

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING

LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

The board of directors of Lane County Mass Transit District met on April 15, 1975 at 7:30 P.M. at the City Hall, Eugene, Oregon.

Present:

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

Absent:

Glenn E. Randall, secretary

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

Reading of the minutes of the meetings of March 18, March 20 and March 25, 1975 was dispensed with as copies had been distributed to all members of the board. It was noted that Ruth Shepherd was not in attendance at the meeting of March 20 as indicated. On motion duly seconded, the board voted to approve the minutes of those meetings with the correction indicated.

SPECIAL AWARD: Mr. Herbert introduced John Moore of the Oregon State Employment Service who had requested time to present Fred Dyer with a plaque citing meritorious service and Mr. Moore commended Mr. Dyer for his support of the WIN program, his willingness to help, and for furthering the cause of public service. Mr. Dyer responded with his appreciation and told of the success the district has had with the WIN program. He encouraged other employers to use this service.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mr. Herbert opened the public hearing on the project application for Operating Assistance funds under UMTA Section 5. Phyllis Loobey gave a brief explanation of the UMTA Section 5 funding and the requirement of a public hearing to allow the public to address the social, economic or environmental impact or aspects of the transit district receiving the funds.

Robin Pierce, 2066 University Street, spoke in favor of the application and expressed the hope that the funds would increase bus service to the University of Oregon. She said that the problem of parking on residential streets is increasing, and she hoped that an enlarged and improved transit system would benefit that area.

Alvin Urquhart, 1960 Agate Street, spoke in favor of the application and expressed belief that it would be beneficial to the operation of the district, and in turn have beneficial effects on the environment, due to fewer autos. He spoke of the older and younger people relying on public transit, as well as the many, as himself, who have abandoned their cars. He urged its submission to the proper body. Replying to a question by Mrs. Shepherd, Mr. Urquhart said he purposely abandoned his car in 1971 and he and his family have

depended exclusively on bus service since that time.

Annabel Kitzhaber, 1892 W. 34th, representing the League of Women Voters, supported the request for the funds. She said that the League has watched with pride the progress of LTD and is very pleased that the residents of the area have a viable alternative to the automobile. She added that expansion has obviously brought the need for additional operating funds.

Mr. Herbert asked if other members of the audience wished to speak and there was no response.

Mr. Craig moved that the board give approval to the Resolution and Certificate included in the project application and Mr. Kohlen seconded the motion. Mr. Craig then amended his motion to include approval of Assurance of Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Mr. Kohlen seconded the amendment. The question was put on the motion as amended and carried.

EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES: Mr. Dyer told of his attendance at recent legislative hearings, reported on the present status of legislative bills affecting the district and on the governor's budget recommendations concerning mass transit.

Dennis Moore, Administrator of the Division of Mass Transit of the Oregon Department of Transportation, was present and Mrs. Shepherd requested that he review for the board the parts of the state's project. Mr. Moore responded with a brief overview of the governor's recommended budget for the Mass Transit Division of \$3,149,466 in the general fund plus federal grants for a two-year transit improvement program in the Willamette Valley. The total program would involve financial assistance also for small urban areas, a two-year project to increase Amtrak service, and funds to improve inter-city services and facilities. In response to Mr. Herbert's inquiry of where to send letters supporting the budget, Mr. Moore suggested contacting any members of the Lane delegation on the Ways & Means Committee.

Mrs. Shepherd moved that the board reiterate its support of that portion of the governor's budget and the motion was seconded and carried. Mr. Herbert urged board members to contact people they know, encouraging them to also send letters.

OPERATIONS: Mr. Dyer advised that the latest Monthly Transit Traffic bulletin had not been received to include in the board members' material. There was discussion for clarification of the computation of March ridership person trips from the recorded daily ridership.

PLANNING: David Rynerson reported on the progress of the March 31 service extension, advising that there had been no major problem areas and only minor adjustments had been necessary.

Mr. Rynerson reviewed the Transportation Improvement Program and the FHWA and UMTA guidelines requiring local agencies to group together their short range improvements projects and to present projected annual elements of projects for five years. He explained that a project cannot receive federal funding unless it is on the area-wide TIP, and that the district will need to produce its own Transit Development Program by June 1975, including operating costs and operating revenues. He described the process of the TIP

Flow Chart, explaining that if a project on the list is not done, there is no penalty but anything new added must go through the complete procedure shown on the flow chart. Mr. Herbert said he would schedule a meeting for a preview of the TDP prior to the next board meeting and anyone interested may attend.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Mr. Booth raised the question of why the Citizens Advisory Committee minutes presented to the board could not be more current. The staff replied that the minutes were not distributed until they had committee approval, but that they would seek permission from the committee to distribute them at the first board meeting following the CAC meeting.

FINANCE AND AUDITING: Mr. Craig moved the March bills be allowed in the amount of \$84,887.27. The motion was duly seconded and carried, with Mr. Booth abstaining.

SERVICE FOR THE PHYSICALLY LIMITED AND ELDERLY: Phyllis Loobey presented a staff analysis of applications from Children's Hospital School and Associated Consultants, Inc. She advised that action was needed from the board stating approval of one or the other, or both, based on the applications having merit to satisfy the criteria for which service provided by local transportation is unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate. Referring to the application of the Easter Seal Society, she said the finding of the staff is that, because of their specific needs, it would not be possible for them to release the vehicle for service by other agencies, so it would not meet the general benefit of the public at large. She further stated that they have a need for transportation of the children at the school, but they could also work with Associated Consultants, Inc. to satisfy that need.

Mrs. Loobey recommended that the board give approval to the application of Associated Consultants, Inc. Mr. Herbert commended Mrs. Loobey on the excellent resume she had prepared for the board.

Mr. Davis moved that the board give approval to the application of Associated Consultants, Inc., with Mr. Booth seconding the motion. Mr. Craig expressed concern that Mr. Randall was not present and requested this action be postponed as Mr. Randall was of the opinion that the transit district could take care of this need. Mrs. Loobey said she believed Mr. Randall's concern was with the district's responsibility and administrative duties; that the district is acting as the clearing house for approval of the application based upon the satisfaction of the criteria; that the district has no explicit or implicit administrative or financial responsibility or authority beyond approval of the application at the local level. She further stated that the Oregon Department of Transportation, Division of Mass Transit, as well as UMTA, has express authority over the administration and operations of the service if the application has final approval and funding from UMTA; funding would go directly to Associated Consultants if the application receives approval from UMTA.

Mrs. Shepherd expressed questions concerning the quality of integrated service to the elderly and physically limited and said the district should take a long-range look at total transportation as she believed this is the responsibility of the local transit district. Mr. Craig expressed concern that these people are easily victimized and asked if this could become a situation of overcharge. Mr. VanHouten of ACI staff, responded that there would be monitoring at the state level. In answer to Mrs. Shepherd's question if the district would be

delegating the responsibility to Associated Consultants, Inc. for transportation of the elderly and physically disabled, Mrs. Loobey replied that it would be a new program and she did not believe the district's involvement at this level would change, modify or eliminate the district's policy of providing service to that segment of the population. She further stated that the two vans operating in this vicinity would not be sufficient for the needs, and Associated Consultants, Inc. would provide attendants with door through door service, whereas this district would provide only door to door; that there would be a continued need for specialized service for dysfunctions beyond the district's ability to serve.

Chris Casady, a member of the audience, expressed the opinion that the state and local transit agencies should be involved, but he hoped they would consider this application as a complementary system rather than competing. He recommended the board give approval.

Mrs. Shepherd noted that the physically limited adult has more financial capability than most senior citizens because of the government response to those limitations with financial support. Discussion followed on the response of agencies such as Vocational Rehabilitation Division and Oregon Architectural Barriers to disabilities but not to the needs of the elderly. Mr. VanHouten replied that they are aware of these problems and are considering a sliding scale fee for the elderly on ability to pay, as well as suggesting the state program on Aging, V.R.D., and O.A.B. cooperate with them in setting up programs.

Following further discussion, the question was put and carried.

In absence of a motion on the Easter Seal application, no action was taken.

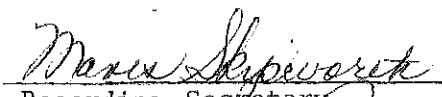
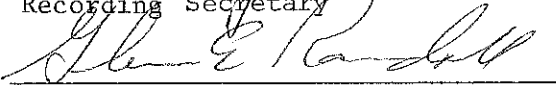
AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: Dennis Moore said that the state will be gathering information on the projects for the physically limited and elderly and as the applicants supply certain data, his department would be pleased to make it available to the board in order to coordinate with the local transit agencies. He suggested the staff write a letter requesting that information. Mr. Herbert said the record will show there is a concern on the part of the board for an implied responsibility and interest in monitoring the project.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Dyer requested permission to attend the American Public Transit Association conference May 4 to 8, and encouraged interested board members also to attend.

BIENNIAL REPORT: Mr. Davis moved that the biennial report be accepted and the staff authorized to distribute it. Mr. Booth seconded the motion. Responding to a question of computing total annual vehicle miles, Mr. Rynerson explained that the district recently added additional buses and the fleet size shown was at the end of the year, but mileage shown was the total for the year. He further stated the mileage referred to was vehicle miles, not passenger miles, so the significant ratio was to divide the number of passengers by the vehicle miles, finding that the district carried more passengers per vehicle mile than on previous years and operating more efficiently.

The question was put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned.


Recording Secretary

Secretary