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**Oregon Transit Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
March 10, 2015**

***Present***

Members: Vice President Julie Brown, Treasurer Doug Pilant (by phone), Cynda Bruce, Mary Jo Carpenter, Aaron Deas, Karen Friend (by phone), Jeanine Gordon, Ernie Palmer (by phone), Lisa Scherf (by phone), Julie Stephens (by phone), Janet Wright, Kimberly Stanchfield, Roxanne Rolls,

Guests: Stephan Lashbrook (SMART), Dinah VanDerHyde (ODOT), Dale Penn (Salem-Keizer Transit), Edward McGlone (LTD), Lydia Corran (Ride Connection-by phone)

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

***Meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Vice-President Julie Brown.***

***Agenda***

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

***Minutes***

Motion by Pilant, seconded by Wright, to approve the February 17, 2015 Board meeting minutes. *Motion passed unanimously.*

***Treasurer's Report***

Treasurer Pilant summarized the most recent financial report. A question was raised as to whether any additional revenues were expected from the conference, and Ross said that all anticipated revenues have been collected and are shown on the report.

***Legislative Report***

Hagedorn reported on new Governor Kate Brown, and that she has signaled her intent to sign the Clean Fuels Bill, which will probably doom the transportation funding package—Republicans will refuse to approve any new gas taxes. Does not expect this to impact progress on a new ConnectOregon funding program.

Brown said that representatives from the Association of Oregon Rail & Transit Advocates (AORTA) came to the PTAC meeting requesting support for a ballot measure to allow more flexibility in use of the gas tax. Deas said there's no chance that the Legislature will refer such a measure.

Hagedorn said that good progress is being made on plans for Transit Day – Rep. McCeown and Senator Beyer will speak in the morning, and the Governor's Transportation Advisor Karmen Fore join the group at noon.

Student passes – HB 2639 and 2979 – McGlone said one of the bills is requested by LTD and one by OEC; looks like OEC's \$20 million bill is likely dead and they are discussing

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whether to support LTD's pilot program bill. Portland Public Schools has also had a bill introduced that would reimburse for bus passes to students within the walk area.

Stephens asked about Gard's statement at PTAC that OTA supports the OEC bill. Hagedorn and Deas said that he misspoke.

Motor carrier Deregulation – Hagedorn said that amendments to SB 142, Senator Johnson's bill, are all set to go.

Lashbrook said HB 2236, City of Wilsonville's bill regarding state payments to cities for transit, had a good public hearing and has moved to Way and Means.

Deas said that HB 2612, requiring binding arbitration for mass transit districts, is dead; TriMet is working on its E-Fare bill (HB 3062), which would exempt TriMet E-Fare cards from requirements for gift cards.

Friend said that COIC's bill (HB 3182) concerning ORS 190 entities has been introduced.

Rolls said that ToGo is closely watching SB 177, which would prohibit road funds from being spent on bike lanes or anything else having to do with biking.

There was discussion of SB 414, which was introduced at the request of SEIU, and would significantly change procedures for contracting services by public agencies; consensus is that it could be highly problematic. Hagedorn said that the League of Oregon Cities is taking the lead on opposing the bill.

### ***APTA Stand Up for Transportation***

Penn said language for the transit day proclamation has been submitted to the Governor's office and she is expected to sign it on April 8th.

### ***Transit Day at the Capitol***

Ross reported that appointments have been secured with approximately half of the Senate and one-third of the House. He encouraged Board members to either register through the website or send him a list of people who will be attending.

### ***Brokerages***

Brown said there is nothing new to report – just waiting and watching to see what happens with the change of Governor and OHA Director. Friend said October 15<sup>th</sup> is the new deadline for everyone to transition to CCOs.

### ***Executive Director's Report***

Ross announced that, in accordance with the OTA bylaws, he will be working with the officers to develop a draft budget that will be sent to the Board prior to the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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## **ODOT/PTD Report**

VanDerHyde said Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, will be the first OPTC Planning Committee meeting (9-11am).

Compliance Oversight Program as it relates to training needs had 67 participants, of which 47 have had completed reviews. For drug and alcohol reviews, there were 33 participants, 28 of which have been completed. The most important targets for training are purchasing and maintenance of assets, and understating of general ADA requirements.

VanDerHyde said that PTD is tracking legislation impacting transit and rail. Ross asked about funding for Amtrak and McGlone said the situation is looking more optimistic.

The grant cycle is ongoing—5311 and 5310 grants are out there for solicitation.

Wright asked about updating coordinated plans. VanDerHyde said the initial thought was that this could be done with existing planning consultants, but discovered they need to do a new work order for consultants to do this. It's coming.

VanDerHyde asked whether PTD is doing a good enough job in communicating program information. Consensus is that new approach of relying on RTCs isn't working—suggestion to let people know that new information is available on the website.

## **Agency Updates**

- Gordon (CTUIR) – Registered for Transit Day.
- Pilant (Tillamook County Transportation District) – No Report.
- Palmer (BTS) – Finishing up Connect Oregon solicitation for quotes; finishing up computerized dispatch system for Dial-A-Ride. Using cloud-based system by CTS.
- Friend (COIC) – Working on ORS 190 legislative fix; also involved in project with local partners to do Bend Transit fixed route expansion.
- Stephens (City of Sandy) – Heard that CCIS is revisiting possibility of providing insurance to agencies with contracted employees/drivers. Friend states that their rates with CCIS doubled last year and are projected to triple this year.
- Corran (Ride Connection) – Volunteer recognition event on April 13<sup>th</sup>; said they raised \$52,000 at their Gala event on February 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Wright (Columbia County Rider) – No Report.
- Stanchfield (Creative Bus Sales) – Fully integrated now as Creative Bus Sales; eight new buses have been added to state contract, including the new Ford Transit.
- Carpenter (Community Connection of Baker County) – Unifying route scheduling, have been able to produce new reports out of the system that attracted the attention of Strategem, and their staff programmer was asked to speak at Strategem's national meeting. Ridership in Baker has increased 20%.
- Scherf (City of Corvallis) – RFP for operation/maintenance contract still is not out. New City Council starting to get acquainted with transit operations and expecting a new City Manager soon.
- Lashbrook (SMART) – Nearing the end of solicitation process for tech upgrade.

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- Bruce (Lincoln County Transportation) – Just did a kickoff meeting with Linn and Benton Counties for a coordinated plan; changed schedules and amazed at how much work was involved; updating bus stop signage.
  - Rolls (ToGo) – Had quarterly meeting two weeks ago in Eugene; thinking about writing an op-ed on ToGo's position on Uber. Kim Curley will be taking Roxanne's position on the OTA Board.
  - VanDerHyde – Asked everyone to look at TransMix system on PTD's website (under "What's New"). Will be sending out a survey to solicit stories about how STF funding is being used. Working on implementing pilot program for veterans, funded by \$100,000 in STF funds approved by legislature.
  - Brown (Rogue Valley Transit District) – Will cut service on March 23 – taking a lot of heat. Will be working with Josephine County to help with their situation where a new veteran's hospital was built a mile away from the bus line.

Meeting adjourned at 12:02pm.