

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING

LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

January 20, 1976

The board of directors of Lane County Mass Transit District met on January 20, 1976 at 7:30 P.M. in the City Hall in Eugene, Oregon.

Present:

Richard A. Booth  
Jack J. Craig  
W. Gene Davis  
Daniel M. Herbert, presiding  
Annabel Kitzhaber  
Kenneth H. Kohnen  
Glenn E. Randall  
Fred C. Dyer, General Manager  
Mavis Skipworth, Recording Secretary

Reading of the minutes of December 16, 1975 meeting was dispensed with as copies had been distributed to all members of the board. Upon motion duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of said meeting.

Mr. Herbert presented to Ruth Shepherd a miniature wooden bus bearing an inscription of appreciation for her service to the district. Mrs. Shepherd than thanked the board for its kindnesses to her and noted that this appointed board was particularly sensitive to public needs, feelings and attitudes for public transit. She expressed the desire that community and business leaders show increasing responsibility to the public for transportation.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Mr. Herbert announced that there were vacancies in the offices of president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer of the Board of Directors, and declared the meeting open for nominations for the office of president.

Daniel Herbert was nominated for the office of president. On motion duly seconded, the board voted unanimously that the nominations be closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Daniel H. Herbert for president.

Jack J. Craig and Kenneth H. Kohnen were nominated for the office of vice-president. On motion duly seconded the board voted unanimously to close nominations. Mr. Craig then asked that his name be withdrawn and on motion duly seconded the board cast a unanimous ballot in favor of Kenneth H. Kohnen as vice-president.

W. Gene Davis was nominated for the office of secretary, and on motion duly seconded the board voted unanimously that the nominations be closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for W. Gene Davis as secretary.

Mr. Herbert declared nominations were open for the office of treasurer. Richard A. Booth was nominated for treasurer, and on motion duly seconded the board voted unanimously that nominations for the office of treasurer be closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Richard A. Booth as treasurer.

BUDGET COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Davis submitted the name of Tom Denning for appointment for a three year term to the Budget Committee, advising that Mr. Denning is a Real Estate Broker in Springfield and a member of Rotary Club. Mr. Randall recalled the subcommittee's recommendation that the board be given pertinent information as to the transit philosophy and the background of budget committee appointees. Mr. Craig suggested the appointments be postponed until the board learns if the appointee is in favor of transit. Mr. Randall then moved the board accept Mr. Denning's appointment to the Budget Committee. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Dan Herbert submitted the name of Bob Tom for appointment to the Budget Committee for a three year term. He advised that Mr. Tom is now the Director of Associated Consultants, Inc., the sponsoring agency for service for the physically limited and elderly, and that he was on the Budget Committee last year. He further advised that Mr. Tom is a Eugene resident, and has had budget experience in setting up community programs of treatment for alcoholism in Eugene and Springfield, has had current budget experience with Associated Consultants, Inc., and that he has an interest in public transit. Mr. Booth moved the board accept the nomination of Mr. Tom. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Annabel Kitzhaber placed the name of Donna Kaehn in nomination for appointment to the Budget Committee for a term of three years. She said that Mrs. Kaehn, of Springfield, was treasurer for the League of Women Voters of Central Lane County and served on the budget committee for the League, served as an observer at the Springfield City Council, and participated with the Springfield Task Force to find alternative sources of revenue. Mr. Randall moved the nomination be approved by the board. The motion was duly seconded and the appointment of Mrs. Kaehn unanimously approved.

Mr. Kohnen advised that George Baker, who is presently serving on the Budget Committee, is now employed by Mr. Kohnen's firm and requested discussion of any possible conflict of interest. It was the consensus of the board that there was none.

Mr. Randall left the meeting.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Paul Bonney, co-chairman of the Citizens Advisory Committee, reviewed the January 12 meeting. He said the committee was consulted about the goals and objectives too late to give input, but expressed the opinion that if an Executive Committee is appointed in CAC, it will be able to study the goals and objectives another year prior to the time of board approval. He advised that he had attended the Lane County Planning Commission hearing held January 15 on the transportation alternatives update, and at that time spoke in favor of Alternative 3.

Mr. Booth commended Mr. Bonney on his leadership and for his assistance in reactivating the Committee. Mr. Herbert noted that although the board would act on the goals and objectives at this meeting, it would be receptive to comments of the Committee.

Mr. Herbert advised that he was now notifying the Citizens Advisory Committee that before appointment of next year's board subcommittee on Goals and Objectives, the board would like to have CAC review the previous year's performance and give its evaluation.

EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES: Phyllis Loobey reported on the status of the West Lane Bus Project, advising that she has learned from Rob Bunnnett of Lane County Social Services that Dune City and Florence have applied for community development funding to purchase two vehicles and have received assurances from lumber firms for operations funding of the project.

Mr. Dyer gave an overview of a report entitled "Consolidated Bus Transit Fact Sheet" which was prepared by the Seattle regional office of UMTA on Pacific Northwest transit districts, copies of which were distributed for board review. He said it contains a compilation of data on the fifteen largest publicly owned bus transit operations in the northwest and that the staff is studying the statistics for the differences in transit districts and on how this district can improve. He noted that the district has a higher seat occupancy to seat availability than other transit districts listed. He said the analysis will be used as a product improvement base.

Mr. Herbert submitted a proposed committee charge for a joint transit and school districts committee to renew public interest in the potential for consolidating the transit operations and to recommend practical steps toward realizing that potential. Mr. Herbert said that replies have not been received from all school districts involved. He advised that Mrs. Shepherd suggested a change of emphasis from "consolidation of the transit operations" to "connection of the transit operations", and a redraft will reflect this. Mr. Dyer briefly gave the background of a study conducted in 1972 by a joint committee representing the Eugene, Springfield and Bethel School districts, the Oregon Mass Transit Division and the Lane Transit District, followed by the technical report published in 1973 by Boeing Computer Services, Inc. He said this will be used as background material by the joint committee.

TASK FORCE ON ENERGY CONSERVATION: The board received copies of a report published by the State of Oregon entitled "Task Force on Energy Conservation." Mr. Dyer described how public transportation fits in with the energy conservation goals set forth in the report by diverting energy from private automobiles to other use. Mr. Craig quoted an article from the Wall Street Journal which stated that corporations and firms are examining their policies to attempt fuel conservation, and suggested the district also examine its policy for greater utilization of its vehicles and energy. Mr. Dyer said the district would attempt further energy conservation and that this would be indicated to the architect involved in the space remodeling.

OPERATIONS: Monthly ridership data was distributed, and it was noted that the passenger revenue in December was the highest of any month of operation.

ELECTRIC BUS TECHNOLOGY: In response to interest shown at a previous board meeting, David Rynerson distributed a comprehensive report on the feasibility of electric powered vehicles, indicating both the advantages and the disadvantages of such vehicles. Mr. Dyer spoke of the problems of overhead wires but said he believed that if certain technological advances are made, this type of vehicle could be very advantageous. Mr. Booth suggested sending a copy of the report to the Eugene Water & Electric Board. Mr. Kohnen suggested that Mr. Rynerson contact EWEB to draw on their knowledge and study, and that it could be helpful to work together on the development of ideas. Mr. Craig said that electric buses are used in Longview, Washington, and in two areas of California, and requested the staff to contact the companies for their reaction to the use of these vehicles. Mr. Davis said

that with the availability of hydro-electric power in this area, it would be advantageous to develop electric buses.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE STUDY: Mr. Rynerson gave an update on the hearing process of the Transportation Alternative study and of the efforts to effect a compromise plan. Mr. Booth commended the Eugene Chamber of Commerce for a realistic and achievable recommendation for adoption of Alternative Two with certain modifications.

Mr. Davis noted that motorcycles are not mentioned in the modal split and spoke of the advantages of motorcycles as an economical means of transportation and effective in energy conservation. He listed supporting data for the fuel that can be saved over the automobile.

INFORMATION SERVICES: A staff report on Marketing and it's effect on ridership was distributed, as well as an update and preview of special events. Transit advertising was discussed, but the board was advised that a City of Eugene sign ordinance prohibits placing advertising on the outside of the buses. The staff was encouraged to utilize the services of Welcome Wagon and other greeting services to acquaint newcomers with the transit service available.

FINANCE & BUDGET: Mr. Davis moved the monthly bills be approved in the amount of \$96,936.77. Mr. Kohnen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Booth suggested a savings could be realized in the Xerox bill if the agenda packet were streamlined, and Mr. Herbert advised that the evaluation and organization subcommittee will discuss some agenda revisions. The question was put and carried.

Mr. Booth observed that the business expense category shown in the monthly financial statement was being overspent. The staff advised that this category is intended for board and staff training and travel, although miscellaneous items have also been included.

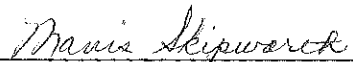
Mr. Herbert asked if the warrant operation would be necessary after the present indebtedness is phased out in May and the staff said it should not be needed again until September.

INCOME TAX: Phyllis Loobey advised that Mr. Bryson anticipates having an income tax ordinance completed by the end of January.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: Following discussion, Mr. Craig moved the board approve the 1976-77 Goals and Objectives as proposed by the subcommittee with the revision to the wording of the Objectives as follows: "G. To initiate and support legislation which enhances LTD service to passengers." Mr. Kohnen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Dyer advised that he will be on vacation from January 26 through February 6, 1976.

Meeting adjourned.

  
Recording Secretary

  
Secretary