

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING
LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
February 15, 1980

Pursuant to notice duly given to the Register Guard for publication on February 11, 1980, a special meeting of the board of directors of Lane County Mass Transit District was held February 15, 1980, at 7:30 a.m. in Mr. Steak Restaurant, 922 Garfield Street, Eugene, Oregon.

Present:

Richard A. Booth, Secretary
Daniel M. Herbert, Vice President
Kenneth H. Kohnen, President, presiding
Ted J. Langton, Treasurer
Robert C. Loomis
Carolyn Roemer
Phyllis Loobey, General Manager
Richard Bryson, Counsel
Randall Bryson, Counsel
Mavis Skipworth, Recording Secretary

Absent:

Glenn E. Randall

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY PRESIDENT: The chairman advised that the special meeting had been called for the purpose of designating a date for the referendum election on the income tax ordinance, a ballot title, and newspapers for publication of notice of the election.

Mr. Bryson explained that when the Legislature repealed the district's authority to refer measures, it did not repeal the district board's obligation to designate the date, ballot title and newspapers; that it would be better to comply with it as the requirement appears to still be on the books, than to overlook it and possibly leave the results of the election in doubt.

Dr. Loomis said he had been advised also by Ray Phelps of the office of Secretary of State, that this action would be necessary if the election were to be held on March 25th.

MOTION
VOTE

Upon motion by Dr. Loomis, seconded by Mr. Langton, the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

RESOLVED that Lane Transit District hereby designates the following as the date of election, ballot title, and newspapers for publication of election notice for the referendum election on said district's Ordinance No. 19 imposing a personal income tax:

1. The date of the election shall be March 25, 1980, provided a referendum petition is filed containing the required number of verified signatures at least thirty-five days before March 25, 1980, but if such petition is filed less than thirty-five days prior to March 25, 1980, but within sixty days after December 18, 1979, said election shall be held May 20, 1980.

2. The ballot title shall be as follows:

CAPTION: LANE MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT INCOME TAX ORDINANCE

QUESTION: SHALL THE LANE MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT ORDINANCE IMPOSING
A PERSONAL INCOME TAX TAKE EFFECT AS OF JANUARY 1, 1980?

STATEMENT OF CHIEF PURPOSE: The chief purpose of Lane Mass Transit District Ordinance No. 19 is to impose a personal income tax at the rate of .40% for each taxable year on the taxable income of residents of the District, effective January 1, 1980. The tax would be collected by Oregon Department of Revenue in the same manner as the state personal income tax. Repeal of the ordinance would prevent it from taking effect on January 1, 1980.

3. The newspapers designated for publication of notice are:

Eugene Register-Guard
Junction City Times
Springfield News
West Lane News

Be it further resolved that a true copy of this resolution be certified by the Recording Secretary and delivered forthwith to the Election Officer of Lane County, Oregon

UPDATE ON ACQUISITION OF BUSES: Mr. Kohnen reviewed previous activities by the staff and board in seeking financing of the additional 22 buses, and of the willingness of the consortium of banks to finance only 11 of the vehicles through the Oregon Mass Transit Financing Authority (OMTFA). He advised that in the agreement to dispose of the other buses, three to Roseburg, three to Corvallis and three to Rogue Valley, there is a clause that would allow this district to retain those buses should monies become available. Ms. Loobey said the two remaining buses will be released to Boise Transit, who will deal directly with GMC of Canada.

The chairman advised that subsequent to release of the eleven buses, the general manager has searched for possible federal funding that might have been overlooked. Ms. Loobey reported that she was unable to obtain any discretionary funds from UMTA but had received a commitment for additional funds of \$750,000 through Section 3 funds which are new for this year and would not decrease the program committed for the district. She said it would require the district to go through the bidding process again and the vehicles would be more costly as current bid prices are considerably higher and the delivery date would be delayed. Mr. Kohnen advised that the last legislature had set aside money as matching funds for the district and the grant of \$750,000 would enable the district to draw some of that money.

Responding to question by Ms. Roemer of the necessity of again going through the bid process, Ms. Loobey explained that UMTA would not issue a letter of no prejudice which is required if the purchase process has already been started, and that Flyer of Canada could object as they did not have an opportunity to bid on the additional buses. She added that the federal government is interested in maintaining stability among the suppliers and a competitive market.

Mr. Kohnen reminded that the income tax could make it possible to finance the nine buses through OMFTA. Ms. Roemer said she questioned the advisability of using local money for new buses when federal money has become available. Dr. Loomis suggested the \$750,000 could be used for future vehicle replacement.

PROPERTY ACQUISITION: Mr. Bryson advised that subsequent to board authorization, negotiations on property acquisition have been underway. He said board action on determining the necessity of acquiring the property and of a reasonable purchase price will be delayed for two or three weeks; that the appraisals included only that part of the properties the district wished to purchase and further information must be obtained to determine if any severance damages would be required.

Mr. Booth and Mr. Langton expressed their concern that the board was not kept apprised of the negotiations, and had not been advised of the available \$750,000 until reading of it in the newspaper. Mr. Langton suggested that a brief note from the general manager on any important issue would suffice.

URBAN INITIATIVE GRANT: Dr. Loomis gave a brief update on the downtown Eugene redevelopment project and the opportunity for an Urban Initiative grant which would include transit sites and covered walkways.

FARE INCREASE: Mr. Booth inquired of the status of increasing fares and encouraged a review of Tri-Met's recent fare raise and of its effect on ridership. Ms. Loobey said the staff is preparing a fare analysis to be presented at the April board meeting which will include reporting on Tri-Met's ridership.

The meeting was adjourned.



Secretary