

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

June 13, 1973

The Board of Directors of Lane County Mass Transit District met at the City Hall in Eugene, Oregon on June 13, 1973 at 7:30 p.m. pursuant to adjournment from its meeting on May 21, 1973.

Present were:

Craig Robinson, President, presiding  
Leonard Wildish, Vice President  
Phyllis P. Loobey, Secretary  
Daniel M. Herbert, Treasurer  
Gary Buell  
Fred Dyer, General Manager  
Richard Bryson, Counsel.

Absent:

Fred Brunner  
Glenn E. Randall.

MINUTES: Reading of the minutes of the meetings of May 15 and May 21, 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 of those meetings as written.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The committee chairman, Mrs. Joan Rich, presented an oral report for the committee.

PLANNING: Ollie Snowden reported that the LASTS Committee met with Boing Computer Services, which presented three tentative planning alternatives:

1. Consolidation of the transit district with school districts 4-J and 19 for transportation service;
2. Consolidation of the transit district with school district 4-J alone;
3. That bus transportation for highschool students in Eugene and Springfield be provided solely by Lane Transit District.

The third alternative was the one favored by Boing Computer Services. Mr. Snowden explained that the reason for not including the Bethel School District in the consideration of consolidating was that Bethel District has a contract with Dorsey which would require Bethel District to purchase the Dorsey buses in case of termination of that contract.

Mr. Snowden reported on the District's efforts to conduct a survey of handicapped people in the area. He has put out public

announcements in the press and other media, but only received 30 or 40 responses which he does not consider representative. He said that the Eugene Mayor's Committee has been critical of the survey and has indicated that in their opinion it would be very difficult to obtain a reliable survey. Mr. Snowden then presented to the Board members copies of portions of the Tri-Met survey of the physically limited persons in the Portland area, showing among other things that Portland's existing transit system will not accommodate the chronically handicapped with major physical limitations without major modifications of the vehicles (such as wheel chair lifts); and that at this time it is not practical to make such major modifications due to lack of accessible bus designs and the cost involved. Mr. Snowden also discussed the pamphlet distributed by Travel Barriers and the program being carried out in Urbana, Ill. Mr. Snowden told the Board that if he were to apply the Portland statistics to Eugene-Springfield area, on the ratio of relative total population, it would indicate existence of about 9,000 people in the Eugene-Springfield area who are physically limited, of whom approximately 6,000 persons would be able to use our existing system and another approximately 1,500 persons could use the existing system with difficulty; but about 1,500 persons, or about one per cent of the population, would be unable to use the existing bus equipment.

Copies of a letter signed by the Mayor of Eugene, addressed to the Transit District Board of Directors, dated June 5, 1973, concerning public transportation of the disabled were delivered to the Board members. The Transit District president, Mr. Craig Robinson, commented that he was surprised that the Mayor of Eugene had signed that letter and pointed out a number of inaccuracies in the letter including, among others, the statement that the District is not planning to make public transportation accessible to individuals with severe mobility problems and that it is clear that the District intends to purchase a special bus for the disabled. Mr. Robinson pointed out that the Board is still considering what it should do and is attempting to obtain all the information it can on the subject. He also pointed out that the statement that the Transit District's Board of Directors has made an assumption that "if the handicapped don't phone in, they are lazy and don't need access to public transportation anyway" is inaccurate and untrue. A member of the audience, Mr. Larry Craig, stated that he had composed the Mayor's letter and believed that the statements as to the assumptions made by the Board were justified. Mr. Robinson pointed out again that they were not accurate. Mr. Robinson also announced that requests have been received from interested groups who want to have a public meeting on the subject and as the Board of Directors is interested in obtaining further information, there will be a public hearing called to consider public transportation for the disabled and handicapped.

Mr. Dyer and Mr. Herbert reported on their meeting with Eugene Renewal Agency and representatives of various agencies concerning the proposed downtown bus terminal. They reported that the Renewal Agency's consultant seemed more concerned with various types of parking facility and they had urged him to give more consideration to the movement of people.

Phyllis Loobey, speaking on behalf of the subcommittee on goals and objectives, moved the adoption of the written draft of the statement of goals and objectives presented by the subcommittee to the Board at its meeting of May 15, 1973. Motion was duly seconded and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board.

Mr. Fred Dyer discussed the Eugene-Springfield Transit Study and pointed out that the main significance of this study is that the computer capability of the state of Oregon is greater now than when the Vorhees Study was made and that there is now a greater input from the public. Mr. Wildish reported on his attendance at a meeting on the L-COG Citizens Advisory Committee.

FINANCE: The General Manager presented financial statements for the month of May, 1973 and answered questions concerning the same. On motion, duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve payment of the bills for the month of May, as presented by Mr. Dyer, in the sum of \$49,926.31.

Mr. Dyer filed with the Board copies of proposed tax collection contract with the State Department of Revenue, but advised that he is still negotiating with the Department concerning a possible fixed rate contract and suggested that the Board defer action on the matter.

The General Manager told the Board that it was time to consider renewal of the contract with the District's auditors, Derickson & Gault, Certified Public Accountants, and recommended renewal of their contract. On motion, duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to retain Derickson & Gault as the District's auditors.

OPERATIONS: Mr. Dyer filed written ridership reports with the Board.

Mr. Jerry Schmidt made an oral report on plans for advertising and told the Board that new radio advertisements are scheduled in a series of four spots dealing with reliability, fuel shortage, ecology and the District's national number one standing in ridership increase.

FEDERAL GRANT: Fred Dyer advised the Board that he has revised the Federal Grant application in accordance with the recommendation made by the subcommittee, resulting in a reduction of \$475,574. The new net project cost is \$1,228,839, of which the District's local share will be \$409,613 and the Federal share \$819,226. On motion, duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Craig Robinson, Chairman of the Board of Directors, to sign a preliminary application for a Federal Capital Grant of \$819,226.

INSURANCE: The Board considered the District's public liability insurance coverage and discussed the question of whether to purchase a \$1,000,000 "umbrella policy". Action was postponed pending further study.

LEGISLATION: The General Manager, Mr. Dyer, informed the Board of his appearance before the Oregon Legislatures Ways and Means Subcommittee to testify concerning bills and resolutions relating to the use of highway funds and gasoline taxes for public

transportation purposes.

BUDGET: Mr. Robinson informed the Board that it will be necessary to elect three new members of the budget committee for three year terms. Phyllis Loobey recommended Carol Jones and Dan Herbert recommended Dick Rice. On motion, duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Carol Jones and Dick Rice to the budget committee to serve for three year terms.

The General Manager filed with the members of the Board preliminary budget draft with six alternative proposals for their consideration. On motion duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Fred Dyer as the District's budget officer.

PERSONNEL: Mr. Dyer told the Board that he has not yet been able to take his vacation and is going to try for a vacation during the week beginning July 16, 1973.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: Mr. Larry Craig thanked the Board for hearing his earlier comments and added his own request to those requests previously received by the Board for a public hearing on the subject of public transportation for the physically handicapped.

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

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Secretary