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**Oregon Transit Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
August 14, 2018**

***Present***

Members: President Julie Brown, Dwight Brashear, Cynda Bruce (phone), Mary Jo Carpenter (phone), Kim Curley (phone), Aaron Deas, Hal Gard, Andi Howell (phone), Aurora Jackson (phone), Doug Pilant (phone), Julie Wilcke

Guests: Karyn Criswell (ODOT-RPT); Dale Penn (Salem-Keizer Transit); Evyan Andries (Lane Transit District - phone); David Trimble (Salem-Keizer Transit); Gary Conkling (CFM Strategic Communications—phone)

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

***Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by President Julie Brown.***

***Agenda***

Motion by Brashear, seconded by Gard, to the agenda as distributed. *Motion passed unanimously.*

***Minutes***

Motion by Gard, seconded by Brashear, to approve the June 18th Board meeting minutes as distributed. *Motion passed unanimously.*

***Treasurer's Report***

In the absence of Treasurer Friend, Ross summarized the financial report for the periods ending June 30<sup>th</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup> and highlighted the following:

- Public Fund dues revenue at the end of the 2017-18 fiscal year was 98% of budget, Private Fund dues revenue down a bit more at 75% of budget (reflects a decrease in vendors at the conference)—total dues revenue at 95% of budget.
- Total conference expenses and revenues for 2017-18 fiscal year seem to show a net loss of \$656.51, but this includes deposit expenses totaling \$7,500 for the upcoming 2018 conference.
- The July 31st financial report shows only minimal activity for the month—2018-19 dues billing went out in mid-July and payments have been received in August, which will be reflected when that report is reviewed next month.

No questions or comments from the Board.

***Director Appointment***

President Brown reported that she has appointed Julie Wilcke to fill the balance of Elaine Wells' position on the Board.

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## ***Legislative Update***

Hagedorn reported:

- Many legislators are taking vacations during the summer, but there is plenty of political activity going on.
- The race for governor will be very competitive—Kate Brown’s favorability rating is in the 30% range.
- The Democrats will be seeking supermajorities in both chambers.
- The next Legislative Days will be September 24th.
- The 2019 session will start on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Penn reported:

- It was recently discovered that the federal tax reform bill made employer purchased bus passes a taxable benefit—transit advocates are looking into the possibility of a congressional amendment to correct this.
- Speaker Kotek has requested information on implementation of HB 2017.

## ***Discussion of HB2017 Rulemaking Key Elements***

Criswell reported:

- The solicitation schedule has been released; a notice of solicitation will be released prior to the conference.
- The Rail & Public Transit Division hopes to have additional staff on board by September 1<sup>st</sup> to assist with STIF implementation.

Gard commended Criswell and the rest of the RPTD team for all their efforts in implementing HB 2017.

## ***Executive Director Report***

Membership Survey – Ross reminded the Board that he had sent draft survey questions developed by CFM Strategic Communications to them the previous week and asked for any suggested changes. Wilcke asked about question #8 (Would you participate in sharing success stories to a coordinated communications strategy?) and suggested that it would be good to include a follow-up question asking for contact information if the respondent indicated a willingness to participate.

Gary Conkling of CFM asked if the survey should be limited only to OTA members, or should it be distributed to non-member transit providers. Consensus of the Board was that it should be sent only to members.

Conference Update – Ross reported that the conference schedule is nearing final completion and that he anticipates opening registration within the next few days.

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## **ODOT/PTD Report**

Gard reported:

- A hearing on the Oregon Transportation Plan was conducted in July and very few comments were received; the Oregon Transportation Commission is scheduled to adopt the plan in September.
- Several positions on the Public Transportation Advisory Committee will become open in the near future and asked for recommendations of replacements.
- Brendan Finn is the Governor's new transportation advisor; Lindsey Baher is ODOT's new government relations person.
- ODOT is going through state management review.
- The Department of Revenue is expected to take \$6 million in administrative fees out of new transit payroll tax revenues.

## **Agency Updates**

- Brashear (City of Wilsonville/SMART) – The Clackamas County Advisory Committee completed its planning process on July 24<sup>th</sup> and submitted everything to TriMet, the qualified entity.
- Trimble (Salem-Keizer Transit) – Had its first STIF Advisory Committee meeting two weeks ago and second is scheduled for August 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Wilcke (Ride Connection) – Celebrated the fifth anniversary of Grove Link and the Forest Grove City Council adopted a resolution of appreciation.
- Deas (TriMet) – Working on the internal TriMet Advisory Committee and getting close to completion; had first electric bus delivered last week; hired a new COO who had previously been at the City of Portland, Maurice Henderson. The low income fare program started last week and approximately 1,700 people have already signed up.
- Bruce (Lincoln County Transportation) – Having a 5311 state management review tomorrow; starting their real-time app soon.
- Carpenter (Community Connection of NE Oregon) – Completed installation of their first audio/video surveillance system in buses; have started advertising for Mary Jo's job and hoping to have someone in place by October.
- Curley (ToGo) – The statewide transportation options meeting will be Friday in Ashland; the ToGo Board meeting will be on Thursday.
- Howell (City of Sandy) – Wrapped up the Clackamas County STIF plans and referred them to TriMet; ridership is up for a full year; having a few glitches with DoubleMap and the tablets. Sandy City Manager is retiring and Howell has been asked to serve as the interim manager.
- Jackson (Lane Transit District) – There are two vacancies on the LTD Board and they are working with the Governor's office to make replacement appointments; McGlone has moved to Congressman DeFazio's office in Washington, D.C., and they are working on how to cover all his responsibilities.

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- Pilant (Tillamook County Transportation District) – Working hard to recruit their STIF committee; opening a brokerage company for the three-county area is taking up much of Pilant’s time; have a Section 5310 state management review tomorrow; and working on new bus stop signs.
  - Brown (Rogue Valley Transportation District) – Will be waiting until spring to out for STIF funds; put in a 5339 application for alternative fuel vehicles; just returned from the CTA conference in Flagstaff and it was interesting to see what’s happening with automated vehicles, especially parking lot shuttles.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.