

*Joint COMPASS/Valley Regional Transit
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 10, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.
COMPASS Conference Room - 800 S. Industry Way, Suite 100 - Meridian, Idaho*

John Franden, COMPASS Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

A roll call established a quorum of both the COMPASS Board and Valley Regional Transit Board members as listed below.

<i>COMPASS MEMBERS PRESENT</i>	<i>COMPASS MEMBERS ABSENT</i>	<i>OTHERS PRESENT</i>
A.J. Balukoff, Boise School District	Allan Brock, Notus-Parma Highway	Matt Stoll, COMPASS
Phil Bandy, Eagle (phone)	Anne Horne, Notus	Charles Trainor, COMPASS
Matt Beebe, Canyon County (phone)	Dave Jones, ITD	Terri Schorzman, COMPASS
Dave Bieter, Boise (phone)	Phil Kushlan, CCDC	Jeanne Urlezaga, COMPASS
Keith Bird, Meridian	Jerome Scroggins, Canyon County Highway	Kathleen Lacey, Boise
Vern Bisterfeldt, Boise	Martin Thorne, Nampa	Katey Levihn, ACHD Staff
Dave Bivens, ACHD	Vicki Thurber, Middleton	Ken Burgess, Lobbyist
Rob Hopper for Jim Blacker, Caldwell (phone)	Pete Wagner, DEQ	
Elaine Clegg, Boise	Russell Duke, CDH (ex-officio)	
Tom Dale, Nampa (phone)	Clete Edmundson, Governor's Office (ex-officio)	
Pete Friedman for Tammy de Weerd, Meridian (Mayor de Weerd joined by phone at 3pm)	Pat Rice, Boise Centre on the Grove (ex-officio)	
Jeff Lang for Scott Dowdy, Kuna (phone)		
John Evans, Garden City (phone)		
Kelli Fairless, VRT		
David Ferdinand, Canyon County (phone)		
John Franden, ACHD		
James Maguire, BSU		
Carol McKee, ACHD (phone)		
Bryce Millar, Nampa Highway District		
Nathan Mitchell, Star		
Garret Nancolas, Caldwell (phone)		
Steve Rule, Canyon County (phone)		
Fred Tilman, Ada County		
Mike Vuittonet, Joint School District #2		
Margie Watson, Parma		
Paul Woods, Ada County		
Rick Yzaguirre, Ada County		

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<i>VRT MEMBERS PRESENT</i>	<i>VRT MEMBERS ABSENT</i>	<i>OTHERS PRESENT</i>
Jim Brooks, Eagle	City of Notus Representative-TBD	Kelli Fairless, VRT
Matt Beebe, Canyon County (phone)	Jared Everett, BSU	Rick Thompson, VRT
John Bechtel, Wilder	Ralph Gant, CCHD	Mark Carnopis, VRT
Dave Bieter, Boise (phone)	Scott Gurnsey, ITD (ex-officio)	Linda Ihli, VRT
Dave Bivens, ACHD	Curtis Homer, Nampa	Steve Thorson, Citizen
Elaine Clegg, Boise	Martin Luttrell, Melba	Roy Eiguren, Lobbyist
Tom Dale, Nampa (phone)	Craig Slocum, Meridian Development Corp.	
Oney Eguia, Parma	Vicki Thurber, Middleton	
John Evans, Garden City (phone)		
David Ferdinand, Canyon County (phone)		
Dean Gunderson, Ada County		
Chuck Hedemark, CCDC		
Rob Hopper, Caldwell (phone)		
Kurt Kopadt, Greenleaf		
Jeff Lang, Kuna (phone)		
Garret Nancolas, Caldwell (phone)		
Nathan Mitchell for Chad Bell, Star		
Charlie Rountree, Meridian		
Rick Yzaguirre, Ada County		
David Zarembo, Meridian		

ACTION ITEMS

Reconsider COMPASS Board and Valley Regional Transit (VRT) Management Committee Position on Constitutional Amendment for Local Option Taxation Authority

Roy Eiguren and Ken Burgess, lobbyists for VRT and COMPASS respectively, presented background on the current status of the issue before the members. Roy explained that after meeting with the Governor and Legislature leadership on March 7th, the constitutional amendment and the local option legislation bill, with two changes, would come together as a package and move through the legislature. Assuming the constitutional amendment received two thirds approval in both the House and Senate and the Governor signed the bill, the people, by a simple majority, could approve the constitutional amendment in November 2008. The following November, the enabling legislation would then go to the people for a vote. The changes to the legislation included being applicable to each county rather than regional, and the county commission would have bonding authority for the proposed tax.

Constitutional Amendment Discussion

John Franden emphasized staff was reporting on changes that have taken place since the February 25th COMPASS Board meeting as far as the legislature and governor were concerned.

Elaine Clegg distributed the current language in the Idaho Constitution regarding local authority for taxes and read it into the record as follows:

ARTICLE VII FINANCE AND REVENUE

SECTION 6. MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS TO IMPOSE THEIR OWN TAXES.

The legislature shall not impose taxes for the purpose of any county, city, town, or other municipal corporation, but may by law invest in the corporate authorities thereof, respectively, the power to assess and collect taxes for all purposes of such corporation.

Roy Eiguren pointed out for the record two instances of current local option taxing authority, which are the resort tax and local county tax for correctional facilities.

Tom Dale commented that for the record he agrees with Garret Nancolas and is fundamentally opposed in trying to legislate through a constitutional amendment. Mayor Dale told the Governor he would support a compromise until he heard Mike Moyle wanted counties to be the bonding agency. He pointed out if everything fails; there is the initiative process to go through, which could pass with a simple majority vote.

Ken Burgess pointed out the county commissioners must accept and place the issue on the ballot. Originally, they wanted an independently elected board to be the RTA, but have moved off that point and now want county commissioners to play that role so someone who is elected is responsible.

Legislation Discussion

The members discussed the legislation at length. Roy Eiguren reviewed the initiative process whereby citizens can pass legislation by obtaining signatures of 10 percent of the number of people that voted for the governor in the state of Idaho, which would be 45,000 signatures to be gathered in a very narrow time frame. The initiative process can only be used once every two years. If approved by voters, it automatically becomes law, but the Legislature can repeal laws approved by initiative. Roy Eiguren remarked that the Idaho Association of Counties is on record of approving the constitutional amendment.

Roy Eiguren emphasized there will be no bill unless there is a constitutional amendment.

Fred Tilman moved to decide whether or not the COMPASS Board wanted to take a new position on the legislation; seconded by Dean Gunderson. Fred restated the motion - does the COMPASS Board want to change its position on what the COMPASS Board had instructed its lobbyist to present to the Legislature by the last vote taken (February 25, 2008).

Fred Tilman restated the motion as do we want to reconsider the February 25th motion - the position that the COMPASS Board had taken previously on this issue; seconded by Keith Bird. Roll call vote was taken as listed below. The motion passed 14-12.

<i>COMPASS MEMBERS</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
A.J. Balukoff, Boise School District		XX
Phil Bandy, Eagle (phone)		XX
Matt Beebe, Canyon County (phone)	XX	
Dave Bieter, Boise (phone)		XX
Keith Bird, Meridian	XX	
Vern Bisterfeldt, Boise		XX
Dave Bivens, ACHD	XX	
Rob Hopper for Jim Blacker, Caldwell (phone)		XX
Elaine Clegg, Boise		XX
Tom Dale, Nampa (phone)	XX	
Pete Friedman for Tammy de Weerd (Mayor de Weerd joined by phone 3pm), Meridian	XX	
Jeff Lang for Scott Dowdy, Kuna (phone)	XX	
John Evans, Garden City (phone)		XX
Kelli Fairless, VRT	XX	
David Ferdinand, Canyon County phone)	XX	
John Franden, ACHD	XX	
James Maguire, BSU	--	--

Carol McKee, ACHD		XX
Bryce Millar, Nampa Highway District		XX
Nathan Mitchell, Star	XX	
Garret Nancolas, Caldwell		XX
Steve Rule, Canyon County		XX
Fred Tilman, Ada County	XX	
Mike Vuittonet, Boise School District	XX	
Margie Watson, Parma	XX	
Paul Woods, Ada County		XX
Rick Yzaguirre, Ada County	XX	

Charlie Rountree moved for the Valley Regional Transit Management Committee to reconsider its previous position from the February 25th vote, as only the Management Committee was in attendance at that (COMPASS Board) meeting; seconded by David Ferdinand. Roll call vote was taken as listed. The motion tied with 3 yes and 3 no votes.

<i>VRT Management Committee Members present at February 25th COMPASS Board Meeting</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
Charlie Rountree, Meridian		XX
Rick Yzaguirre, Ada County	XX	
Rob Hopper, Caldwell		XX
Dave Bieter, Boise		XX
David Ferdinand, Canyon County	XX	
Tom Dale, Nampa	XX	

Dave Bieter needed to hang up and appointed Kathleen Lacey, alternate COMPASS member, to vote no for him on a constitutional amendment if a vote is taken. Kelli Fairless pointed out the VRT Board never acted on this. It was just the Management Committee. Discussion was held regarding what position COMPASS and VRT Board should take on the enabling legislation.

COMPASS VOTE

AJ Balukoff moved that this board (COMPASS) not support the constitutional amendment that has constraints as proposed; seconded by Elaine Clegg.

A yes vote means to accept the motion to reject the constitutional amendment with two thirds vote by county and consolidated date. Following discussion roll call vote was taken.

The motion tied 12 yes and 12 no votes as follow:

<i>COMPASS MEMBERS</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
A.J. Balukoff, Boise School District	XX	
Phil Bandy, Eagle (phone)	XX	
Matt Beebe, Canyon County (phone)	XX	
Dave Bieter, Boise (phone) Kathleen Lacey voted	XX	
Keith Bird, Meridian		XX
Vern Bisterfeldt, Boise	XX	
Dave Bivens, ACHD		XX
Rob Hopper for Jim Blacker, Caldwell (phone)		XX
Elaine Clegg, Boise	XX	
Tom Dale, Nampa (phone)	--	--
Pete Friedman for Tammy de Weerd (Mayor de Weerd joined by phone 3pm), Meridian		XX
Jeff Lang for Scott Dowdy, Kuna (phone)	XX	
John Evans, Garden City (phone)	XX	
Kelli Fairless, VRT		XX
David Ferdinand, Canyon County (phone)		XX

John Franden, ACHD		XX
James Maguire, BSU	--	--
Carol McKee, ACHD	XX	
Bryce Millar, Nampa Highway District	XX	
Nathan Mitchell, Star		XX
Garret Nancolas, Caldwell	--	--
Steve Rule, Canyon County	XX	
Fred Tilman, Ada County		XX
Mike Vuittonet, Boise School District		XX
Margie Watson, Parma		XX
Paul Woods, Ada County	XX	
Rick Yzaguirre, Ada County		XX

VRT VOTE

Following discussion Rick Yzaguirre called for a vote by the Valley Regional Transit Board.

Elaine Clegg moved that this board (VRT) not support the constitutional amendment that has constraints as proposed; seconded by David Zaremba. The motion carried.

Roll call vote showed 11 yes and 4 no as listed below.

VRT MEMBERS	Yes	No
Jim Brooks deferred to Phil Bandy, Eagle	XX	
Matt Beebe, Canyon County (phone)	--	--
John Bechtel, Wilder	XX	
Dave Bieter, Boise (phone)	--	--
Dave Bivens, ACHD		XX
Elaine Clegg, Boise	XX	
Tom Dale, Nampa (phone)	--	--
Oney Eguia, Parma	XX	
John Evans, Garden City (phone)	--	--
David Ferdinand, Canyon County (phone)	--	--
Dean Gunderson, Ada County	XX	
Chuck Hedemark, CCDC		XX
Rob Hopper, Caldwell (phone)	XX	
Kurt Kopadt, Greenleaf	XX	
Jeff Lang, Kuna (phone)	XX	
Garret Nancolas, Caldwell (phone)	XX	
Nathan Mitchell for Chad Bell, Star		XX
Charlie Rountree, Meridian	XX	
Rick Yzaguirre, Ada County		XX
David Zaremba, Meridian	XX	

John Franden summed up the COMPASS position as no position and the VRT vote as no to the constitutional amendment as written. Both support the original RTA legislation as written in January. Roy Eiguren said a statement will be sent to the media. He will visit with the legislative leadership, the governor, and staff and let them know the position of opposing the legislation as written.

David Bivens moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 p.m. The motion was seconded and was approved unanimously.

Dated this 21st day of April 2008.

APPROVED:

BY: _____
John Franden, Chair
Community Planning Association

ATTEST:

BY: _____
Matthew J. Stoll, Executive Director
Community Planning Association

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