

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

February 25, 1988

Committee Members Present: Councilors Mike Ragsdale (Chair), Gary Hansen (V. Chair), Tanya Collier, Larry Cooper, Sharron Kelley, David Knowles and Richard Waker

Also Present: Councilor Corky Kirkpatrick

Chairman Ragsdale called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

1. Consideration of Minutes

Motion: Councilor Waker moved, seconded by Councilor Cooper, to approve the minutes of February 11, 1988.

Vote: A vote on the motion resulted in all six Committee members present voting aye. Councilor Hansen was absent when the vote was taken.

The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

2. Consideration of Resolution No. 88-875, for the Purpose of Confirming the Appointment of Greg McMurdo to the Position of Government Relations Manager

Chairman Ragsdale reported Executive Officer Cusma had approached him about an appropriate consultation process regarding the new Government Relations Manager (Lobbyist). Senate Bill 629 had provided the position be exempt from Metro's Personnel Rules and the position did not require Council confirmation. However, the Executive Officer had decided to offer the candidate for Council confirmation.

Chairman Ragsdale said he had appointed a task force (Councilors Collier, Kirkpatrick, Waker and Ragsdale) to discuss the request of Executive Officer's request for Council confirmation of Greg McMurdo as the lobbyist for the District. The Task Force's written report, dated February 22, 1988, was distributed to the Committee. The Task Force, after considerable discussion, determined the Government Relations Manager (Lobbyist) position was similar to the General Counsel position in that the person filling it must work for and represent both the Council and the Executive Officer. In addition, the Lobbyist must represent or advocate the adopted policies or positions of the governing body and not the position of any individual elected official.

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The Task Force recommended, with Councilor Kirkpatrick dissenting, that the Presiding Officer place the confirmation resolution on the February 25, 1988, Council agenda; that the Internal Affairs Committee hold a confirmation hearing on the candidate at its February 25, 1988, meeting and forward the recommendation to the Council; and that the Council introduce an ordinance or resolution which would set forth the rules and procedures for the recruitment, selection, supervision and termination of the Metro Lobbyist position for future consideration.

Ray Phelps, Finance & Administration Director, introduced Greg McMurdo to the Committee and discussed the candidate's qualifications and background. Mr. McMurdo's resume was distributed to all Councilors at the end of the meeting. In response to Councilor Waker's question, Mr. Phelps said the Lobbyist and Government Relations Manager would perform Lobbyist functions for the District.

In response to Chairman Ragsdale's question, Mr. McMurdo explained he would work with both the Council and the Executive Officer to accomplish his work. When a difference of opinion existed, he would make decisions based on Metro's adopted policy on a particular issue. If no policy existed, he would then step aside until Metro's elected officials made policy decisions through a process of open discussion and negotiation.

Councilor Kirkpatrick asked Mr. McMurdo what he would do if the Executive Officer asked him not to attend a legislative hearing the chair of a Council legislative committee had requested he attend. Mr. McMurdo responded he would attend the meeting if required by a Council policy.

Councilor Waker asked the candidate to discuss his past success in lobbying the state Legislature. Mr. McMurdo reported that in the past eight years of his performance as a lobbyist he had not lost a bill. This included six years lobbying for Secretary of State Norma Paulus, one year for the Workers' Compensation Board and one year for the State Bar Association.

In response to Councilor Collier's question, Mr. McMurdo explained the best process for ensuring successful introduction of legislation was to have it sponsored by a legislative committee where it would receive favorable treatment. He would use that approach for introducing Metro's legislation.

Mr. McMurdo, in response to Councilor Waker's questions, discussed his career objectives. He wanted to serve in the Metro position because he was very interested in regional government as a solution to solving problems. He was committed to working a Metro for four to six years.

Motion: Councilor Knowles moved, seconded by Councilor Waker, to recommend the full Council adopt Resolution No. 88-875.

Councilor Waker said it was important the Council confirm Mr. McMurdo and that issues concerning the process for future confirmations be resolved later.

Vote: A vote on the motion resulted in all seven Committee members present voting aye.

The motion carried.

3. Consideration of Resolution No. 88-870, for the Purpose of Authorizing an Exemption to the Public Contracting Procedure Set Out in Metro Code Section 2.04.010 et seq. for the Purpose of Requesting Proposals from Hazardous Waste Management Firms to Handle the Recycling, Treatment, Storage and Disposal of Household Hazardous Wastes from a Metro-Sponsored Regional Collection Day

Vickie Rocker, Public Affairs Director, summarized staff's written report. She explained staff had learned from discussions with the City of Seattle that a substantial amount of money could be saved by negotiating the contract with bidders.

Motion: Councilor Waker moved, seconded by Councilor Hansen, to recommend the full Council adopt Resolution No. 88-870.

Councilor Cooper asked staff how they would respond to complaints made after the 1986 Hazardous Collection Day by the Lily Company about safe handling and disposal of waste collected. Ms. Rocker said staff would require the contractor to provide on-site supervision of the collection and packaging of materials.

Vote: A vote on the motion resulted in all six Committee members present voting aye. Councilor Knowles was absent when the vote was taken.

The motion carried.

4. Consideration of Resolution No. 88-877, for the Purpose of Approving a Contract with Transportation Development, Inc., for Central City Transit Finance Consulting Services

Andy Cotugno, Transportation Director, summarized staff's written report.

Councilor Waker, Chair of the Council Intergovernmental Relations

Committee, reported the Committee had forwarded the resolution to this committee with no recommendation because the Committee had been unable to review contract documents in advance of its meeting. He explained the contract would result in no financial exposure to Metro.

Motion: Councilor Waker moved, seconded by Councilor Kelley, to recommend the full Council adopt the resolution.

Vote: A vote on the motion resulted in all seven Committee members present voting aye.

The motion carried.

5. Report on the Classification and Compensation Study

Ray Phelps distributed draft reports produced by Kenny Consulting Group which reflected the results on an in-depth review of Metro's job classifications and pay scale for all non-union positions. Staff requested the final conclusions be incorporated into the FY 1988-89 annual budget. During the next few weeks employees would have the opportunity make formal appeals of the findings. The project would be completed and ready for final Council consideration after March 10.

Martin Kenny, consultant, offered to brief the Council on the process. Chairman Ragsdale requested the Committee first review the draft study and then ask questions of staff and Mr. Kenny at the next Committee meeting. He also appointed Councilor Collier, Chair of the Council Finance Committee, to review the study and recommend a process and schedule for Council consideration.

Councilor Waker asked if Metro employed any non-certified engineers. Mr. Phelps said he would investigate the matter and contact the Councilor the next day with the answer.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



A. Marie Nelson
Clerk of the Council

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