

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING

LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

February 26, 1975

The board of directors of Lane County Mass Transit District met on February 26, 1975 at 7:30 a.m. in the Eugene Hotel in Eugene, Oregon, pursuant to adjournment from its meeting of February 18, 1975.

Present:

Jack J. Craig, Treasurer
W. Gene Davis
Daniel M. Herbert, President, presiding
Kenneth H. Kohnen, Vice President
Ruth Shepherd
Fred C. Dyer

Absent:

Richard A. Booth
Glenn E. Randall, Secretary

Mavis Skipworth, administrative secretary, served as recording secretary for the meeting.

AUDITING: A formal, written resolution prepared by Mr. Bryson was presented to the board authorizing the transfer of \$100,034.18 from Capital Outlay to Materials and Supplies and stating the reasons therefore, and a copy of said resolution was filed with the secretary as part of these minutes. Mr. Davis moved that the board adopt this proposed resolution. Mr. Kohnen seconded the motion and it carried.

In reference to the Auditor's Comments regarding the requirement of a supplemental budget for monies borrowed and later repaid, Mr. Herbert reported that Mr. Bryson has discussed this with the State Department of Revenue and the Budget Officer, and will present a written statement on it shortly.

RESOLUTION AND WARRANT FORM: Mr. Herbert presented a resolution and warrant form prepared by the attorneys of Citizens Bank which, he said, improves the wording and would supersede the old form. On a motion by Mr. Kohnen and duly seconded, there was a favorable vote to accept this resolution and warrant form.

30TH & HILYARD PLANNING EFFORT: Mr. Herbert asked for approval of a letter he has written to the mayor and city council members of the City of Eugene offering assistance of the district in the planning efforts in the Hilyard Street, Amazon Parkway and 30th Avenue neighborhood. Mr. Herbert noted the necessity for inclusion of public transit needs in the consideration of widening the 30th and Hilyard intersection. He further stated that David Rynerson has made an analysis of the transit needs and that at a recent public

hearing held by the City of Eugene, Ellen Bevington appeared to read into the record substances of Mr. Rynerson's report.

A motion was made by Mrs. Shepherd and seconded by Mr. Kohnen that the board adopt this communication to the mayor and city council members. Discussion followed concerning the value of this planning to future transit development, such as node to node demand/response vehicle station locations. The question was put and the motion carried. It was suggested that wording be added to the letter to indicate the approval of the board and Mr. Herbert said this would be done.

Mrs. Shepherd requested consideration be given to dialogue with the school districts and Mr. Herbert said the staff will review the Boeing study and report later.

BUDGET COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS: A motion was made by Mr. Kohnen and duly seconded that Robert Moulton be appointed to the Budget Committee for a three year term. For background information, Mr. Kohnen said that Mr. Moulton is an attorney with the firm of Miller, Moulton & Andrews and was formerly with the Bureau of Governmental Research and Service. The question was put and carried.

Mr. Craig advised that the Department of Revenue will be conducting a budget workshop in Harris Hall on March 5th, for a general review of budget law and procedure. Phyllis Loobey offered to obtain further information on the workshop and will inform the budget committee members so they may attend if they wish.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: Jack Craig presented the recommendations of the Legislative Committee from their meeting of February 25:

Recommendation No. I, to support the concept of various inter-city bus transportation proposals. Mr. Dyer stated that the district should support the concept but not lend support to any particular proposal or methodology at this time, but rather should consider it as a role of urban public transportation being tied into inter-urban transportation. Mr. Kohnen pointed out that this recommendation was included in the approved Legislative Committee goals, No. 5.

A motion was made by Mr. Craig and seconded that the board adopt this recommendation. Mr. Davis said he could not support this, as this district was started to operate solely within the Eugene/Springfield metropolitan area. He added that inter-valley transportation is available now and he did not feel that the district should compete; that this would be empire building in an area that the district should not be in. Mr. Craig replied that schedules of the existing system are not convenient for commuters and that something better is needed. Mr. Herbert observed that the board would merely be expressing a need for this kind of transportation, but would not be involved in obtaining it.

Mrs. Shepherd moved to amend the motion to add "both public and private". The motion was seconded and carried. The question was put on the main motion as amended "to support the concept of various inter-city bus transportation proposals, both public and private" and it carried.

Recommendation No. II: Propose alternatives and/or request exclusion of Lane Transit from provisions of SB 337, relating to mass transit facilities, disabled and handicapped. Discussion followed concerning the Legislature's involvement in handling the problems of the disabled and handicapped. Mr. Dyer stated that the district has accomplished dramatic results in putting the mentally handicapped into public transit, and did not have a legislative dictum to do this. He further stated that the district is moving forward in the area of transportation for the disabled and handicapped. He said that people in wheelchairs represent a minority of the handicapped and that putting lifts on buses will not meet the needs of about 90% of the disabled and would be such a financial drain that the district would not be able to assist the majority. He added that the district can provide testimony that lifts on buses assist only those people with a high mobility in wheelchairs, and he believed the district could provide transportation for all but a very small minority if given time.

Mr. Craig said the district needs to make recommendations and alternative proposals and if necessary, request an exclusion from the provisions of SB 337 if it appears that it will pass. Mr. Dyer said he would prefer that the legislature put a time limitation for transit districts to develop a viable plan for meeting the transportation needs of the total population. Mrs. Shepherd agreed that the district should resist the bill, but did not believe it should ask for exclusion; rather, to assure the legislature that the district is doing something to solve the problem, such as possibly obtaining a couple of demand/response vehicles. Mr. Dyer replied that there are grant funds for the vehicles, but as yet, the district does not know which equipment to put on them. Phyllis Loobey said that UMTA is formulating guidelines, but there is a national trend to push into this problem inadequately. Mrs. Shepherd suggested that LTD should testify on this bill as it relates to the elderly and should stress more safety and assurance that we are doing it right.

Mr. Craig made a motion, which Mrs. Shepherd seconded, that the board approve Recommendation No. II. Mr. Herbert commented that the legislature had not adequately identified physically limited as people in wheelchairs as it is much broader than that; it has not assumed that the hardware problems are as difficult as they really are; and that it is politically popular. It was suggested that testimony could be presented to document what has been accomplished in the district, and an attempt be made to have the legislation stated in general terms, leaving it up to the district to design programs that meet the need. Mr. Dyer reminded that the handicapped have reduced fare privileges and the staff can provide hard data on how many people have been certified and are now using the services. Mr. Kohlen made a motion which was duly seconded that the words "and/or request exclusion of Lane Transit from" be deleted and the word "to" inserted. Motion carried.

Mr. Davis suggested that if this bill passed, the district should go on record as opposing it. A motion was made by Mr. Herbert and seconded to amend the main motion by adding that the board is opposed to the bill in its present form, and it carried.

The question was put on the main motion as amended "Propose alternative to provisions of SB 337, relating to mass transit facilities, disabled and handicapped, and to oppose the bill in its present form," and it carried.

The Legislative Committee presented the following recommended stands on pending legislation:

1. SB 48 - relation to motor vehicle registration tax. Recommend approval.
2. SB 100 - relating to mass transit facilities for handicapped, blind, elderly. Recommend oppose.
3. SB 152 - relating to Dept. of Transportation Common Carrier Division. Recommend support of concept.
4. SB 201 - relating to creation of an Oregon Public Transit Commission. Recommend no position. No recommendation.
5. SB 288 - relating to express bus system. Recommend support of concept.
6. SB 337 - propose alternatives
7. SB 341 - relating to user charges. Recommend support of measure.
8. SB 342 - relating to mass transit facilities. Recommend support.
9. SJR 8 - relating to proposed Intrastate Common Carrier Fund. No recommendation.
10. SJR 16, 18 & 21
11. HB 2368 - relating to income tax (Tri-Met bill). Recommend support of similar Lane Transit bill first.
12. HB 2373 - Ore. Mass Transportation Financing Authority. Recommend support concept.
13. HB 32 - motor vehicle registration tax. Recommend support.
14. HB 5046 - Mass Transit Division appropriation. Recommend support.
15. HJR 18 - relating to gas tax. Local option constitutional amendment. Recommend support first of Lane Transit, second of Tri-Met bill.

A motion was made by Mr. Herbert and seconded that the board accept Recommendations Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 15. The motion carried.


After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Kohnen and seconded to approve Nos. 13 and 14. The motion carried.

Mr. Herbert stated that Nos. 3, 5 and 9 will be held for further study.

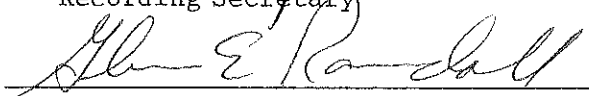
Mr. Dyer reported that testimony will be heard March 3 on public employers becoming subject to mass transit taxing, and that it could have a substantial impact on transit district, bringing in at the current tax rate about \$800,000. Mr. Herbert said he had discussed this with Mr. Bryson, and believes that the board would wish to take no position.

A motion was made by Mr. Kohnen and duly seconded, that the district not volunteer to testify, but if asked to, to give information only as to the impact. The motion carried, with Mrs. Shepherd dissenting.

Meeting adjourned.



Recording Secretary



Secretary