

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING

LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

April 17, 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 April 17, 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
Fred Dyer, General Manager
Richard Bryson, Counsel.

Absent:

Gary Buell
Glenn E. Randall

MINUTES:

Reading of the minutes of the meeting of March 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 presented a written report on the University of Oregon planning by the LCOG committee dated April 12, 1973 and said that the district will be hearing from the campus planning committee and the city of Eugene who are studying the report.

With reference to the 1975 level of service planning, Mr. Dyer presented a written report dated April 20, 1973 entitled "Phase X Route and Schedule Changes" relating to bus routes serving University of Oregon and Lane Community College. Dave Rynerson told the Board that the staff is waiting for results of surveys that have been taken and are studying ridership graphs and will be making plans for recommended changes and additions.

Mr. Snowden filed a written report dated April 12, 1973 on transportation planning with a copy of the first draft of LCOG's Unified Work Program dated March 26, 1973. He explained that in the future all federal assistance applications will have to be made with reference to the Work Program. He also said that it is contemplated that the Transit District's matching contributions shown in this draft of the Work Program will be made in planning services rather than in the form of contributions of money.

Mr. Snowden told the Board that he has not as yet been able to get EWEB to send out questionnaires with their billings to help us locate the handicapped people in the area and he is going to confer with Jim Martin and try to obtain the assistance of Public Service Organizations in locating the handicapped.

Mr. Snowden's report showed that an on-board origin-destination survey would be made in May of this year. The report on the joint transit-school district study is expected June 30 as scheduled.

Mr. Dyer told the Board that the Eugene Renewal Agency is still collecting data on the proposed downtown bus terminal and that no action by the Board is required at this time.

Mr. Dyer filed a copy of the district's statement of goals and objectives, a list of its May, 1972 findings, a list of the district's proposed work activities and a review of the district's goals, policies and objectives and suggested further consideration thereof in order to assist in the preparation of the next budget. Mr. Herbert suggested that we add to our goals and objectives a provision that the district should develop new kinds and methods of service so that the staff could begin working toward that goal. Mrs. Loobey and Mr. Robinson expressed the desirability of reviewing the goals and objectives at this time and Mr. Robinson then appointed a subcommittee consisting of Mrs. Loobey, Mr. Herbert and himself to review the matter with the Citizens Advisory Committee, assess what the District has accomplished to date and recommend any necessary changes.

In response to the request of Mr. V. L. Wirth, made at the March meeting of the Board on behalf of residents of the Lakewood Park area, Mr. Rynerson reported that he has looked into the matter and that it appears that the existence of a fence around the Lakewood Park is obstructing access by the residents of that area to the nearest bus line. He has suggested to Mr. Wirth that the residents make an effort to work out with the proprietor of Lakewood Park a method of better access.

FINANCE:

The General Manager presented his financial reports for the month of March, 1973 and answered questions of the Board members concerning the same. On motion duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve payment of the bills for the month of March, 1973 as presented by Mr. Dyer in the total sum of \$68,259.84.

OPERATIONS:

The General Manager told the Board that the new property at 8th & Garfield Streets in Eugene is working out very nicely. He has just obtained an appraisal of the property at 815 Garfield and will be holding a negotiation session concerning that property as soon as possible. Mr. Dyer also told the Board that he has asked for federal permission to sell the old green buses and is waiting for an answer.

The General Manager presented ridership reports and told the Board that the District again leads the nation in percent of increase of ridership and that our growth in ridership is continuing.

Jerry Schmidt gave an oral report on the advertising program. He played for the Board three radio tapes of new radio commercials now being used and told the Board that advertising is now being displayed on 12 billboards in the Eugene-Springfield area. Photographs of the billboard ads were passed around to the Board members. Mr. Schmidt also mentioned the newspaper campaign which is being produced and showed the Board some drawings that were submitted for that campaign by the local gradeschool children.

Mr. Dyer reported to the Board that Citizens Bank, the City of Eugene and the Associated Students of the University of Oregon have all purchased tokens on a wholesale discount basis and the City of Eugene is permitting department heads to shift schedules so as to make it more convenient for employees to ride the buses to and from work.

The General Manager then informed the Board that work of applying the District's logo to buses is continuing and that vertical exhaust systems are being installed on some of the diesel buses in order to see what effect this will have on odor and visible emission complaints, noise and engine performance.

The Manager advised the Board that the District's office workers have petitioned for an election to extend the amalgamated transit union shop throughout the entire operation excluding only the General Manager, his secretary and supervisory personnel. He said that the District is complying with all the legal requirements with the assistance of Cascade Employers and that he foresees no problems in this regard.

Mr. Dyer introduced Gary Hunt, a senior at the University of Oregon in public affairs who is helping prepare our new capital grant application as part of his University requirement. It was reported that there may be included in the application a provision for a specially designed bus for the handicapped with a hydraulic lifting device and other modifications, the bus to be manufactured by Twin Coach at an estimated cost of \$32,000.

Mr. Dyer mentioned that he, Mrs. Loobey and Mr. Rynerson went to Portland and inspected the electrobus. He found that there are some favorable and some unfavorable aspects and does not consider acquisition of an electrobus of high priority. The bus runs from four to six hours without recharging its battery and the batteries can be changed in 1 1/2 minutes. It takes about eight hours to recharge a battery.

Mr. Dyer said that he would not be able to take his vacation as planned in May, 1973 and he also mentioned the ATA Western Conference which is to be held in San Diego, May. 6 - 9.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The committee chairman, Mrs. Joan Rich, presented to the board members copies of the minutes of the committee meeting of April 3, 1973.

LEGISLATION:

Mr. Dyer handed out to the board members a bulletin from the American Transit Association dated April 13, 1973, asking members of the association to urge their congressmen to vote in favor of the Anderson Amendment to the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1973 (H.B. 6288) which would permit local governments the choice of using part of the highway trust fund money for bus and rail transit instead of requiring that all of the money be used for highway construction. Mr. Wildish spoke against the board taking a position on this legislation and Mr. Herbert spoke in favor of taking a position. On motion of Mr. Herbert, seconded by Mrs. Loobey, the board voted 3 to 1 that Congressman Dellenback be urged to vote in favor of the Anderson Amendment, Mr. Robinson not voting.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Jim Martin and Larry Craig both urged the board to modify the existing buses and make specifications for new buses so that all buses in the system would be useable by the physically handicapped and disabled persons and both of them requested that public hearings be held on the subject. Mr. Robinson expressed some doubt as to the necessity for public hearings at this time as what the board needs is more information and he requested the staff to continue its efforts to obtain adequate data and statistics so that the board will be fully advised concerning the problem.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion duly seconded the board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Secretary