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**Oregon Transit Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
September 15, 2015**

***Present***

- Members: President Allan Pollock, Vice President Julie Brown, Treasurer Doug Pilant (by phone), Cynda Bruce, Kim Curley (by phone), Mary Jo Carpenter, Aaron Deas, Karen Friend (by phone), Hal Gard, Ron Kilcoyne, Ernie Palmer (by phone), Lisa Scherf, Julie Stephens, Elaine Wells
- Guests: Cassie Mance (ODOT), Julie Wehling (City of Canby), Andi Howell (City of Sandy)
- Staff: Kelly Ross (Western Advocates), Drew Hagedorn and Rocky Dallum (Tonkon Torp)

***Meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by President Allan Pollock.***

***Agenda***

Motion by Carpenter, seconded by Pilant, to approve the agenda. *Motion passed unanimously.*

***Minutes***

Motion by Pilant, seconded by Bruce, to approve the August 11, 2015 Board meeting minutes. *Motion passed unanimously.*

***Treasurer's Report***

Pilant summarized August report and highlighted the high percentage of public fund dues already received for the 2015-16 fiscal year. No questions or comments from the Board.

***Legislative Report***

Hagedorn reported that there will be Legislative Days at the capitol at the end of October, and that conversations are occurring about a transportation package, most likely during the 2017 session. Such a package is a priority for both Senate President Courtney and Governor Brown—Drew will be meeting on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> with Karmen Fore to discuss how the Oregon Transportation Forum can interact with the Governor's office. The primary discussion topic will be on funding for transit and how to structure it.

The OTA Legislative Committee will be meeting tomorrow to discuss a legislative engagement strategy.

Scherf asked about use of the term "mass transit district" in proposal that came out at the end of the legislative session. Hagedorn said this is mainly a result of how quickly the package was put together, and that nearly everyone agrees future approaches must be broader. Pollock said there are only three "mass transit districts" in the state, so use of the term is very limiting.

Gard urged the Legislative Committee to get very clear on their data needs so that the

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Rail & Public Transit Division can provide what is needed. Gard also reported that he is now a member of the Governor's Vision Committee and is charged with developing different funding scenarios—he wants to be especially sensitive to rural funding needs.

Brown reported that she and Gard met yesterday with the freight and bicycle/pedestrian groups—all agree that they need to work together rather than competing with each other.

Palmer said that all systems in the state are constrained in their operations due to lack of funding—new funding won't result in significant increases to ridership and services, it will just bring everyone back from the edge of disaster. He urged that people need to think out of the box and develop a dedicated, predictable revenue source.

Hagedorn said that it's not likely we will see much work in the 2016 session as there will also be campaigns next year for re-election and for a ballot measure to repeal the clean fuels requirements. He also reported on efforts by Our Oregon to place initiatives on the ballot regarding a gross receipts tax for some corporations and an income tax increase for high income filers.

### **Brokerages**

Brown reported October 1<sup>st</sup> is the change-over date for brokerages. Douglas County is not going with the brokerage and won't be ready by the 1<sup>st</sup>.

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

Update on Conference – Ross reported on the current status of arrangements for the conference—there are 134 registered currently. He reminded everyone about the Board dinner on Sunday evening at the Oregon Electric Station, and also about the upcoming deadline for submitting award nominations.

Bus Rodeo – Ross and Mance summarized the status of arrangements for the Rodeo—looking like there will be a good number of competitors and Kimberly Stanchfield has been responsible for significant sponsor commitments.

### **ODOT/PTD Report**

Gard said that \$8 million will be available in the STF discretionary grant program and \$2 million for the statewide opportunity program—applications will be available in December and he urged everyone to check documents on the PTAC web page.

Palmer raised the issue of inconsistent regulations for interstate travel. Carpenter said there is technical assistance available from ODOT and RTAP

### **Other Business**

Pollock asked the Board for input on whether to cancel the October Board meeting scheduled for Oct. 13th.

Motion by Palmer, seconded by Scherf, to cancel the October 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

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## **Agency Updates**

- Scherf (City of Corvallis) – Outcome of negotiations with First Student for operations would have been 20% higher than prior contract. Ended up with a shorter term contract with First Student and intend to go out with another request for proposals. Also reported on celebratory ribbon cutting for their newest pedestrian crossing and extended appreciation to ODOT for all the support they provided.
- Kilcoyne (Lane Transit District) – FTA has approved funding for the West Eugene EMX line; ridership continues to drop and it's looking like there may be a problem with counters giving inaccurate data. The Board has selected three finalists for the General Manager position.
- Palmer (Basin Transit Service) – Things are going well—OIT renewed the bus pass program for another year.
- Deas (TriMet) – Opened the new Orange Line and 40,000 people took rides the first weekend. Ridership is a bit down for the overall system.
- Howell (City of Sandy) – Announced that she is the new General Manager for their system.
- Wehling (City of Canby) – They will be changing their name from “Orange Line” to something else in order to reduce confusion with TriMet’s new Orange Line; in process of buying some additional property for future use.
- Stanchfield (Creative Bus Sales) – Business as usual, working hard on the Bus Rodeo and conference.
- Carpenter (Community Connection of Baker County) – Ridership was up 7% in last fiscal year; will be hosting drug and alcohol training at their offices in conjunction with ODOT.
- Bruce (Lincoln County Transportation) – Impasse in labor negotiations continues, will be going to second mediation session later this week.
- Wells (Ride Connection) – Salt & Straw developed a special ice cream flavor to commemorate opening of Orange Line and donated a portion of sales to Ride Connection; they were eight rides short of 500,000 trips in the last fiscal year.
- Brown (Rogue Valley Transit District) – Board is considering going out for another ballot measure next May; have recovered from service cuts and ridership is steady.
- Pilant (Tillamook Transportation District) – Mary Adams is consulting with the district on a staffing plan; will likely be bringing a mechanic on in-house. Received a 5304 planning grant for the NW Transit Alliance.
- Curley (ToGo) – Drive Less Challenge will be starting on October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Friend (Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council) – Launching Bend fixed route expansion on Monday—this will be a 33% increase in service. In final negotiations with their CCO.
- Pollock (Salem-Keizer Transit) – Implemented first phase of service expansion—phase 2 will be dependent upon passage of the payroll tax measure.

The meeting was recessed at 11:12am when the Board went into executive session to discuss contractor performance evaluations.