

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING

LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

March 20, 1973

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of Lane County Mass Transit District was held at the City Hall in Eugene, Oregon on March 20, 1973 at 7:30 p.m.

Present were:

Craig Robinson, President, presiding,
Leonard Wildish, vice president
Phyllis P. Loobey, secretary
Daniel M. Herbert, treasurer
Fred Brunner,
Gary Buell
Glenn E. Randall
Fred Dyer, General Manager
Richard Bryson, counsel.

Absent were:

None.

MINUTES:

Reading of the minutes of the meeting of February 20, 1973 was dispensed with as copies had been sent to all members of the Board. On motion, duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as written.

PLANNING:

Mr. Dyer filed with the secretary, and delivered to each member of the Board, a written report entitled "Action Elements to be Considered in the Operation of Autzen Stadium Parking in Connection with Mass Transit Service", and told the Board that there does not seem to be strong sentiment at this time for the use of Autzen Stadium for parking. Mr. Herbert said that the emphasis is changing from Autzen Stadium parking to public transit in relation to the University of Oregon. Much depends upon University of Oregon action and they are working on it.

Mr. Snowden reported that study is continuing on the joint school district-mass transit planning. So far he has been unable to persuade the local utilities to assist him in his efforts to locate the handicapped people within the service area, but his efforts in that regard are continuing and he is considering trying advertisements in the newspapers. Mr. Snowden also said he is continuing the origin-destination survey. He also reported on a recent meeting

which he had with officials of UMTA and LCOG.

Mr. Rynerson exhibited a route map prepared in connection with the 1975 level of services planning. The map showed extensions of routes which could be considered in order to provide service within one-quarter mile of the residents of the service area and in addition the extension of the Coburg Road line outside the present service area to Coburg. He advised that the extension of routes indicated on the map would require ten additional buses. The routes to be extended, as shown on the proposal, were: Coburg Road extended north to Coburg; Gateway north of Harlow Road; Hayden Bridge Road east of 19th; 42nd Street in Springfield; Jasper Road, 32nd to 42nd; Lorraine Highway and Blanton areas; West 11th and West 13th; Santa Clara area west of River Road; and the area north of Beltline between Delta Highway and Norkenzie Road.

Mr. Rynerson noted that the proposal is based upon 30-minute headway and that there may be some routes where the District could provide less frequent service. Mr. Herbert commented that we have to be careful to avoid compromising the intention of the urban service area of the 1990 Plan, and this will require review by the Planning Commission Coordinating Committee of the Springfield, Eugene and Lane County Planning Commissions. Mr. Robinson expressed the need for ridership estimates in connection with the proposed extensions.

Mr. Dyer reported that the Board has had a work session with the Board of Directors of Eugene Renewal Agency concerning the downtown terminal proposal, and the District is now expected to provide a list of items it considers necessary and other items it considers desirable in such a building. Mr. Herbert filed with the Secretary, and presented to each Board member, a written report of the sub-committee on City and County Zoning and Planning. He mentioned that efforts are being made to correlate the District's planning with the City and County planning agencies.

FINANCE AND BUDGET:

The General Manager reported that the District is operating within its budget and has no budget problems. In response to inquiries, Mr. Dyer told the Board that further study is being given to the employees retirement plan, including the possible use of an insurance plan, a bank trust or the facilities of the public employees retirement plan. It was suggested that Mr. Dyer might ask for assistance from our insurance broker and that he might also consult with an actuarial firm.

Mr. Dyer presented his financial reports for the month of February, 1973, and on motion duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve payment of the bills as listed in the total sum of \$33,966.

LABOR RELATIONS:

The General manager presented to the Board for its approval, a draft of labor agreement between Lane County Mass Transit District

and Amalgamated Transit Union Local No. 757 to be effective as of March 1, 1973 and continue until June 30, 1975 and continuing thereafter until notice of termination served in writing by either party sixty day's in advance of the anniversary date of the contract. Mr. Dyer noted the principal changes included a 6% increase in employee benefits; the addition of one holiday on the birthday of the employee; the addition of five cents to the pension fund (two cents now and three cents additional January 1, 1975); a cost of living escalation clause for the wages and an increase in the medical and dental contribution by the District. Mr. Dyer advised the Board that the agreement had been approved by the union and by the District's representative, Cascade Employers Association, Inc. On motion duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to accept the agreement subject to such drafting corrections as the General Manager may require.

PROPERTY ACQUISITION:

Mr. Dyer told the Board that he wants to negotiate for a lease-option on the real estate at 815 Garfield Street, Eugene, Oregon and after obtaining the same to apply for a federal grant to help with the purchase of said property. His concern in this regard is to obtain adequate additional space and facilities for fueling, storage and washing of buses and for employee parking. Some of the members of the Board expressed reservations on the District's need to provide employee parking, but that they would approve acquisition of additional property, if needed, for fueling, storage and washing of buses. A motion was made by Mr. Herbert and seconded by Mrs. Loobey that Mr. Dyer be authorized to proceed, but discussion brought out a sense of the Board that Mr. Dyer did not need additional authorization to negotiate and report back to the Board and the motion was not brought to a vote.

OPERATIONS:

The Manager reported that Lane County Mass Transit District has the greatest proportionate passenger increase in the nation and commented that the Board should take pride in that accomplishment.

Mr. Dyer also told the Board that he is approaching the next phase in advertising which will be the use of billboards. He reported on a meeting with the Springfield Transportation Committee which is undertaking to start a program in cooperation with the Springfield merchants and the Transit District for "ride and shop" possibly with the use of tokens or other methods.

At Mr. Dyer's request, and on motion duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Mr. Dyer to take a vacation of two weeks beginning May 22, 1973.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Joan Rich, interim chairman of the Citizens Advisory Committee, presented to the Board copies of minutes of the committee's meeting

of March 5, 1973, and copies of the committee's letter of March 15, 1973, to the chairman of the State and Federal Affairs Committee of the Oregon Legislature expressing preference for HJR-7 over HJR-19 and support of JHR-7 in the legislature. Mr. Robinson told the Board that the citizens advisory committee has asked him to appoint a member from the Downtown Eugene Retail Merchants.

Mr. Robinson noted with sorrow the passing of Robert Merrell, former chairman of the Citizens Advisory Committee, and spoke of Mr. Merrell's intelligence, imagination and dedication to mass transit. On motion duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to request Mr. Robinson to write a letter to Mrs. Merrell expressing the Board's sorrow and the appreciation of the Board for Mr. Merrell's dedicated service to mass transit.

LEGISLATION:

Motion was made by Mr. Herbert and seconded by Mrs. Loobey that the Board express a preference for HJR-7 over HJR-19 pending in the Oregon Legislature. During discussion of the motion Mr. Randall said that he felt that the Board of Directors should not take any position in regard to that pending legislation. The motion was submitted to vote and was defeated. On motion of Mr. Wildish, seconded by Mr. Randall, the Board voted unanimously to express its appreciation for the Citizen's Advisory Committee's work and action in following and expressing its views on pending legislation.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Mr. V. L. Wirth appeared on behalf of residents of the Lakewood Park area at 1800 Highway 99 North, Eugene. He informed the Board of the difficulty of crossing Highway 99 traffic to get to the Barger Line bus and the difficulty of walking down the highway to catch the Echo Hollow bus. He requested that the District arrange for a bus to come into the Lakewood Park or have a bus-stop on the same side of the highway as Lakewood Park is located.

Mr. Jim Martin again urged the Board to take steps to help the transportation of the physically disabled and handicapped and the elderly and particularly requested that the capital grant application to the federal government include facilities for the use of the elderly, handicapped and disabled. He was informed that to date the district has not been able to find out where the physically handicapped are residing and needs such information in order to make plans, but the District is continuing its efforts to locate such individuals.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Secretary