

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING

LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

July 26, 1973

The Board of Directors of Lane County Mass Transit District held a public meeting and budget hearing on July 26, 1973 at 7:30 p.m. at the City Hall in Eugene, Oregon, pursuant to the call of the President made at the budget committee hearing on July 6, 1973 and notice thereof duly published in the Eugene REGISTER Guard; and also pursuant to adjournment to its regular monthly Board of Directors meeting held on July 17, 1973.

Present were:

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

Absent was:

Fred Brunner.

MINUTES: Reading of the minutes of the budget committee meeting of July 6, 1973 and the Board of Directors meetings of June 19, June 26 and July 17, 1973 was dispensed with as copies thereof were furnished to all members. On motion duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve said minutes as written.

BUDGET: Mr. Robinson presented to the Board for its consideration the budget approved by the budget committee at its meeting of July 6, 1973 in the total sum of \$2,579,692.00, summary of which was duly published with the requisite notices and certificate as provided by law and briefly explained the reasons for the increase over the previous year. Comment and discussion was invited from the audience and in response the following persons spoke in support of adoption of the budget:

Mrs. B. J. Seymour, Information Director of
the State Department of Environmental Quality.
Kenneth Kohnen, former member of the Oregon Mass
Transit Commission.
Bernt Hansen, representing Lane Consumer League.
Annabell Kitzhaber, President of the League of
Women Voters.
Mel Schoppert, representative of the Transit
Employees' Union

Harry Van Oudenallen, Director of Planning,
University of Oregon.
John Reynolds.
Dennis Spitze.

The following spoke either in opposition to the budget itself or in opposition to the method of financing through use of the employers' payroll tax:

George Blodgett, of Williams Bakery,
Basil Cramer
Jack Gardner, an attorney, speaking on behalf of
several employers,
Robert Beal
Leigh Iverson, representing Breeden Bros., Inc.
and Breeden Bros. Edgewood Shopping Center,
Jerry Reed of Reed's Fuel Company,
Gene Davis
John Auld
Ed Ramsey, Springfield Realtor,
Vince Farina
Merle Saunders, of Saunders Cleaners,
Jim Martin.

Wayne Shields, owner of ValleyRiver Center, spoke in favor of mass transit and the need for a broader tax base, and said employers should encourage increased ridership.

Following the statements and comments from the audience, Mr. Robinson expressed the Board's appreciation for the large number of people attending the meeting. He reminded those present that the district was formed at the request of the City Councils of the cities of Eugene and Springfield to meet a public transportation crisis; that the Board was formed of business men who had gone on record from the beginning as finding the employers' payroll tax an inequitable method of financing, but found that the Board had no other real alternative. He said that the Board has given the Budget a great deal of thought and study; that it is aware that the buses sometimes run empty, but on the other hand they are sometimes full. He told the audience that the District feels committed to trying to market public transportation and increase the use thereof and the Board does not feel that ridership can be increased by reducing service. He further remarked that the Board is studying whether to use gasoline or diesel fuel.

In response to a criticism of the used buses acquired from Los Angeles, Mr. Wildish informed those present that the Los Angeles buses were not polluters rejected by Los Angeles, but on the contrary did pass the tests and standards of the Department of Environmental Quality before they were put into service.

Following a brief recess, the meeting resumed and Mr. Robinson commented that the question of salary increases provided for in the budget would be the subject of future Board meetings, and that budget approval would not necessarily mean that the indicated increases would be put into effect. Mr. Wildish remarked that the same would be true of other expenditures

listed in the budget.

Mr. Randall moved the adoption of the budget of \$2,579,692. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Loobey.

After some discussion, Mr. Buell moved to amend the budget so as to limit the tax rate to .0035. The amendment was seconded by Mr. Wildish. Mrs. Loobey, Mr. Herbert and Mr. Randall spoke against the motion to amend.

The motion to amend the budget by limiting the tax rate to .0035 was brought to a vote and failed by a vote of two in favor and three opposed, Mr. Robinson abstaining.

The motion to adopt the budget of \$2,579,692, as approved by the budget committee was brought to a vote and carried by a vote of three in favor to two opposed, Mr. Robinson abstaining. Mr. Robinson declared that the budget was adopted.

FINANCE: Mr. Dyer presented the financial reports for the month of June and on motion duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve payment of the bills presented for the month of June, 1973 in the total sum of \$18,292.34.

PLANNING: Mr. Snowden told the Board that L-COG has received the first draft of a report on the Lane area school transportation study; that they are not fully satisfied with the report, but are waiting for the technical documents and hope to be holding public hearings later this year.

Dave Rynerson told the Board that work is proceeding on the time table for night and Sunday services and scheduling. He also reported that he has been attending meetings with University of Oregon and city of Eugene representatives and a program is about to be implemented to discourage the use of cars on the campus by various means, including the increase of parking charges and the encouragement and subsidization of the use of mass transit.

OPERATIONS: Mr. Dyer presented written ridership reports to the Board. He also reported on the sale of tokens to married students and the shuttle system between the Westmoreland and the University campus.

Mr. Dyer informed the Board that on July 12 the clerical employees (excepting the executive secretary) received 25 cent per hour retroactive increases from March 1, 1973.

MISCELLANEOUS: Mr. Dyer announced that it is anticipated that the public hearing on public transportation for the disabled would be held at the time of the Board's regular meeting in September 18, 1973.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Dyer reported on items of interest from the Legislature, including the special fare for senior citizens,

creation of the State Transportation Commission, the bill to include insurance companies in the employers' payroll tax coverage and the constitutional amendment on use of fuel tax revenues for mass transit.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to August 17, 1973, at 7:30 a.m. at the Eugene Hotel in Eugene, Oregon.

Secretary