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**Oregon Transit Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
October 11, 2016**

***Present***

Members: President Julie Brown, Vice President Lisa Scherf, Treasurer Doug Pilant, Cynda Bruce (via phone), Mary Jo Carpenter, Kim Curley (via phone), Karen Friend (via phone), Hal Gard, Jeanine Gordon (via phone), Andi Howell, AJ Jackson (via phone), Stephan Lashbrook (via phone), Allan Pollock, Kimberly Stanchfield, Elaine Wells

Guests: John Fregonese, Scott Fregonese, Alex Steinberger, and David Fiske (Fregonese Associates); Karyn Criswell (ODOT), Dale Penn (Salem-Keizer Transit)

Staff: Kelly Ross (Western Advocates), Drew Hagedorn (Tonkon Torp)

***Meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by President Julie Brown.***

***Minutes***

Motion by Pilant, seconded by Pollock, to approve the September 13th Board meeting minutes. *Motion passed unanimously.*

***Treasurer's Report***

Pilant summarized the financial report and noted that TriMet's dues of \$66,840 were received after the cutoff date of the report, bringing total public dues for the year up to \$150,700 (99% of budget). No questions or comments from the Board.

***Update from Fregonese Associates on Transit Enhancement Project***

John Fregonese and Alex Steinberger presented slides showing next steps for the Project and went through the list of questions and comments on the website that had been received; asked for further clarification on several of the comments. Next steps will be:

- Website revision period (FA internal): **October 10<sup>th</sup> – October 19<sup>th</sup>**
- Website second draft released: **October 20<sup>th</sup>**
- Final website review period: **October 20<sup>th</sup> – October 26<sup>th</sup>**
- Hard copy revision period: **October 20<sup>th</sup> – October 26<sup>th</sup>**
- Website and Hard Copy complete: **October 28<sup>th</sup>**

***Call from Sen. Betsy Johnson***

Discussion of the Transit Enhancement Project was suspended during a call from Sen. Betsy Johnson. Johnson said that she was making the call to the Board in response to rumors that she isn't supportive of transit; said she has always been a strong supporter of transit (especially in rural Oregon), but has asked some tough, appropriate questions about service and use of funds. She said that accountability metrics are going to be very important in any discussion of increased funding.

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Hagedorn told Sen. Johnson that OTA is working with ODOT and others on accountability measures. Johnson complimented Hagedorn on his efforts on behalf of transit.

Carpenter expressed concern to Sen. Johnson over efforts to increase accountability in light of already heavy requirements for reports and other paperwork. Johnson said she completely understands this and would welcome Carpenter's advice on finding the most important metrics.

***Update from Fregonese Associates on Transit Enhancement Project (Continued)***

After completion of the call from Sen. Johnson, Gard suggested that it would be good to have a "Transit Funding 101" discussion with legislators, emphasizing the good examples of unity and cooperation between transit providers using good planning stories and stories of financial transparency.

Brown said this (i.e., call and comments from Sen. Johnson) is a good reminder of how important it is what we say in public and how we say it.

Steinberger said he will send out a revised version of the presentation folders and ask for comments—deadline for comments will be October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Hagedorn said that after the roll-out of the website and printed materials, there will probably be a presentation to one or more legislative committees.

***Legislative Update***

Hagedorn reported that there is very little activity in Salem currently since all attention is being focused on elections. He reported on the Legislative Committee meeting the previous week and said the Committee had voted to recommend the Board support the legislative concept regarding ORS 190 agreements that has been developed by COIC.

Friend summarized the proposed legislation.

Motion by Pilant, seconded by Scherf, to endorse the COIC legislative concept. *Motion passed unanimously, one abstention (Hal Gard).*

Carpenter requested that Hagedorn give a summary of the Joint Interim Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization road show stops. He said that transit has been very well represented and there will be a final meeting in Albany. Brown said OTA needs to reach out to members to help get them engaged—Drew said he will contact Scherf and coordinate testimony.

***Executive Director's Report***

Ross discussed efforts to increase memberships, especially among private sector members. Stanchfield asked about the balance of funds raised for the Bus Rodeo and whether some of this money could be used for sponsorships for Transit Day at the Capitol—Ross said he would check on the balance and get back to her. Balance of funds is \$5,333.

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***ODOT/PTD Report***

Gard reported on the annual Oregon Transportation Council workshops coming up and that there will be a discussion with Rep. McKeown and Sen. Beyer regarding the Joint Interim Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization; a number of other workshops will be held over the two-day period.

Gard said they are trying to pull together the 2017-19 grant solicitations in the wake of a likely 16% funding cut. There is the ability to appeal the cut so they are waiting to send out the grant solicitation until this is fully resolved.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 and the Board went into an Executive Session.