizens Multimodal and Regional Road Impact Fee Advisory Committees be acknowledged..

Item 3 .1 thru 3.8 *CONSENT ITEMS*

Engineering

- 3.1 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Engineering Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.2 Acknowledge receipt of the SouthEast Connector monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*)**

Public Transportation/Operations

- 3.3 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Public Transportation/Operations Report (*For Possible Action*)**

Planning

- 3.4 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Planning Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)**

Procurement and Contracts

- 3.5 Authorize the Executive Director to award a five-year contract in an amount not to exceed \$521,830, to Crowe Horwath, LLP as Certified Auditor of Record for the RTC (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.6 Approve Amendment No. 2, in the amount of \$2,612,968, to the existing Professional Services Agreement (PSA) between the RTC and Nichols Consulting Engineers (NCE) for the Virginia Street RAPID Extension project; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the Amendment (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.7 Approve a Professional Service Agreement with Nichols Consulting Engineers (NCE) in an amount not-to-exceed \$290,601 for data collection, upload of Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) pavement condition data into local agency microPaver databases, and the update of the Regional Transportation Commission's (RTC's) Pavement Management System; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.8 Approve a two-year lease agreement with the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA) for their continued use of the office space at 1105 Terminal Way; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)**

On motion of Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that Consent Items 3.1 through 3.8 be approved.

Item 4.1 thru 4.3 DIRECTOR REPORTS

Item 4.1 RTC Executive Director Report

E.D. Lee Gibson briefed the commissioners on recent and upcoming RTC matters and events as follows:

He first mentioned that the RTC will be hosting a community workshop to discuss the final design segment of the Virginia Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) extension project.

On April 25th there would be a community open house at the Discovery Museum for public comment and input on the Draft 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan. Public comment on the plans will be accepted from April 24th to May 17th.

At the request of REMSA, the RTC and M/V Transportation had helped to shelter a small number of Tesla employees on a bus while a single barrel chemical spill was being cleaned up.

E.D. Gibson then mentioned that the RTC is hosting the annual APTA Bus and Paratransit Conference and Bus Roadeo being held at the GSR May 5-10. At the time of this meeting there were already over 600 registrants from all over the country.

Lastly, he provided a brief update on the status of three legislative bills the RTC is involved in (SB149, SB517 and SB448).

Item 4.2 RTC Federal Report

A detailed written update was provided this month's agenda packet and E.D. Gibson added the following comments:

The Whitehouse proposed \$17.9 billion in spending cuts, including 13% cut from the USDOT budget and elimination of funding for the TIGER program and for new projects for the US Capital Investment Grant Program. The RTC sent a letter to the Nevada delegation opposing these cuts and live up to the bipartisan agreement supporting the FAST ACT.

Infrastructure priorities are being explored and an expansion of the definition of infrastructure may include such things as broadband, energy and water. The funding is unclear at this time but it could come from tax reform with the repatriation of off-shore funds or an index of the federal gas tax similar to how it's being done in Washoe County.

Item 4.3 NDOT Director Report

Rudy Malfabon, Director of NDOT, addressed the Board to provide updates on the following:

He said that snowmelt has been a challenge for NDOT and they have been coordinating with irrigation districts and the release of flows to avoid flooding.

The Spaghetti Bowl meetings have been going well and have been picked up by local media.

The federal government is asking the states for suggestions on funding cut-backs.

There was a public meeting held pertaining to the Kietzke Lane project and there will be design modifications made due to concerns of business owners who attended that meeting. Most construction on the project will take place next year.

The safety light at the Bonanza Casino has been contracted out for installation.

A complete reconstruction of Glendale Avenue will begin this construction season following outreach efforts to residents and businesses.

Commissioner McKenzie asked specifically when Glendale will be started.

Dir. Malfabon responded that it should begin within a month.

Commissioner McKenzie then asked the status of a rush hour closure of Wells Ave.

Dir. Malfabon said that a variable speed project has begun for I-80 and comments and suggestions from the RTC are being taken into consideration, including a Wells Ave. rush hour closure. However, it will take a significant amount of outreach before something like that can be done.

Commissioner Jardon said that comments she heard at the NDOT public meeting on the Spaghetti Bowl mainly said that if we are going to redo the Spaghetti Bowl again, let's do it right this time. She also thinks the sound wall should be removed at the 80E to I580S ramp because it doesn't seem to be protecting anything and she isn't aware of any family dwellings located there. The wall does restrict visibility and creates shadowing on the road which keeps it icy during the winter months.

Vice Chairman Lucey asked Dir. Malfabon to please keep a widening of Geiger Grade on his list of projects. He would also like to see something done with the S. Virginia off-ramp by the In-n-Out because it backs up almost daily.

Commissioner Jardon asked if there will be a presentation given to the RTC Board on the Spaghetti Bowl project.

Dir. Malfabon said that his staff is waiting to collect all public comment before putting together a presentation, but there will be one eventually.

Commissioner Berkbigler asked if there will be an impact to the Spaghetti Bowl from the President's proposed budget.

Dir. Malfabon said he is not too concerned about that particular project funding.

Item 5.1 thru 5.2 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND OPERATIONS

5.1 Award a contract to Ride Right, LLC for six year years plus two, two-year options for the operations and maintenance of RTC ACCESS Paratransit Service; authorize the RTC Executive Director to negotiate and execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

Prior to the presentation, Chairman Smith opened the meeting to public comment on this agenda item.

Mr. Mark Weinstein, First Transit Area VP, addressed the Board to express his disappointment in the results of the RFP process. He believes First Transit has provided superior paratransit service and would appreciate learning more detail on the decision that was made so they will know how to address those details in the future.

Mr. Brian Balogh, VP of Transit with Ride Right, addressed the Board to say how proud they are to have been selected as the new paratransit provider. He believes they will be a good partner and have similar values to the RTC.

Ms. Cathy Brandhorst, addressed the Board to speak on matters of importance to herself.

Chairman Smith then closed public comment.

David Jickling, RTC Director of Public Transportation and Operations, addressed the Board to give a presentation on the Request for Proposal (RFP) processes used and the outcome of the RFP for paratransit service at the RTC.

He began with an overview of the ACCESS Paratransit service and customer needs, areas for improvement, RFP development objectives, and the FTA requirements to procure a new contract at the end of the current contract term.

Commissioner Jardon asked what the cost difference will be by adding the CNG and maintenance into the new agreement.

Stephanie Haddock, RTC Finance Director, responded that there will be a cost savings to the RTC of \$271,000 in direct expense and labor costs that the contractor will now incur.

Mr. Jickling then went on to discuss the public outreach that had been done as well as prior Board actions that had taken with respect to this RFP, and then he reviewed the evaluation criteria used in this procurement.

A total of seven proposals were received and were reviewed for RFP compliance. Of those, six proposals were deemed responsive and technically compliant for further review.

The six proposals were then evaluated by a seven-person committee which included five RTC staff and two social service agency representatives. Total scores based on the evaluation criteria left four proposals in the running. After interviews with the four remaining proposers, combined with individual bid pricing, each evaluator ranked the proposals individually and Ride Right came out with the highest ranking. Five out of seven reviewers put Ride Right, LLC in first place. It was noted that the bid pricing only accounted for 10% of the evaluation criteria.

On motion of Vice Chairman Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkbigler, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that the contract be awarded to Ride Right, LLC for six year years plus two, two-year options for the operations and maintenance of RTC ACCESS Paratransit Service and the RTC Executive Director be authorized to negotiate and execute the agreement.

5.2 Approve the September 2017 RIDE Service Change Recommendations (*For Possible Action*) (*Item pulled*)

At the request of RTC Legal Counsel Dale Ferguson, a motion was made by Commissioner Berkbigler to pull Item 5.2 because it should have been posted and advertised as a Public Hearing item and was not. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Lucey.

Item 6.1 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

6.1 Acknowledge receipt of the Draft 2040 Regional Transportation Plan and provide direction (*For Possible Action*)

Amy Cummings, RTC Director of Planning, addressed the Board to give a brief update on the contents of the Draft 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). She said the final touches will be put into the Plan based on comments made at this meeting before starting the required public comment period the following Monday. That comment period runs from April 24th through May 18th and then the final Plan will be brought back to the Board for adoption at the May Board meeting during a Public Hearing.

Ms. Cummings then reviewed the various elements of the RTP for the Board, adding that the updated Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan will be brought for approval in June.

Commissioner McKenzie mentioned that staff should be receiving a letter from Mayor Schieve containing several items that are not currently included in the plan, along with the reprioritization of some project that are currently in the plan.

Commissioner Jardon said she would like to see funds from some of the projects planned further out shuffled around to address the more immediate concerns about current road conditions

On motion of Vice Chairman Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Berkbigler, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that receipt of the Draft RTP be acknowledged.

Item 7.1 LEGAL REPORT

RTC Legal Counsel Dale Ferguson updated the Board on two active imminent domain cases. The first involved the 4th Street/Prater Way project and the Elmwood parcel located near the intersection of 4th Street and Evans. Elmwood has contested the RTC's occupancy, which was granted via summary judgment, and has now appealed to the Nevada Supreme Court. The Nevada Supreme Court had not ruled on the appeal at the time of this meeting. Elmwood also filed a motion to stay the order of occupancy and proceedings and the motion was granted by the District Court.

The second case involves the SouthEast Connector project and Bella Vista Ranch. Mr. Ferguson previously briefed the Board that Bella Vista Ranch had filed a motion for continuance and related issues concerning the valuation date for the appraisal. Counsel was able to reach a stipulation to continue the trial date but to keep the valuation date the same.

Mr. Ferguson then requested that a non-meeting legal briefing be held prior to the next Board meeting.

Item 8 PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Smith opened the meeting to public input and called on anyone wishing to speak on topics relevant to the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) that are not included in the current agenda.

Ms. Cathy Brandhorst, addressed the Board to speak on matters of importance to herself.

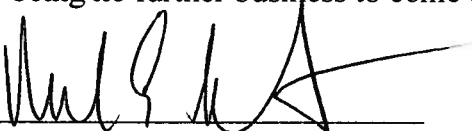
There being no one else wishing to speak, the Chair closed public input.

Item 11 MEMBER ITEMS

Vice Chairman Lucey asked for a future presentation on the RTC's pavement preservation program and a discussion on the Pyramid-395 Connector or other projects to see if funds allocated to the more distant projects can be reallocated to needed pavement preservation. These items will be brought to a future meeting.

Item 12 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:09 p.m.



RON SMITH, Chairman
Regional Transportation Commission