

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING
LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 1978

Pursuant to notice given to the Register Guard for publication on November 16, 1978, to the Springfield News 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, Eugene, Oregon on November 21, 1978 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Richard A. Booth, Secretary
Jack J. Craig
Daniel M. Herbert, Vice President
Kenneth H. Kohnen, President, presiding
Glenn E. Randall
Carolyn Roemer
Fred C. Dyer, General Manager
Mavis Skipworth, Recording Secretary

News media representatives:
Marvin Tims, Register Guard
Tom Jackson, Springfield News

Absent: Ted J. Langton, Treasurer

The chairman opened the meeting and introduced Kenneth Powis, who has recently filled the staff position of Marketing Director.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: John Kelly of 1036 North 28th Street in Springfield, identified himself as a CPA and a member of the Springfield Chamber, as well as serving on the Springfield Transit Task Force Committee. He recommended to the board that when any issue is to be voted upon that has public interest, the board should take action on that issue immediately following public testimony as the people have taken their time to come and give input and the board would have the testimony fresh in their minds and could give their ideas in response.

Bob Denton of 90765 Dalewood Drive in Veneta advised that he had written to the staff requesting the early morning run of the Veneta route be revised to follow around Fern Ridge Reservoir. Mr. Rynerson responded that Mr. Denton's letter had been received too late to include in the agenda packet, that it had been evaluated and in order to accommodate Mr. Denton's request the bus would have to leave Veneta 15 to 20 minutes earlier and would disrupt service for the riders from Veneta. Mr. Randall asked Mr. Denton to obtain information on other potential riders from his area and if it appeared that there would be a reasonable number of passengers desiring the route revision, it would be taken under consideration.

There was no further public comment and that portion of the meeting was closed.

MOTION
VOTE

MINUTES: Minutes of the October 17, 1978 regular board meeting and the October 19, 1978 adjourned meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

FUEL CONTRACT: The board was advised that Invitation to Bid letters were sent to twelve gasoline and diesel oil distributors and on October 13, 1978 public notice of the fuel bid was published in the Register Guard. Out of the six respondents, Chevron USA, Inc. and Mobil Oil Corporation elected to bid and both bid the contract subject to price change at any time. Chevron USA, Inc. was the low bidder.

Mr. Booth said he believed there had been an inadequate evaluation; that bidding should have included the estimated usage multiplied by the price per gallon and consideration given to accepting the bottom line price. Mr. Dallas responded that the bidders were advised of the estimated usage and that the district could purchase diesel and gasoline from separate companies. In ensuing discussion, Mr. Dyer advised that, as there was no guarantee received on price or quantity, he would recommend that the board should either not elect to contract for fuel, or to contract subject to termination by the district at any time, and to request release from the requirement of seeking fuel bids through the State Contract Review Board. Mr. Booth said he would recommend that the district not enter into a contract but continue purchasing fuel from Chevron.

MOTION
VOTE

Mr. Randall moved to reject both proposals from Chevron USA, Inc. and Mobil Oil Corporation. Mr. Craig seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MOTION

Mr. Randall moved that the general manager be instructed to contact the State Contract Review Board and seek relief from the fuel bid requirement. Mr. Craig seconded the motion. Mr. Booth said he would be opposed as he believed the district should be in compliance with state laws. Mr. Dyer explained the provision included in the statutes for public agencies to seek appropriate action through the State Contract Review Board.

Mr. Craig asked how other public agencies were handling their fuel requirements and Mr. Dyer replied that they were operating very much in the same manner as all have been operating under the mandatory allocation rules established during the 1973 gas crisis .

VOTE

The question was put and carried with favorable vote by Craig, Herbert, Kohnen, Randall and Roemer; opposed by Booth.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL: The members received copies of a letter from the district's legal counsel suggesting that the board seek clarification from the 1979 Legislature regarding whether the district can legally subcontract to private industry.

MOTION

Mr. Booth moved that clarification of ORS 267-200 be sought from the 1979 Legislature by the proposed amendment included in the agenda material. The motion was duly seconded.

Mr. Herbert asked if this would be in conflict with any federal clauses included in grants for federal funding. Mr. Dyer responded that federal requirements dictate that whoever contracts with the district must provide the same labor protection that is required of a public agency. Mr. Booth said he believed local companies would be in compliance.

Mr. Craig said he would not want it construed in the voting that he favored it, as he believed if the statute were revised to allow unlimited subcontracting, it could destroy transit in the state as currently known and cease to be public transit. He said he would prefer to seek clarification from the attorney general.

Mr. Randall concurred, suggesting that one of the district's legislators should be requested to seek an opinion from the attorney general.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION Mr. Randall moved to substitute for the original motion, a motion to request an opinion from the attorney general on this issue as stated in Section I, subsection 3 of the Transit Act ORS 267.200. Mr. Craig seconded the substitute motion.

Mr. Herbert commented that although he had previously believed there would be an advantage to being able to contract with any private person or corporation, some of the discussion on the issue had made him less certain of that position. He concurred in seeking an opinion from the attorney general and suggested it should be received prior to the December board meeting.

Mr. Booth said he did not believe the district would receive poorer service through contracting as the district would be giving direction for the required service.

VOTE The question was put on the substitute motion and it carried unanimously.

The chairman called for a five minute recess. Following the recess the board reconvened.

JANUARY 1979 ROUTE REVIEW: A staff report was presented describing route and scheduling suggestions received since August 1978. They were grouped by category according to whether or not their implementation was recommended for January 1979 and the reasons given for the staff recommendations. Additional public input was attached for board review.

MOTION Mr. Booth moved that the recommendations in the January 1979 Route Review report dated November 14, 1978 be approved. Mrs. Roemer seconded the motion.

Mr. Randall referred to the second suggestion which would reduce frequency of Saturday morning service to every 60 minutes before 9:00 a.m. which, combined with the first suggestion of deleting the first Saturday morning trip on five non-urban routes, would save approximately \$35,000 annually and result in ridership loss of about 19,000 annual total rides. He said such a service cutback was contrary to the testimony heard at recent meetings and any specific revisions should receive public comment. He further commented that a 19,000 ride reduction constituted a major change and if the proposed changes were submitted to the people, the meeting room would not be large enough to accommodate them. In discussion that followed, Mr. Dyer advised that the recommendations were prepared from board direction to make a determination in November of any changes to become effective in January. He said it would be possible to address proposed changes at a later date, such as June or July of 1979. The timeline necessary to implement changes was discussed.

AMENDING Mr. Craig moved to amend the motion to have board action on the recommended
MOTION revisions at a December 5, 1978 adjourned board meeting. Mr. Randall seconded
the amending motion.

Mrs. Roemer commented that the board had received material and had held discussion on the recommended revisions; that the board had felt an obligation to cut costs and the cost cuts in these changes were minor. She said she viewed the revisions as an administrative decision and not a part of board policy. Mr. Randall said he believed it should be board policy to study the impact of changes and felt he owed it to the riders in the district to give them an opportunity for full input.

VOTE The question was put on postponing action until December 5. Voting favorably were Craig and Randall; opposed were Booth, Herbert, Kohnen and Roemer. The motion failed.

MOTION Mr. Craig moved the board consider the six recommendations on an item by item basis. Mr. Randall seconded the motion and it carried with favorable vote
VOTE by Craig, Herbert, Kohnen, and Randall. Opposed were Booth and Roemer.

MOTION Mr. Booth moved the board approve Recommendation No. 1 to delete first Saturday morning trip on #1 VENETA, #2 JUNCTION CITY, #3 COBURG, #5 BLUE RIVER, and #7C LCC/LOWELL. Mr. Randall seconded the motion.

Mr. Randall asked about the passengers affected and Mr. Rynerson advised that notification was sent out on all of the recommendations to civic groups, neighborhood groups, Eugene Downtown Association, Springfield, University of Oregon, schools, the LTD Employee Advisory Committee, Citizens Advisory Committee, the board, and L-COG/CAC, as well as posting the information behind the bus drivers and handouts issued by the drivers. He said the information was sent out prior to the public hearing and the board received it at the September board meeting.

Mr. Craig said he did not approve of that recommendation because there were people who depend on that particular trip and the bus would not be there.

VOTE The question was put and carried with favorable vote by Booth, Herbert, Kohnen and Roemer; and opposed by Craig and Randall.

MOTION Mr. Randall then moved to not concur with Recommendation No. 2 to reduce frequency of Saturday morning service to every 60 minutes before 9:00 a.m. Mr. Craig seconded the motion. Mr. Randall said he was not ready to disenfranchise 19,000 riders without giving them adequate notice of this specific action as, at the public hearing, testimony was overwhelmingly against cutbacks. Mr. Craig observed that it would start an erosion problem as many people depend on the service and if the district loses these riders, they may not get them back; that this would encourage people to use their cars rather than the bus. Mr. Randall added that dollars and cents cannot always be used as a measurement in providing a public service.

VOTE The question was put on the motion to not concur with Recommendation No. 2 and carried with favorable vote by Craig, Herbert, Kohnen, and Randall, and was opposed by Booth and Roemer.

MOTION Mr. Randall moved to adopt Recommendation No. 3, changing destination signs of all inbound buses at Valley River Center to "Eugene Mall". The motion was
VOTE duly seconded and carried unanimously.

MOTION Mr. Randall moved to adopt Recommendation No. 4, on route #7C LCC/LOWELL to
VOTE add loop to provide inbound service on Jasper-Lowell Road; replacing #6 JASPER/
LOWELL. Mr. Booth seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MOTION Mr. Randall moved to adopt Recommendation No. 5, changing the outbound
VOTE route on the #21 THURSTON route between A and B from 8th and 10th. Mr. Booth
seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MOTION Mr. Randall moved to adopt Recommendation No. 6, changing the #41 BARGER
VOTE route from Empire Park to Highway 99. Mr. Booth seconded the motion and it
carried unanimously.

PROGRESS ON MAINTENANCE SUBCONTRACTING: A staff report was distributed describing the feasibility of subcontracting maintenance. The staff requested further direction on bidding maintenance on a category by category or a unified basis.

Mr. Booth said that as it appeared there is some question as to whether the district should bid major items, he would suggest that further direction to the staff should be delayed pending the attorney general's determination. Mr. Craig suggested that when contacting a legislator concerning the clarification, expeditious action should be requested.

Mr. Herbert said it would appear desirable to get two things underway prior to the opinion: 1) determine the legal and procedural requirements necessary for subcontracting, and 2) conduct a survey of the market to determine potential subcontractors. Mr. Dallas said he believed it could diminish the district's credibility and put the transit operation at a disadvantage with potential suppliers if they were contacted before the legality of subcontracting was determined.

Mr. Herbert commended Mr. Dallas on the analysis included in his report.

MOTION BUDGET RESOLUTION: Upon motion by Mr. Randall, duly seconded, the board
VOTE approved unanimously the following resolution appropriating budgeted funds,
pending the results of the Cascade Salary study:

"BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that of the \$74,794.00 unappropriated in Personnel Services for non-contractual employees pending the Cascade Salary study, that the sum of \$49,066.00 is hereby appropriated for the purpose of implementing the Salary Plan effective July 1, 1978."

TRANSIT ACTIONS REGIONAL MEETING: Mr. Kohnen advised that American Public Transit Association has scheduled a Transit Action meeting on Transit Performance in San Francisco on February 6 to 8, 1979, and requested board approval for attendance by Fred Dyer, Phyllis Loobey and Kenneth Kohnen.

MOTION Mr. Craig moved that the board approve attendance of Mr. Dyer, Ms. Loobey
VOTE and Mr. Kohnen at the Transit Action meeting. Mr. Randall seconded the motion
and it carried unanimously.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROPOSAL: The staff advised that proposals are still being developed for the board's consideration and requested that an adjourned board meeting be scheduled for presentation of the proposals. It was the consensus that an adjourned meeting could be held 7:00 a.m., December 12th at the Rodeway Inn.

Mr. Kohnen requested that an early meeting of the budget committee be held as an orientation session and to prepare a calendar for the budget and Transit Development Program update process.

OREGON TRANSIT ASSOCIATION: Mr. Randall said it was his understanding that a lobbyist is to be retained for the Oregon Transit Association and he asked that the issue be placed on the December agenda concerning who would be hired and other pertinent information.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The minutes of the November 14 Citizens Advisory Committee meeting were distributed for board information.

FINANCE AND BUDGET: Regular monthly financial reporting was distributed for board review. Mr. Booth questioned several negative figures included in the financial statement. Mr. Merrell, Accountant, advised that three were audit adjustments and, in routine examination of posting, it was found that some expenses in previous months had been overstated.

RIDERSHIP: Regular ridership reporting for the month of October was distributed for board information.

Mr. Herbert observed that ridership appeared to be substantially over last year and said it appeared that when fares are raised, ridership is adversely affected for a year; that after a year has passed, that effect is overcome. He said that if that thesis is correct, he would suggest any raise in fares should be accompanied by a major service improvement. Mr. Dyer concurred that a substantial service increase would help against the adverse effect of a fare increase, but said there are other variables that are also factors.

ROUTE SEGMENT ANALYSIS: The staff distributed a route segment analysis evaluating service utilization using October 1978 survey data. The report included graphs of total rides per round trip and computations of total rides per vehicle hour for various time periods.

CHRISTMAS SEASON EXTRA EVENING SERVICE: The board was advised that service planning has been completed for the Christmas season extra evening service.

OPERATIONS REPORTING: Regular monthly reporting of the Operations Department was presented for board information.

MOTION

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Craig moved to adjourn the meeting to the Rodeway Inn, at 7:00 a.m., December 12, 1978. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

VOTE



Secretary