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MINUTES OF BUDGET COMMITTEE WORKSHOP

LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT
February 19, 1976

A workshop of the budget committee of Lane County Mass Transit District was held at the City Hall in Eugene, Oregon, on February 19, 1976 at 7:30 P.M.

Present:

Board members

Richard A. Booth, Treasurer
Jack J. Craig
W. Gene Davis, Secretary
Daniel M. Herbert, President
Annabelle Kitzhaber
Kenneth H. Kohnen, Vice President

Appointed members

George Baker
Tom Denning
Donna Kaehn
Jim Martin
Robert Moulton
Robert Tom
Agnes Van Devender
Fred C. Dyer, General Manager
Mavis Skipworth, Recording Secretary

Absent:

Glenn E. Randall

Mr. Herbert introduced the board and budget committee members. He then gave a brief review of the study and recommendations of the Special Advisory Committee on Revenue of 1974.

Robert Moulton was unanimously elected chairman pro tem. Mr. Dyer introduced the staff members present, and invited the budget committee members to schedule an orientation tour of the district's facilities.

Mr. Dyer distributed a table entitled Transit Planning, Programming and Budgeting indicating the interrelationship of the Eugene-Springfield Area Transportation Study goals and Lane Transit District programs. David Rynerson, Director of Planning, explained the flow of activities under categories of Process, Elements, Program Goals, Resource Limitations and Participants. Discussion followed on a comprehensive breakdown of the FY 76-77 Objectives as adopted by the board, covering the basic and committed programs.

Jim Martin requested information on the cost of Sunday Service and said that, although the district needs improved evening service, people will not give up their second cars until better Sunday service is available. Mr. Davis expressed the opinion that the cost of continuing the present service should be determined and additional programs added only if extra funds are available. Mr. Booth said the Objectives adopted by the board indicated an emphasis on efficiency of operation rather than growth. Mr. Herbert advised that the staff will determine the cost of the basic and committed programs, and the cost of additional Sunday and evening service.

Mr. Tom stated that the committee members do not have information known by the board and this should be corrected. Mr. Kohnen commented that the

purpose of this preliminary workshop was to acquaint non-board members with background information and policy decisions made by the board, and he spoke further of the responsibility of the board for the long range planning of the district. He stressed the importance of imparting to the committee the board's philosophy in adopting the FY 76-77 Objectives and explained the purpose of each objective under the category "To manage and operate the system". He advised that recommendations will be forthcoming from the board subcommittee which is presently evaluating service and organizational structure of the district. He further advised that the district has an opportunity, through federal funding, to pursue implementation of better data and control for the maintenance department.

Mr. Moulton said that local government planning in transportation will put a great responsibility on the district and that there should be assistance in meeting the financial obligations. Mr. Herbert said that the L-COG recommendation will indicate a cooperative venture to present a fiscal plan for supporting the public transit assignment. He suggested that committee members contact city councilmen to encourage assistance. Mr. Herbert then gave a detailed explanation of the remaining objectives adopted by the board.

Mr. Martin inquired of the capability of the demand response vehicles for other uses in the system. Mr. Rynerson replied that by using demand response techniques, the evening system could be redesigned within the budget constraints. Mr. Martin stated that he would prefer to have all the buses be made accessible to the handicapped.

Mrs. Van Devender expressed disappointment in the meeting, stating that she believed the committee represented a different point of view than the board and that she felt a negative attitude from the board. Mr. Booth said that the board was attempting to clarify policy but not direct the committee. Mrs. Kitzhaber said she had found the discussion helpful and believed that if cost figures are provided for the next meeting, the committee will be able to move ahead.

Roger Hannum, of the audience and representing New Car Dealers Association, said the budget committee should set the goals for the board to follow; that growth should be tied to revenue increase rather than grants; and suggested the district use small buses for more efficient and better service.

C. Winston Cox, of the audience, expressed his desire for improved Sunday and evening service, but recognizing the economical constraints, asked that the evening buses run one more hour at the present headway. He further requested that buses operate on Sunday holidays.

An orientation tour of the district's facilities was scheduled for Wednesday, February 25 at 4:00 P.M. A calendar of workshops and meetings for the budget committee was determined.

Jim Martin was elected vice-chairman pro tem.

The meeting adjourned.

Recording Secretary