

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING

LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING

March 15, 1977

Pursuant to public notice to the Register Guard for publication on March 11, 1977, and Newservice 16 and distributed to persons on the mailing list of the District, the regular monthly meeting of the board of directors of Lane County Mass Transit District was held at the City Hall in Eugene, Oregon, on March 15, 1977, at 7:30 p.m.

Present:

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

News media representatives:

Marvin Tims, Register Guard  
Rick Bella, Springfield News  
Jeff Michaels, Newservice 16

MOTION  
VOTE

MINUTES: Minutes of the regular board meeting of February 15, 1977 and the special meeting of February 28, 1977, were unanimously approved as distributed.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The minutes of the March 8, 1977, meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee were distributed for board information. Mr. Bonney, co-chairman, reported that Marion Wilson wishes to resign from the Evaluation Methods Subcommittee. Mr. Herbert asked the Citizens Advisory Committee to nominate a replacement, so the board will have an opportunity to confirm the appointment prior to the April 25 meeting of the subcommittee.

FINANCE AND BUDGET: Financial reporting for the month of February was distributed for board review. Mr. Dyer advised that Section 5 grant funds in the amount of \$391,650 for the first two quarters were received in March and are not reflected in the February statement. He said there will be additional funds forthcoming.

Mr. Dyer said that the staff will submit proposals at the April meeting to accommodate overexpenditures in some categories, but that the total will remain within the budget.

Mr. Davis and Mr. Craig entered the meeting.

MARKETING: A monthly preview of activities in the Marketing Division was distributed for board information. Mr. Herbert commented that the First Step program has reached over 3,000 persons and asked if the effectiveness of the program could be established. Mr. Dyer replied that it would be difficult to assess the impact, but the staff is seeking a method of evaluation without additional cost to the district. Mr. Booth suggested that the program could be included in the next on-board survey.

RIDERSHIP: Regular ridership reporting for the urban and non-urban areas, and for Dial-A-Bus, was presented for the month of February. Mr. Herbert advised that an improved format, as reviewed by the Evaluation Methods Subcommittee, will be used for future reporting.

PETITIONS: Mr. Rynerson presented two petitions, recently received. One contained 23 signatures requesting a shelter at 10th & Olive Streets and Mr. Rynerson advised that a shelter has been programmed for this site under the current installation contract. A petition containing 76 signatures requested service to Valley West Shopping Center on Bailey Hill Road. Mr. Rynerson stated that the nearest route is three blocks from the Center, and alternative routing for the area will be considered in the 1977 annual route review. Mr. Randall encouraged the staff to give the petition the earliest possible attention.

Mr. Davis said he had received complaints about the cost of the shelters, and Mr. Dyer responded that the shelters had been put up for bid, that the selected shelter has the greatest durability, and that the district had been receptive to less expensive designs but had received none at lower bid.

SPRINGFIELD MODAL SPLIT GOAL: The board was advised that the Springfield City Council on March 7 voted to recommend a change in the long range E-SATS modal split goal for the Springfield area from 10% to 5%; that the L-COG Transportation Planning Committee is preparing a recommendation to the Metropolitan Area Transportation Committee regarding the conduct of the inter-governmental planning process in light of Springfield's recommendation. Mr. Davis encouraged board members to read the editorial in the March 15 issue of the Springfield News to learn what was done by the Springfield City Council. He said no opposition to transit or to the Lane Transit District was expressed, but that the Springfield City Council believed a 14% goal by year 2000 was impractical in a document going to the federal government in order to obtain federal funding, and the funding could be lost if the goal were not attained. Mr. Randall asked that Mr. Davis give him an example of transit being denied federal funding because they did not reach the goal, and Mr. Davis replied that he could not, but that it has happened with other types of federal programs.

Mr. Craig commented that other local governments are willing to comply with area planning, and suggested that the staff seek information from the Oregon State Department of Transportation and the federal government to correct any misunderstandings prior to the board meeting with the Springfield City Council on April 11. Mr. Dyer replied that the information is available locally and through the process of meetings on E-SATS it should be clarified and made available to the public.

TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM: Mr. Booth observed that the TDP and the Transit System Alternatives are based on achieving a 14% goal and that action by the board on the TDP should be delayed until the modal split issue is resolved.

Mr. Dyer explained that the TDP contains only a five year projection and can be updated annually; that the board should consider the Transit System Alternatives as input for the E-SATS Master Plan, which is a longer range plan.

MOTION Mr. Randall moved that the board approve the Second Draft of the Transportation Development Program (TDP) and Mrs. Kitzhaber seconded the motion.

Mrs. Kitzhaber noted that the board had reviewed the TDP and made suggestions and revisions which have been incorporated in the document. Mr. Booth said he would vote against the motion as the 14% modal split was unrealistic; that one of the three major bodies had rejected it and he expected the other two to do this within a year, as there has been a change in the political climate with the new officials in Lane County and the City of Eugene.

VOTE The question was put and the motion carried with favorable vote by Craig, Herbert, Kitzhaber, Kohnen, Randall, and opposed by Booth and Davis.

Mr. Randall asked what effects the action of the Springfield City Council would have on the district's funding. Mr. Dyer said it would delay the process of achieving a transportation plan, that without the plan the district will be decertified and ineligible for capital funding. He said he believed that the Section 5 funds would continue, but they could be in jeopardy.

E-SATS TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES: Mr. Rynerson advised that the Transportation Planning Committee has completed a proposed street and highway network for recommendation to the Metropolitan Area Transportation Committee for the final computer test; that the analysis of the network, called FTS #12, will include the impact of a bus rapid transit system on street capacity.

TRANSIT SYSTEM ALTERNATIVES: Mr. Rynerson stated that a major element of transit input to the E-SATS Master Plan is the design and cost estimation of alternative transit systems for the year 2000. A report was distributed to the board members summarizing the last twelve months of this work element. He said that the TPC will apply evaluation criteria to the alternatives and include its recommendation with the proposed plan, and he suggested that the board should consider making a recommendation.

Discussion followed of a table summarizing the implication of each alternative as to operating statistics, and of which alternative would be most suitable for the area. It was the consensus of the board that not enough time had been given for consideration of the alternatives.

MOTION Mr. Craig moved that the board forward the report to the Transportation Planning Committee without recommendations. Mr. Randall seconded the motion.

VOTE The motion failed, with Craig, Davis and Randall voting favorably, and Booth, Herbert, Kitzhaber and Kohnen opposed.

MOTION Mr. Randall moved that the staff prepare recommendations and justifications for Alternatives 1, 2 and 3 and present them to the board prior to the next meeting.

VOTE The motion was duly seconded, and carried unanimously.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES: Regular monthly reporting of the Transportation Department was distributed for board review.

MOTION

VOTE

APTA 1977 WESTERN CONFERENCE: Mr. Randall moved that the board authorize the general manager and two staff members to attend the 1977 Western Conference of the American Public Transit Association, April 17 to 20, in Spokane, Washington. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Without objection from the board, the chairman stated that the next regular board meeting would be adjourned from April 19, 1977 to April 21, 1977, so the general manager might attend the meeting.

EUGENE RENEWAL AGENCY: The chairman said that he had received a letter from the Eugene Renewal Agency stating that a Downtown Advisory Committee has been formed to help provide public input for a study aimed at improving the downtown mall as a location for major retailers. He said that ERA has retained a consulting firm and is seeking information from people in the community through a series of meetings. Mr. Herbert said he had been asked to serve on the committee but was unable to do so. Mr. Kohlen said he had received a similar letter, and it was the consensus of the board that Mr. Kohlen would represent the district and staff members would attend.

LEGISLATIVE ITEMS: Mr. Herbert advised that the City of Eugene and a Legislative Committee would meet March 16 to review a list of legislative items affecting the City of Eugene, and will discuss the City of Springfield's resolution calling for an elective Lane Transit District board. It was the consensus of the board that a staff person would attend the meeting to answer questions. It was emphasized that the staff member should express only the position taken by the board.

The meeting was adjourned.

  
Secretary