

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

**FRIDAY**

**9:02 A.M.**

**November 15, 2019**

**PRESENT:**

**Bob Lucey, Washoe County Commissioner, Chairman  
Neoma Jardon, Reno City Council Member, Vice Chair  
Vaughn Hartung, Washoe County Commissioner  
Oscar Delgado, Reno City Council Member  
Ron Smith, Sparks City Council Member**

**Lee G. Gibson, RTC Executive Director  
Dale Ferguson, Legal Counsel  
Kristina Swallow, Director of NDOT**

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

Chairman Lucey started the meeting by recognizing outgoing Executive Director Lee G. Gibson. He stressed how Lee has led the charge here at the RTC for the past ten years but has also been a leader in transportation across the state and at the federal level for decades.

E.D. Gibson then thanked numerous contractors, NDOT and Mayor Smith, who is currently the longest serving RTC commissioner. He went on to thank the prior board commissioners who voted to hire him 10 years ago. Then he acknowledged prior RTC executive director Greg Krause for setting the path to the success we've experienced. Lastly, he thanked several external partners, RTC staff members and his wife Maria.

Mayor Smith commended E.D. Gibson for everything he's brought to this organization and thanked him for his service.

Vice Chair Jardon said that she admired how E.D. Gibson always kept his cool, even in the most contentious situations, as well as his support for all of the out-of-the box suggestions made, such as Stuff a bus for Seniors and the pink bus for breast cancer.

Commissioner Hartung thanked E.D. Gibson for everything he's done for the community and especially the RTC, adding that he has always been more accessible than previous executive directors.

Commissioner Delgado said that even before he sat on our board, E.D. Gibson was always accessible to work with council members and others in the community; something he always appreciated. He added that the intellect and demeanor of the RTC staff and leadership is a testament to Lee's ability to lead others.

Chairman Lucey then presented E.D. Gibson with a crystal plaque, thanking Lee for his service.

E.D. Gibson then added his thanks to Denise Thompson, Jane Starke and the RTC director team.

## **RECOGNITION OF THE RTC BY THE NEVADA OSHA - SAFETY CONSULTATION AND TRAINING SECTION (SCATS) FOR THE NEVADA SAFE PARTNER AWARD**

Mr. Ray Fierro, Administrator for the Division of Industrial Relations, introduced Andy Giddings, Supervisor of the northern office of SCATS, and consultant Dave Murray, then presented a plaque for the Safe Partner Award and spoke in recognition of the RTC and Rob Reeder for partnering with SCATS and utilizing their services. This award is the first given for fiscal year 2020!

### ***Item 1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA***

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

### ***Item 2.1 PUBLIC INPUT***

Chairman Lucey 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.

Mr. John Locke, local resident, addressed the Board to say that he is a driver for RTC/Keolis and believes the schedule that is being put out is not at all passenger friendly. Drivers are only given one minute to load and unload a bus, there is just no sense in the schedule and it's making passengers very unhappy.

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

### ***Item 2.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEES SUMMARY REPORT***

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Mayor Smith, which motion unanimously carried, Chairman Lucey 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 3.11 CONSENT ITEMS***

#### ***Engineering***

**3.1 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Engineering Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)**

#### ***Public Transportation/Operations***

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

#### ***Planning***

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

*Administration*

- 3.4 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Procurement Activity Report *(For Possible Action)*
- 3.5 Adopt a resolution requesting the Washoe County Board of Commissioners to issue revenue refunding bonds in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$75 million and providing other matters properly related thereto *(For Possible Action)*

*Procurement and Contracts*

- 3.6 Approve a contract with NextBus in an amount not to exceed \$93,555 to upgrade the RTC RIDE onboard Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) trackers from 3G to 4G; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement *(For Possible Action)*
- 3.7 Approve Change Order (CO) No. 01, for the reimbursable “enhancement” scope identified in the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between RTC and the City of Reno, increasing the total contract amount of the agreement with Sierra Nevada Construction for construction of the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension Project, between Plumb to Liberty & Maple to 15<sup>th</sup>, by \$222,600, for a new total contract amount of \$47,445,552; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute CO No. 01 *(For Possible Action)*
- 3.8 Approve Change Order (CO) No. 02, for RTC directed changes to concrete sidewalk scope on side streets within the project corridor, increasing the total contract amount of the agreement with Sierra Nevada Construction for construction of the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension Project, between Plumb to Liberty & Maple to 15<sup>th</sup>, by \$4,718, for a new total contract amount of \$47,450,270; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute CO No. 02 *(For Possible Action)*
- 3.9 Approve Change Order (CO) No. 03, for RTC directed changes to the traffic information and operation systems on the project, increasing the total contract amount of the agreement with Sierra Nevada Construction for construction of the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension Project, between Plumb to Liberty & Maple to 15<sup>th</sup>, by \$83,340, for a new total contract amount of \$47,533,610; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute CO No. 03 *(For Possible Action)*
- 3.10 Approve Change Order (CO) No. 04 for TMWA requested water line improvements, increasing the total contract amount of the agreement with Sierra Nevada Construction for construction of the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension Project, between Plumb to Liberty & Maple to 15<sup>th</sup>, by \$342,109, for a new total contract amount of \$47,875,719; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute CO No. 04 *(For Possible Action)*
- 3.11 Approve an Administrative Settlement of \$140,000 above the just compensation amount of \$1,820,000, representing a total settlement offer of \$1,960,000 for the full fee simple acquisition of the parcel known as APN 007-183-19 with HOTSHOTS Incorporated, necessary to construct the Virginia Street Bus Rapid Transit Extension Project. This Administrative Settlement shall be contingent upon the execution and delivery by HOTSHOTS Incorporated of all documents necessary to close escrow *(For Possible Action)*

On motion of Mayor Smith, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered that Consent Items 3.1 through 3.11 be approved.

## ***Item 4.1 thru 4.3 DIRECTOR REPORTS***

### **Item 4.1 RTC Executive Director Report**

RTC Executive Director (E.D.) Lee Gibson spoke briefly on the following topics, some of which were upcoming at the time of this meeting:

1. He gave a FlexRIDE Microtransit update, saying that the first week of the project far exceeded expectations. The plan was to start with two vehicles and one back-up and a goal to get 100 rides per day after the third month and 200 by the end of the sixth month. Instead, there was an average of 93 passengers after the first week with a high of 159 passengers that Wednesday. Route 25 when it was being fully run, was averaging between 50 and 60 passengers per day. We are also averaging approx. half the cost of fixed route.
2. The RTC will receive a Double Decker Bus next week and will conduct training with bus operators for a week. This is in preparation for a demonstration of the double decker bus.

On Tuesday, November 26, the media will be invited to view and ride the bus in advance of the public demonstration, which is planned to begin on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and will continue for approximately three weeks. The bus will operate on various routes and will be free to transit riders.

Specific details will be announced closer to the start date through traditional media channels and our social media pages.

3. On December 12<sup>th</sup>, the RTC will host the first community meeting and open house for the Arlington Avenue Bridges Project, to be held at the McKinley Arts and Culture Center from 5 pm to 7 pm.

A presentation will be held at 5:30 pm, which will also be live streamed on our Facebook page, to share information, answer questions and listen to ideas about the possible replacement of the two Arlington Avenue Bridges in downtown Reno as we begin the feasibility study.

Information about the project was shared with the Reno City Council this week and will include a broad and extensive community outreach effort. Information about the project will be available at [www.rtcwashoe.com](http://www.rtcwashoe.com).

4. Also on December 12<sup>th</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual STUFF A BUS holiday food drive will be held at Sam's Club at 4835 Kietzke Lane in south Reno from 10 am to 7 pm.

We encourage the public to donate non-perishable food items, such as canned foods, peanut butter, cereal and oatmeal, canned fruits and vegetables, juice boxes, kid-friendly snacks like granola bars, popcorn, animal crackers, and baby products such as formula, infant cereal and baby food.

All donations collected will be given to the Food Bank of Northern Nevada.

5. On October 31<sup>st</sup>, the RTC joined Councilman Delgado, the Reno Police Department and others at Traner Middle School for a safety assembly with the students.

Safety tips were shared with the students on how to be safe walking or riding to school, using crosswalks and to be seen at night using light colored clothing and lights or flashers on their person and bikes.

In light of recent crashes involving two students at Traner, Councilman Delgado is working with the school and the neighborhood to bring attention to the importance of pedestrian safety. The RTC is supporting Councilman Delgado in this effort.

6. There was recently a misspelling of a street sign on the Virginia Street Project. RTC's project team took the opportunity to seize the moment and encourage the public to visit Midtown and support businesses within the construction zone.

#### **Item 4.2 RTC Federal Report**

A written update is available in the staff report materials for this item and Chairman Lucey also introduced Ms. Anja Graves, Partner of Cardinal Infrastructure, and Congressman John Porter (ret.), President and CEO of Porter Group LLC, who gave the update for this month.

Ms. Graves began by reminding everyone that the RTC of Washoe County was one of only ten entities in the entire country who received funds from the FTA Capital Investment Grant Program (\$40 million for the Virginia Street BRT Extension Project). The USDOT Build Grant allocations were just announced and no funds were granted to Nevada.

She continued with updates on the federal budget and continuing resolutions related to that. Also, the boarder wall and impeachment proceedings are causing issues with the appropriations process in Washington. A bill was proposed that includes a rescission of approx. \$7 billion dollars nationwide and would reduce funding for highway projects. There are many people in Washington, including the RTC's delegation, who are trying to make sure the rescission is removed from any final bill before approval. However, if it does go through, it could pose as a huge imposition on the state and the RTCs.

Ms. Graves finished up, saying that it has been an both honor and a challenge working with E.D. Gibson, but always rewarding. She added that Lee and his team have delivered almost a billion dollars in projects during his tenure.

Congressman Porter then addressed the Board and said he has known E.D. Gibson for about 30 years and it has been an honor on a personal and professional level. He went on to say that E.D. Gibson is one of the few people who has a depth of knowledge and a unique instinct to understand the community, but also an ability to understand the political process, and many representatives in Washington have great respect for him.

Next, Congressman Porter touched on the ongoing impeachment, saying that most rank and file members of the Senate and Congress are trying to get business done. This is a good time to meet with delegation members because they are looking for positive initiatives and projects to bring attention to.

He then offered to answer any questions and there were none.

#### **Item 4.3 NDOT Director Report**

NDOT Director Kristina Swallow started by saying that should the rescission not be repealed, the state is looking at a \$105 million dollar impact, which is roughly 1/3 of NDOT's federal funding. If that happens, projects will continue, but they may be delayed.

Dir. Swallow went on with her usual report, saying that 215 people were lost to accidents in October, which is 74 less than in October 2018, so it is tracking better, but still too many deaths. She reminded everyone to be careful with it getting dark earlier now. As a pedestrian, be seen with lighting, reflection tape, etc., and drivers need to be especially cautious. A click-it or ticket program will begin Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> and run through the holidays to encourage seatbelt use.

The Spaghetti Bowl Express project updates will occur when there is something to report, so may not be every month. With that said, everything with the project is continuing on schedule and approval was received from the US Army Corps of Engineers for work around the Truckee River. Also, an unsolicited proposal was received in September to deliver the project via design-build, so that is the primary agenda item on the Transportation Board Meeting the 18<sup>th</sup>. The options will include accepting the proposal and proceed with a sole source procurement; competitively bid the proposal; or reject the proposal and continue on as they have with the design-build.

Avalanche control inspections have all come back clear with the exception of some minor issues such as carpentry, addressing airflow through a building.

I-80 west of Reno has been completely repaved for the first time since 2003 and barrier rail improvements were added and they also began working on the installation of a new wrong-way driver detection system. Rumble strips were also upgraded to a new standard to help with noise issues.

Dir. Swallow then said her staff plans to bring a presentation in January on the driver warning flasher system that Commissioner Hartung has asked about.

The No Engine Breaking sign has been replaced with the correct spelling of Braking.

The Do Not Block sign and striping at Edmonton and Pyramid should be done right around January or so.

NDOT staff met with the RTC to discuss both the McCarran and Mt. Rose corridor studies, amongst others, and offered to give RTC the funding to do a full corridor study of McCarran, but focusing on the northern quadrants.

NDOT will be leading the Mt. Rose study and will include the full corridor, including east of I-580 to the round-a-bout. Interim improvements are also being considered, such as installing a raised median.

The Parr/Dandini bridge impacts during replacement will be given instruction on a marathon tear-down over a weekend and then construction during the night with consideration for safety as well.

Dir. Swallow then wished E.D. Gibson all the best and has enjoyed working with him.

Vice Chair Jardon asked for an update on the potential to have a school zone installed on Plumb Street, in front of Wooster H.S.

Dir. Swallow said a report will be brought in December because she didn't have all the information in time for this meeting.

Commissioner Hartung thanked Dir. Swallow for looking into the advance warning system but added that the drivers in that area are very confused by the different flashes used. He also thanked the director for using his Spaghetti Bowl photo in her presentation. Lastly, he asked for some kind of information to be provided on what the Spaghetti Bowl project will eventually look like when it's done, what kind of property will need to be taken, etc.

Chairman Lucey said many of the rural roads in his district are still NDOT roads, such as Huffaker Lane, Holcomb Ranch Road, etc., and NDOT has been out doing pavement preservation and repairs, but there have been problems with the contractor leaving a lot of clean-up to be done.

### ***Items 5.1 thru 5.3 Engineering***

#### **5.1 Acknowledge receipt of the Virginia Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Extension monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*)**

Mr. Jeff Wilbrecht, RTC Project Manager, addressed the Board to provide a brief presentation update on the project. He said that two-way traffic will be returned on Virginia Street between Plumb Lane and Mt. Rose Street which will facilitate detours while the project moves northward. Most of the west side of the road has been completed between Mt. Rose and Center Street and now work will begin on the sidewalks on the east side, between Holcomb and Center Street. The round-a-bout work should begin in mid-January, weather pending. Work has begun on some of the transit stations and on the N. Virginia portion of the project. Overall, the project is progressing really well and almost \$14 million of construction work has been completed in the Midtown portion of the project.

*(A full copy of this presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson - [dthompson@rtcwashoe.com](mailto:dthompson@rtcwashoe.com))*

Vice Chair Jardon said the business owners are loving the new sidewalks that have opened up and the City of Reno is very happy with what's happened with the project.

Chairman Lucey said that he is very happy with the product so far and gave credit to the project team.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Mayor Smith, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged.

**5.2 Acknowledge receipt of the Lemmon Drive monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*)**

Mr. Dale Keller, RTC Project Manager, addressed the Board to give a brief presentation update on the project. He said that the project is just kicking off with exploratory work looking at roadway conditions. This project is divided into two distinct segments. Segment one is from US 395 up to Military Road where it will go from four lanes to six lanes and to improve multi-modal use ability. The second segment is from Fleetwood Drive to Chickadee Drive which will include safety improvements and operation mobility for future growth. The design for both segments will happen concurrently and final design of segment one should be complete toward the end of 2020, with construction planned in 2021, dependent on funding. Segment two will depend on the mitigation of Swan Lake as to how it will be built. Upon conclusion, Mr. Keller offered to answer questions.

Commissioner Hartung likes the idea of elevating the shared use path. He also believes the project should go all the way to Ramsey.

*(A full copy of this presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson - [dthompson@rtcwashoe.com](mailto:dthompson@rtcwashoe.com))*

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Vice Chair Jardon, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged.

**5.3 Receive a report on the speed limit on Veterans Parkway/Southeast Connector (*No Action Required*)**

Mr. Brian Stewart, RTC Director of Engineering, addressed the Board to provide a quick presentation on this item. The 45 mph posted speed limit was determined during the final design process and working with the local jurisdictions. Considerations were as follow:

- Designated Design Speed
- Consistency of Veteran's Parkway from Geiger Grade to Greg Street
- 10 MPH Safety Factor
- Future Development(20 Year Design)
- Community concerns during design – noise, truck traffic, wildlife, no corridor lighting

A speed study was recently conducted which found the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile to be above 55 mph. The RTC does not enforce or change the speed limits, so will work with the local jurisdictions to provide this report and the speed study so they can make the appropriate decisions. He then offered to answer questions.



Mayor Smith said he had sent letters to several leaders in the region requesting they all raise their speed limit to 55 mph and the City of Sparks would like to raise the bridge speed from 40-45 mph. He added that when the new housing development is completed, the speed limit in that area can be again reduced to 45 mph if desired.

Commissioner Delgado said his constituents have a concern about the speed limit in the residential areas and would actually like to lower the speed limit in those areas.

Vice Chair Jardon asked if the speed study was done at only one point on the road or in multiple locations.

Mr. Stewart responded that the study was done in three different locations and the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile was above 55 mph in all of them. The average was 58-59 mph.

Vice Chair Jardon, Chairman Lucey and Commissioner Hartung agree with Commissioner Delgado that the residential areas may need to have the current speed limit lowered for safety concerns.

*(A full copy of this presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson - [dthompson@rtcwashoe.com](mailto:dthompson@rtcwashoe.com))*

No action was taken on this item.

A motion was then made by Commissioner Hartung to move Items 7.1 and 7.2 up to precede Item 6.1. The motion was seconded by Mayor Smith and carried unanimously.

**7.1 Discussion and possible action to appoint Amy Cummings as the Executive Director or Interim Executive Director; adjust compensation and provide direction on negotiation of contract terms and/or implementation of recruitment options (For Possible Action)**

E.D. Gibson reminded the commissioners that his last day is December 6<sup>th</sup> and during the last several years the Board has directed him to initiate and continue an agency-wide workforce development and succession plan. There have been multiple successes since that plan was put into place, including the appointment of Ms. Amy Cummings as the Deputy Executive Director. He then reviewed Ms. Cummings numerous accomplishments during her tenure at the RTC. He recommends Ms. Cummings be appointed as the new Executive Director but understands it is at the Board's discretion. He said that whether Ms. Cummings is appointed the interim executive director or the executive director, he felt it important to include her background information, which is included in the briefing materials for this agenda item.

Chairman Lucey said the commissioners would partake in a conversation on the options that were provided in the staff report.

The Chairman started off saying that Ms. Cummings has done a phenomenal job at the RTC and can do a great job as the interim executive director; however, he also believes that this is a perfect opportunity for everyone to compete and would be unjust to not have an open recruitment that includes Ms. Cummings.

He would like to appoint Ms. Cummings as the interim executive director and immediately begin proceedings of recruitment and identifying a process for the hiring of the next executive director.

Mayor Smith said he is the one who had asked to have an item on the agenda appointing Ms. Cummings as the next executive director because of the successes he's seen from both Lee and Amy have during his tenure on the commission. Prior to their hiring, there were many issues within the agency and communication with the commissioners was not good at all. He added that he has seen Ms. Cummings deliver a special presence at public meetings that conveys a positive and caring image and a willingness to listen, she engages and works with citizens to find a solution when needed. He would like to continue on the path E.D. Gibson has set, which is why he would like to see Ms. Cummings appointed as the executive director.

He added that if she is appointed and a contract is brought back in December, but she doesn't perform the way the commission likes, she can be terminated within 30 days. He doesn't want to waste taxpayer money on a full recruitment when a perfectly qualified candidate is already here with a great track record. He then proposed an alternative to appoint Ms. Cummings for a one-year term and then if she is not doing the job to the commission's satisfaction, a recruitment should begin.

Commissioner Hartung reminded everyone that E.D. Gibson was not the interim when he was hired; the interim, Derek Morse, did apply but did not get the job. He would like to appoint Ms. Cummings as the interim and open a recruitment. He believes that the commission should have also been involved in the decision to promote Ms. Cummings to the deputy executive director.

Vice Chair Jardon said she does not think anyone on the commission wants to have someone come in and "reinvent the wheel" at the RTC. She then commended the staff on their experience and tenure. She would like to see a competitive, open and transparent recruitment, which is the best practice. The Vice Chair also said her comments are not reflective of anything against Ms. Cummings or anyone else, and an open recruitment would help to avoid any potential cloud over the RTC. She would like to see Ms. Cummings appointed as the interim and hold a recruitment. She is open to discussion on the type of recruitment.

Commissioner Delgado complimented Ms. Cummings but added that he agrees with his colleagues that a competitive recruitment process would be the best, with Ms. Cummings being appointed as the interim.

Chairman Lucey said that he disagrees with Mayor Smith and because the executive director is an employee of the Board, he would like the opportunity to hold a clear and transparent recruitment for the selection of their next employee.

Mayor Smith said he felt both Commissioner Hartung and Chairman Lucey were being disingenuous with their comments about not being part of the decision to promote Ms. Cummings as the deputy executive director because she's been in the position for a year and they've never said a word about it. He added that he's always been an advocate to save money on a search and hire within so that money can be better spent on training.

The Chairman said he was now looking for a motion on what the Board would like to do with regards to the interim or executive director as it pertains to Ms. Cummings.

Vice Chair Jardon made a motion that Amy Cummings be appointed as the Interim Executive Director and for staff to bring an agenda item in December authorizing a recruitment.

Commissioner Hartung seconded the motion for discussion. He read the recommendation of Item 7.1 and believes a discussion can occur at this time pertaining to recruitment options.

E.D. Gibson said that some items may need to come back, such as a revised job description and a possible discussion about using a recruiter and, if so, how much does the Board want to spend, etc.

Vice Chair Jardon then asked legal counsel for the cleanest way to take as much action and give staff as much direction as is possible today.

Chief Legal Counsel Dale Ferguson provided suggested wording to revise the Vice Chair's motion.

Vice Chair Jardon then retracted her original motion and made a new motion to appoint Amy Cummings as the interim executive director until a permanent executive director is selected.

Commissioner Hartung seconded the motion again for purposes of discussion because he's unclear about the recommendations of Items 7.1 and 7.2 the way they are stylized.

Chairman Lucey said that if this motion carries, the commissioners will then go into Item 7.2 and have a further discussion about the details of the recruitment process.

The motion then carried unanimously and Ms. Cummings is now the interim executive director.

For clarification, Vice Chair Jardon then modified her recommendation to appoint Amy Cummings as the interim executive director upon the departure of E.D. Gibson up until a permanent executive director is selected.

Commissioner Hartung then noted that part of the recommendation was to adjust compensation and that was not done.

Ms. Reich then said that in a situation such as this, and in the same manner as Washoe County, a 10% increase is provided.

Commissioner Hartung then made a motion to provide a 10% compensation increase during Ms. Cummings tenure as the interim. The motion was seconded by Mayor Smith and carried unanimously.

## **7.2 Discussion and possible action pertaining to any appointment and/or recruitment necessary to fill the vacated position of Executive Director (*For Possible Action*)**

Chairman Lucey believes it is important that the RTC is run by someone who has the capacity and wherewithal to lead the organization into the future. He then asked Ms. Angela Reich, RTC Director of Administrative Services, to provide all possibilities of what that recruitment might look like.

Ms. Reich addressed the Board and referred to the slide in her presentation containing the options as she sees them. She first stated that the Board needs to decide if they want to hire an outside recruitment firm, keep the recruitment in-house, or another option if desired. Based on that decision, these are the items for consideration:

- **Identification of qualifications and characteristics**
  - Use or modify current job description
- **Advertisement**
  - Timeline – How long open
    - What items applicants are required to submit (application/resume/cover letter)
- **Screening**
  - Matching applicant backgrounds with requirements of the position
- **Initial Interview Panel and Scoring Parameters**
  - Who will determine panel
  - Recommend top 3 candidates to interview with RTC Board
- **RTC Board Interview, appointment and contract negotiation**

Chairman Lucey said that this position will require someone who knows the issues pertaining to federal, state and local/regional government with regard to funding for roads and transit. He would like to have Ms. Reich do the recruitment and post in the relevant association publications. He would like to get a process in place by the first of the new year.

Commissioner Hartung said we do not need to hire a national search firm and Ms. Reich should handle it and bring the most qualified applicants back to the Board for final interview and selection.

Vice Chair Jardon doesn't want the job publication to be posted for more than 30 days and then made a motion.

On motion of Vice Chair Jardon, seconded by Mayor Smith, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered that Administrative Services Director Angela Reich work with Chairman Lucey to compile and distribute advertising materials as soon as possible and bring a recruiting plan to the December 20, 2019, RTC Board meeting.

**Item 6.1 thru 6.2 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)**

**6.1 Approve public and agency outreach process and schedule for development of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (For Possible Action)**

Ms. Amy Cummings, RTC Deputy Executive Director and Director of Planning, addressed the Board and said she looks forward to working with them as the interim executive director, then explained the purpose for her request for approval of the outreach and schedule, adding that in May of 2021 there should be a 2050 draft RTP available.

Ms. Cummings continued with explanation of the process steps and would like to implement a new group called an Inter-County Transportation Working Group who would meet quarterly over the next year. It would include regional partners from Lake Tahoe, Carson City, Storey County, Lyon County, and Northwestern Nevada. Regular workshops and roundtables will continue, along with social media communications.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Mayor Smith, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered that public and agency outreach process and schedule for development of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan be approved.

**6.2 Approve the RTC federal priorities and provide direction accordingly (For Possible Action)**

Ms. Amy Cummings, RTC Deputy Executive Director and Director of Planning, addressed the Board to say that this item is valued by the RTC's congressional delegation as they move forward with reauthorization. Priorities for the RTC include expanding the Safe Routes to School program to use those funds on high schools as well as grades K-8; another is to fully fund the Highway Trust Fund and address the rescission that was mentioned earlier; support joint development initiatives through the Federal Transit Administration; and funding for RTC major projects on bus and bus facilities, including the Spaghetti Bowl, I-580, I-80, and Pyramid Hwy.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Mayor Smith, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered that the RTC federal priorities be approved.

**Item 7.1 thru 7.3 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

**7.1** Discussion and possible action to appoint Amy Cummings as the Executive Director or Interim Executive Director; adjust compensation and provide direction on negotiation of contract terms and/or implementation of recruitment options *(For Possible Action) – moved up on the agenda per previous motion*

**7.2** Discussion and possible action pertaining to any appointment and/or recruitment necessary to fill the vacated position of Executive Director *(For Possible Action) – moved up on the agenda per previous motion*

**7.3 Legal Issues - Report, discussion and possible action and/or direction to legal counsel and staff following receipt of information on legal issues. The RTC may, consistent with Chapter 241 of NRS, decide to interrupt the public meeting at any time to conduct a closed session to confer with legal counsel and possibly deliberate on legal issues. Any action on pending legal matters will be made when the public meeting is reconvened.**

Legal Counsel Dale Ferguson said he had no items for discussion at this time. He also thanked E.D. Gibson for the opportunity to work with the RTC and wished him the best in his retirement.

Upon motion by Commissioner Hartung, Chairman Lucey seconded a motion to reopen Item 4.3.

Commissioner Hartung asked NDOT Dir. Swallow to see if the trucks along the cut in the hill going out to Spanish Springs, doing what looks like core samples, belong to NDOT.

Item 4.3 was then reclosed.

**Item 8 PUBLIC INPUT**

Chairman Lucey 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. Sondra Rosenberg, local resident, addressed the Board to comment on her history of a working relationship with E.D. Gibson, the discussions they've had over the years, and what she's learned from him. She added that he will be missed and assured him that the great partnership between NDOT and the RTC will continue.

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

**Item 9 MEMBER ITEMS**

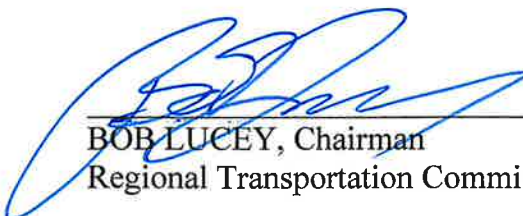
Commissioner Hartung asked if there is a program in place for staff to submit suggestions or comments and if so, does staff understand that they have that opportunity. The answer was yes.

Chairman Lucey suggested that an item on that be brought to a future meeting.

Chairman Lucey complimented E.D. Lee Gibson on everything he's done and the knowledge he and his team have brought, and thanked him for his service.

**Item 10 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.



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BOB LUCEY, Chairman  
Regional Transportation Commission