
**Oregon Transit Association
Board of Directors Meeting
December 12, 2017**

Present

Members: President Julie Brown, Vice President Lisa Scherf, Treasurer Doug Pilant (phone), Dwight Brashear, Cynda Bruce (phone), Mary Jo Carpenter, Kim Curley (phone), Aaron Deas, Andi Howell, Allan Pollock, Kimberly Stanchfield, Mike Stinson (phone), Elaine Wells

Guests: Dale Penn (Salem-Keizer Transit-phone); Karyn Criswell (ODOT-RPT); Edward McGlone (Lane Transit District); J.D. Tovey (CTUIR)

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

Meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by President Julie Brown.

Agenda

Motion by Brashear, seconded by Stanchfield, to approve the agenda as distributed.
Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Motion by Pilant, seconded by Brashear, to approve the November 14th Board meeting minutes as distributed. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Pilant summarized the financial report and highlighted the following:

- \$3,300 in additional public member dues received during November, bringing total dues to 94% of budget
- Association Management and Advocacy expense lines reflect bonus payments approved by the Board.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.

Legislative Update

Hagedorn reported that he has had a number of conversations with legislators and other lobbyists regarding the HB2017 technical fix bill; Sen. Beyer said that there may actually be three bills—one for technical fixes identified near the end of the session, one for ODOT fixes, and one for policy changes.

Big issues for the 2018 session will be a cap and invest proposal for reduction of carbon emissions and a follow up budget discussion if Ballot Measure 101 fails to pass. Deas said that the cap and invest bill could happen in the short session and may involve transit.

Hagedorn raised the possibility of a Legislative Committee meeting sometime in early January, and consensus of the Board was that this is a good idea, possibly a lunch after the January Board meeting.

Hagedorn said it looks likely that the Joint Transportation Committee will handle all transportation-related bills and the separate transportation policy committees in each chamber will be phased out.

Stinson asked about the impacts on Oregon of changes contained within proposed federal tax reform package, and whether the Legislature is likely to make any changes to state tax laws. Hagedorn said that he thinks a special legislative session for this purpose is unlikely.

Discussion of HB2017 Rulemaking Key Elements

Criswell summarized the current status of the rulemaking process; some schedule changes will be necessary, possibly cancellation of the March meeting and addition of an April meeting.

According to responses to the survey, most people think the draft rules are headed in the right direction. Biggest concern that was raised is the distribution formula and sub-recipients. Scherf commented that the survey was very well designed and one of the best she has taken.

Criswell said that many comments have been received regarding the low emission vehicle requirements arguing to make the rules more restrictive. The Department of Justice attorney who reviewed the rules recommends against an increased level of restriction. Brown said she believes that it is too early to make the rules more restrictive.

Criswell said that Sen. Beyer has said that the 1% technical resource fund must cover ODOT's administrative fee.

The Board commended Criswell on doing such great work on rulemaking.

Executive Director's Report

Ross reported that \$3,000 in additional funds had been budgeted for refreshing the website, and he would like to work with a subcommittee of the Board on possible changes and updates. Brown suggested sending out an invite to the Board which would also encourage having member staff involved.

Ross also reported that he had checked with two venues regarding availability for the 2019 conference—Seaside Convention Center and Eugene Hilton—and both could accommodate us. He asked for input from the Board on whether we should do a second year in Seaside, discuss further with the Eugene Hilton, or look elsewhere. Consensus of the Board was to get additional information re potential expense of the Bend Riverhouse.

Brown reported that Hagedorn had volunteered the Tonkon Torp conference room in Portland for a strategic planning retreat, and she suggested checking with him about a date in March.

Criswell reported that there is a Transportation Policy Group that has been meeting for some time; includes representatives from the Governor's office, AOC, LOC, OTC, and others. At their last meeting, Gard gave an overview of the transit section of HB2017 and the group thought it would be good for an OTA representative to start participating. Consensus of the Board is that Criswell should get additional information about the group, its functions, and how much time would be involved.

Agency Updates

- Curley (ToGo) – The ToGo Board will be meeting at Metro on January 18th, and on the 19th will be meeting with the Safe Routes to School group at the Oregon Zoo—she encouraged Board members to join them if schedules permit.
- Pollock (Salem-Keizer Transit) - Just hired a new CFO; ridership up over 4%.
- Scherf (Corvallis Transit) – Published an RFP for operations and had three attendees at the mandatory pre-proposal conference; nearing the end of the Transportation Development Plan process and will be taking public comment in January.
- Howell (City of Sandy) – Wrapping up the scope of work for their Transit Management Plan update; hoping to have their new bus barns finished by spring.
- Wells (Ride Connection) – Working with Union County on a dialysis ride program.
- Deas (TriMet) – Finalized a new labor contract and international search has begun for General Manager Neil McFarland's replacement.
- Brashear (SMART/City of Wilsonville) – Going to City Council for approval of a consulting agreement for electric buses; working with Salem-Keizer Transit on a universal fare system.
- Tovey (CTUIR) – CTUIR officially hired Susan Johnson as Transportation Program Manager; have a new transit stop at a new medical clinic; Valley Transit in Walla Walla received a grant to promote regional connectivity and CTUIR will be working with them.
- McGlone (Lane Transit District) – Good results with the new EMX line, mainly due to increased frequency of service; selected a firm for the comprehensive operations analysis.
- Carpenter (Community Connection of NE Oregon) – Mid-Columbia Council of Governments is going out of business so there will be a new CCO contractor for NEMT rides.
- Brown (Rogue Valley Transportation District) – ODOT recently replaced their Regional Transportation Coordinator and they are thrilled with the change; Lane Transit District hosted a labor exchange meeting with positive results; hired Brashear to speak to RVTD employees last Sunday and feedback was very positive.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:09 p.m.