
**Oregon Transit Association
Board of Directors Meeting
March 14, 2017**

Present

Members: President Julie Brown, Vice President Lisa Scherf, Treasurer Doug Pilant (via phone), Cynda Bruce, Mary Jo Carpenter, Kim Curley, Aaron Deas, Karen Friend, Hal Gard, Jeanine Gordon (via phone), Andi Howell (via phone), A.J. Jackson, Ernest Palmer, Elaine Wells (via phone)

Guests: Karyn Criswell (ODOT); Edward McGlone; Al Densmore (JW & Associates)

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

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

Minutes

Motion by Scherf, seconded by Friend, to approve the February 14th Board meeting minutes as distributed. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Treasurer's Report & First Review of 2017-18 Budget

Pilant summarized the financial report and said there was very little financial activity in February. No questions or comments from the Board.

Ross presented a first draft of the 2017-18 budget and said that that it was based on continuing with the same increased dues amounts that were approved for 2016-17. He said that this would be the major decision for the Board—use the increased dues structure, or revert back to the previous structure that was 20% less; maintaining the increased dues would replenish OTA reserves that were used to partially fund the Better Transit Oregon project.

Pilant said that he was in favor of maintaining the current dues structure and to investigate additional follow-up work on Better Transit Oregon by Fregonese Associates.

Scherf asked whether any statements were made to OTA members that the increase would only be a one-time action. Ross said he would check on the dues letter that went out.

Brown encouraged Board members to carefully review the draft budget and be prepared for additional discussion at the next Board meeting.

Legislative Update

Hagedorn reported that the Joint Transportation Committee work groups are starting to report back to the full committee. The Transit/Bike/Safe Routes/Safety work group has made a presentation on the concept of the .1% employee payroll tax and it was generally well received—discussion has now moved to developing a formula for distribution of the revenues and he distributed a table showing a range of possible distribution options.

Hagedorn said the goal in this session is to get a transit funding source in place within an omnibus transportation bill.

Brown said that OTA will need to work hard to educate Eastern Oregon and coastal legislators.

Executive Director's Report

Ross said that appointments have been scheduled so far with 62 of the 90 legislators for the April 11th Transit Day at the Capitol, additional efforts will be made during the coming weeks to finalize appointments with those who haven't yet responded. He expressed concern over the relatively low number of registrations that have been made to date and encouraged Board members to register online or to send a list of people who will be attending.

Ross said that he is still looking for speakers for the scheduled briefings on transit issues in the afternoon during Transit Day—Curley said she would make contact with ToGo members to request their assistance and involvement.

ODOT/PTD Report

Gard reported that he and Pollock will be doing a briefing for the Oregon Transportation Commission at their March 16th meetings.

Agency Updates

In the interest of time, updates were deferred until the next Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.