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**Oregon Transit Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
June 9, 2015**

***Present***

Members: President Allan Pollock, Vice President Julie Brown, Cynda Bruce, Mary Jo Carpenter (by phone), Kim Curley (by phone), Karen Friend (by phone), Hal Gard, Ernie Palmer, Lisa Scherf, Julie Stephens

Guests: Stephan Lashbrook (SMART), Dale Penn (Salem-Keizer Transit)

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

***Meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by President Allan Pollock.***

***Agenda***

President Pollock announced that there will be one additional item that will be added to the agenda, a request by Salem-Keizer Transit for financial assistance with their campaign to establish a payroll tax.

Motion by Palmer seconded by Scherf, to approve the agenda as amended. *Motion passed unanimously.*

***Minutes***

Motion by Gard, seconded by Palmer, to approve the May 12, 2015 Board meeting minutes. *Motion passed unanimously.*

***Treasurer's Report***

In the absence of Treasurer Pilant, Ross summarized the most recent financial report. No comments or questions from the Board.

***Salem-Keizer Request***

Jerry Thompson, President of the Salem-Keizer Transit Board, said that their Board has decided to go out for ballot measure in November to establish a payroll tax of 0.2%. Palmer asked if OTA has money in their Private Fund and Ross said that there are adequate resources in the Private Fund.

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Scherf, to provide \$10,000 in support of the Salem-Keizer ballot measure. *Motion passed unanimously* (Pollock abstained).

***Legislative Report***

Hagedorn said they are in the final throes of session—policy committees are now closed and the only open committees are Rules and Ways and Means.

The Motor Carrier Deregulation Bill has been signed by the Governor – all other proactive OTA bills are still up in the air.

Transportation Package – Republicans are still insisting on mitigation measures for Low

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Carbon Fuels requirements passed earlier in the session. It is very uncertain whether it will move forward, but if not, will likely set the stage for a special session or discussion in the 2016 short session.

Connect Oregon Package – current amount is \$58.6 million.

Senior and Disabled – Penn summarized history of funding for the program. Current package has amount at \$9.4 million.

Hagedorn says communication will be more important as the session winds down—he has forwarded a legislative update to Ross and an email will be going out to all members today.

Hagedorn asked Lashbrook to report on the Wilsonville bill. Lashbrook said that HB2236, which would put city transit agencies on same footing as transportation districts for tax in lieu payments from state agencies, had a hearing a couple of weeks ago in the Ways and Means General Government Subcommittee. Senator Johnson spoke against the bill at the hearing and had some negative comments about transit in general. Hagedorn said the government affairs team has discussed this problem and believe it is best to deal with it during the interim.

Draft letter to Congressional Delegation – Pollock asked Board members to review the draft letter urging support for reauthorization for transportation funding, and to send editing suggestions to him. Ross will forward the letter to all Board members.

### ***Brokerages***

Brown reported that most CCOs are still in limbo. Two CCOs in Douglas and Coos/Curry Counties were going to come online with RVTD, but Douglas County suddenly went dark. Logisticare has started contacting CCOs.

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

Ross gave an update on planning for the October conference and said that the Conference Planning Committee is working hard to have all session descriptions completed by early August so that they can be available when registration is opened.

Asked for Board input on the July Board meeting in light of the PTAC meeting that will be held in Medford the day before and an invitation from TriMet for the Board to take a preview ride on the new MAX Orange Line during the time that the Board meeting would normally take place. Consensus of the Board is that the July Board meeting should be canceled.

Stephens asked for status of Washington State Road–eo and whether there is still an opportunity for Oregon drivers to register. Ross will check.

### ***ODOT/PTD Report***

Gard reported on the new requirement for reasonable accommodations—technical advice on compliance will be available from PTD.

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Distributed newly printed directory of Park and Rides statewide.

Reported that PTD bought licensing for new online transit planning software and it is now available for use by all transit agencies. Gard will have Joel do outreach to provide assistance.

The updated State Public Transportation Management Plan is now out for public review.

PTD has additional funds for STF discretionary grants—approximately \$6 million will be available.

Jean Palmateer has been moved to planning.

Rural intercity requirements are being review by the Oregon Transportation Commission.

Staff will be recommending that for the 2018-2021 period most of STP funding be put into program preservation—no enhancement. \$5 million per year for bus replacement only.

Palmer asked about funding for Amtrak, and Gard said it is still undetermined, he is waiting to see what happens when the ODOT budget gets approved.

Palmer asked Gard to convey to the DMV director the problems that rural Oregon is having with getting CDL testing.

### ***Agency Updates***

- Brown (Rogue Valley Transit District) – Final service cuts started June 1<sup>st</sup>, with letters to employees regarding demotions and layoffs; was able to refer some employees to driver jobs at SOU; looking at significant increases in health coverage premiums. Has 2 new board members and another who will be leaving.
- Palmer (BTS) – Really busy the last 90 days working on local issues. Paratransit sheltered workshops may be going away, which will have a big impact on BTS service. Property taxes remain flat. Ridership down 5-10%, mainly as a result of declining enrollment in Klamath Community College. Had good visit from CTAA Executive Director.
- Stephens (City of Sandy) – Had site review in May and it went okay, reviewers left saying “top notch.” Stephens said ODOT staff was great and appreciated collaborative attitude of consultants. Extended appreciation to fellow Board members for all that she has learned from them.
- Scherf (City of Corvallis) – Also had site review a couple months ago and were told that they had the fewest issues of any provider; have taken delivery of a new bus with their new branding. Negotiating with current operations contractor. Ridership up a bit.
- Bruce (Lincoln County Transportation) – Interesting talking with CTAA Director and hearing that transit agencies have same problems across the country. Site review went well. Saving 30% on printing needs due to micro-purchasing recommendation from site review. Have started doing their own bus rehabbing.

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- Carpenter (Community Connection of Baker County) – Veteran transportation program going very well and developing marketing materials.
  - Curley (TOGO) – Statewide “Drive Less Challenge” will kick off October 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - Friend (COIC) – Moving forward with Bend Area Transit expansion – announcement will go out next Friday. Working to match increased federal funding.
  - Pollock (Salem-Keizer Transit) – Started pilot project for shuttle service to West Hills last Monday, and no major glitches have been experienced. Have mediation session with union next Monday. Have two new board members.

Meeting adjourned at 12:02pm.