
**Oregon Transit Association
Board of Directors Meeting
June 13, 2017**

Present

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

Guests: Karyn Criswell (ODOT); Edward McGlone (Lane Transit District); Sean Tate (JW & Associates); Dale Penn (Salem-Keizer Transit); Dwight Brashear (SMART)

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

Meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Vice President Lisa Scherf.

Legislative Update

Hagedorn reported:

- The session is in the final four weeks, and the transportation package is still very much in play, but still a lot of work to do. The -3 amendments are expected to be released last week and there has been very good testimony in support of transit.
- SEIU came out against the package, which actually turned out to be a good thing. He is cautiously optimistic about prospects for the package, although several groups are talking about referring it to voters if approved by the Legislature.

Deas reported on meetings with the Governor's staff to exchange information and discuss strategy; ATU came out against the bill pretty strongly; negotiations have been complicated by Rep. Bentz's heart attack.

Hagedorn said that there will be some legislators who will need to be targeted for letters, and he will be contacting OTA members who are in districts of targeted legislators.

Pollock asked about OTA's proposed amendments. Hagedorn said he discussed them with Sen. Beyer and he was generally supportive.

Scherf asked Hagedorn to confirm that we don't have a fallback position. Drew says no, this is the only approach that we will be supporting.

Penn reported on the status of senior medical deduction and senior and disabled funding—said it is looking like a slight decrease, but still very good.

Hagedorn reported that the COIC bill is doing well and should be heading to the Governor's desk within the next week or so.

Gard asked whether ATU's opposition had any impact; Hagedorn said, "No."

Minutes

Motion by Pilant, seconded by Carpenter, to approve the May 9th Board meeting minutes as distributed. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Pilant summarized the financial report and highlighted the expenses for Transit Day at the Capitol, which were lower than budgeted. No questions or comments from the Board.

2017-18 Budget

Pilant reported on changes that were made in response to recommendations at the last Board meeting.

Motion by Gard to approve the revised budget, seconded by Pollock. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Appointment to Fill Vacancy

Motion by Stanchfield to appoint Dwight Brashear, seconded by Pollock. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

Ross reported that his focus is now on the October conference—a "save-the-date" email went out at the end of May and registration should open in late July/early August. The Board dinner will be the evening of Sunday, October 1st, at Hamley's Steakhouse.

Stanchfield reported on planning for the Bus Roadeo, and that First Transit will be doing three one-day training sessions. Ross reported on Board Dinner on Oct. 1st.

ODOT/PTD Report

Gard reported:

- The ODOT budget passed out of its Ways & Means Subcommittee with only one "no" vote, and he doesn't anticipate any changes in the full Committee.
- Transit Division has been hit hard by people leaving—they are under a hiring freeze so can't replace those who have left.
- The Oregon Transportation Plan meeting this Saturday looks like it will have a number of PTAC members who will be absent.

Agency Updates

- Stanchfield (Creative Bus Sales) - Just delivering buses.
- Brashear (City of Wilsonville/SMART) - Reached tentative agreement with drivers; hired new grants manager & management analyst; city council approved budget.
- Bruce (Lincoln County Transit) – Five-county connector project has been working on an updated website and will go live tomorrow; four new buses were delivered.
- Curley (ToGo) – Starting a free shuttle during the summer, with the city providing funding for service from 2:00 until 7:00 seven days per week, will be running June 23rd-September 4th. Bend will also be opening a bike sharing program.

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- Howell (City of Sandy) – Have had a lot going on with a new city manager, new police chief, and new public service director. Transit is now a separate stand-alone department and it has made a big difference; made a lot of changes in Nov.-Dec., and are seeing increased ridership for the first time in a long time. Expecting delivery of new trolley in next couple weeks.
 - Pollock (Salem-Keizer Transit) – Elections last month resulted in a new board member; ordering new buses; Salem City Council is going through a strategic planning process, one element of which is the need for better transit service. Uber & Lyft have started service in Salem.
 - McGlone (Lane Transit District) – Have a new Board member starting this month; kicked off labor negotiations with ATU; kickoff celebration in September for new EMX line.
 - Pilant (Tillamook Transportation District) – Looking for a skilled IT person; have one new board member; finalizing budget; starting shuttle service to Pacific City for summer. Will soon be starting construction repairs to facilities; new Connector website will also house websites for individual agencies.
 - Brown (Rogue Valley Transit) – Calling in from Detroit and CTAA conference where RVRTD received the “Outstanding Urban System of the Year award; new electronic fare box project will be starting soon; four new Board members will be coming in.
 - Carpenter (Community Connection of Baker County) – Completed budgeting and will be adding some new services; continuing to develop plans for office expansion.
 - Gordon (Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation) – No report
 - Scherf (City of Corvallis) – Working on Transportation System Plan and Transportation Development Plan—a solutions memo on TDP came out and was disappointing; now working on further changes with the consultant. Two new buses were delivered in May; are installing cameras in all buses. The City of Philomath Budget Committee changed its position on eliminating transit after an outpouring of opposition.

Meeting adjourned at 11:23