
**Oregon Transit Association
Board of Directors Meeting
January 9, 2018**

Present

Members: President Julie Brown, Vice President Lisa Scherf, Treasurer Doug Pilant (phone), Dwight Brashear, Cynda Bruce (phone), Mary Jo Carpenter, Kim Curley, Aaron Deas, Hal Gard, Andi Howell (phone), A.J. Jackson, Susan Johnson (phone), Allan Pollock, Kimberly Stanchfield (phone), Elaine Wells

Guests: Jeff Hazen (Sunset Empire Transportation District); Dale Penn (Salem-Keizer Transit); Karyn Criswell (ODOT-RPT); Evan Andrie (Lane Transit District)

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

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

Agenda

No objections to approve the agenda as distributed.

Election of Officers

Motion by Friend, seconded by Wells, to re-elect Julie Brown as President and Lisa Scherf as Vice President. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Brashear, seconded by Carpenter, to elect Karen Friend as Treasurer. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Motion by Brashear, seconded by Carpenter, to approve the December 12th Board meeting minutes as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Pilant summarized the financial report and highlighted the following:

- Public Fund dues revenue is looking good at 98% of budget; Private Fund dues are only 75% of budget, but are 30% higher than at the same point last year.
- Minimal expenses for the month—the \$330 for conference food/location was a bill received in January for the Tamástslikt Cultural Center tour attendees.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.

Legislative Update

Hagedorn reported:

- The final round of committee meetings will take place this week and bills will be available on Feb. 5th.

-
- A bill draft for the “cap and invest” proposed legislation (LC 141) was just released this morning and there will be a committee meeting tomorrow to discuss it.
 - Weekly meetings of the transit coalition will take place during the short session along with possible meetings of the Legislative Committee.
 - There will be a HB2017 technical fix bill along with several hundred other bills that will be tracked. Brown said that ODOT will take the lead on the technical fix bill—there are some minor changes that need to be made to allow transit agencies to comply; the timeframe for fiscal reports specified in the draft bill isn’t workable.

Discussion of HB2017 Rulemaking Key Elements

Criswell distributed a memo summarizing the status of the current draft rules and explained key elements. She announced that the funding allocation method will be on the basis of employer location.

Legislative Fiscal Office and the Chief Financial Officer need to give approval of the adequacy of funds before funds can be disbursed. Funds may not be available by January 1, 2019—ODOT needs to get authority to approve transit improvement plans so that agencies can go forward using their own funds and receive reimbursement later.

Criswell said that the timeline to get rules adopted, grant applications out, and plans approved, is extremely tight.

A suggestion was made for the Oregon Transportation Commission to adopt temporary rules to allow providers to move forward on plans.

Friend suggested eliminating any funding match requirement from the rules and there was consensus support for this from the Board.

Brown commended Criswell and the entire ODOT-RPTD team for all their work on the rulemaking process.

Executive Director’s Report

Ross summarized communications from the Seaside Convention Center in December regarding significant impacts from their construction project on the scheduled October conference and subsequent support from the Board to cancel and move to the Riverhouse in Bend. A contract for the same dates has been finalized with the Riverhouse. Ross asked the Board for authority to execute a contract for the 2019 and 2020 conferences with the Seaside Convention Center and there were no objections from the Board.

Ross reported on additional information regarding the Transportation Policy Group that had been requested during the December Board meeting and it was the consensus of the Board that Drew Hagedorn should be OTA’s representative.

ODOT-RPTD Report

Gard reported:

- A new senior policy analyst has been hired.
- Region I and II RTC replacements are being interviewed.
- A ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Salem baggage depot will be held next week.

Agency Updates

- Howell (City of Sandy) – Has a city council workshop later today to discuss HB2017.
- Pilant (Tillamook County Transportation District) – Hired a new operations manager; in final stages in their construction project; implementing Ecolane software in February; participating in the Grand Ronde tribe's transportation planning process.
- Bruce (Lincoln County Transit) – Working on updates to the Northwest Connector project and working with the county to get extra space.
- Pollock (Salem-Keizer Transit) – Welcomed Tillamook Transportation District buses to the downtown transit center.
- Jackson (Lane Transit District) – Hiring a CTE to assist with deployment of new electric buses.
- Hazen (Sunset Empire Transit District) – Hired former board chair as operations manager.
- Johnson (CTUIR) – Newest service to Hermiston just hit the one year mark and is going very well with a 70% increase in ridership.
- Carpenter (Community Connection of NE Oregon) – Continuing to pursue funding to expand their office and have received several grants.
- Wells (Ride Connection) – STF funding for the Union County dialysis ride program was delayed, but is now under way; delivered 265 gift bags to their customers during the holidays.
- Brashear (SMART/City of Wilsonville) – The city council gave approval for a consulting agreement for electric buses; working on a regional strategy for increased service under HB2017.
- Friend (Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council) – In union negotiations and they are taking up a lot of time; in process of working with the state on a TGM update; getting good publicity regarding addition of low floor buses; City of Redmond is working on a fixed route system.
- Penn (Salem-Keizer Transit) – Ballot Measure 101 election on January 23rd will significant impacts on transit agencies if it fails.
- Curley (ToGo) – The ToGo Board will be meeting at Metro on January 18th, and on the 19th will be meeting with the Safe Routes to School group at the Oregon Zoo.
- Scherf (Corvallis Transit) – Finishing work on TSP and TDT; Benton County Amtrak service began last October and is doing well; starting Saturday service in Philomath.
- Brown (Rogue Valley Transportation District) – Installing new fare boxes and going through training for drivers; had kickoff of transit master plan; negotiating with the City of Medford for removal of parking near RVTD's facility to accommodate expansion plans.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.