

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING
LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING

August 18, 1981

Pursuant to notice given to the Eugene Register-Guard for publication on August 13, 1981, 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 August 18, 1981, at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Richard A. Booth, Secretary
Daniel M. Herbert, Vice President
Kenneth H. Kohnen, President, presiding
Ted J. Langton, Treasurer
Robert C. Loomis
Phyllis Loobey, General Manager
Kaye Leach, Recording Secretary

News Media Representative:

Ann Bradley, KEZI-TV

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY BOARD PRESIDENT: Mr. Kohnen, Board President, called the meeting to order and remarked that there were several items from the last Board meeting on the agenda. Besides the agenda items, Mr. Kohnen remarked we were having a public hearing on changes to our Capital Grant Budget. He also mentioned that we would be having our legislative report by General Manager, Phyllis Loobey, and that the legislative session went quite well this year.

PUBLIC HEARING - CAPITAL GRANT BUDGET AMENDMENTS: The proposal in the Capital Grant Budget Amendment is to fund the computerization project with funds from the grant contingency balance, this would entail no change in the total dollar value of the project.

Ms. Loobey spoke on the computerization briefly. She stated that we had mailed proposals to all the computer time sharing companies listed in the Eugene and Portland yellow pages, none of whom responded. Of the companies who responded to our requests for proposals, Damus, Inc. was the most acceptable to our needs. Ms. Loobey also mentioned that Mr. Joe Williams with Weber and Weber who presented the Damus, Inc. proposal to L.T.D. was present to answer any questions that might arise concerning the system.

Mr. Kohnen declared the public hearing on the Capital Grant Budget Amendment for computerization open. There was no public testimony on this subject, and Mr. Kohnen closed the public hearing.

Dr. Loomis asked a question regarding the lack of response to our proposal. He realized that our proposal wasn't of the proportion to attract a lot of response, but felt that we couldn't make a decision when only 3 companies had responded. He also stated that he had never heard of Damus, Inc. and wondered what they had done in the past of recognition. Mr. Williams responded that Damus, Inc. was a Portland-based firm which had been in the area for 5 years. He also stated that Damus, Inc. had supplied Tri-Met in Portland with their entire computer package, which included software developed specifically for their unique needs.

Mr. Booth stated that he believed the proposal to be incomplete in regards to long term operation costs, specifically additional staff costs. He asked for a more condensed report on the cost of the system over the next few years. Mr. Williams responded to Mr. Booth's question on additional staff costs. He stated that the system is designed to be used by present staff on a day-to-day basis along with their normal duties and would entail no additional staff to operate.

Dr. Loomis questioned why there was so much emphasis on buying and asked if anyone had checked into leasing with the option to buy. Ms. Loobey responded that UMTA has indicated that they will not fund leased equipment with capital grant funds. If LTD chose to lease computer equipment, it would have to expend additional operating funds to implement this program. In addition there is no straight lease option available to the District for computerization with the exception of I.B.M. No computer firm offered to lease its hardware and I.B.M. only offered a fixed term lease which is more costly than a standard lease/purchase. A representative from I.G.F. Leasing had responded affirmatively to the leasing question. Their cost would include interest at 22.7%. Further questions were raised about the adequacy of the proposed system and District needs now and in the future. Because of several unresolved questions the staff was directed to return to the Board at its September meeting. Information requested were examples of computer applications, operating costs and an examination of starting with a smaller system than that proposed in the Bid package.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: Clark Cox, of 1085 Patterson Street, Eugene, made a comment regarding the minutes of the last meeting. Under Audience Participation the statement "Eugene Association of Railroad Passengers..." should read "Oregon Association of Railroad Passengers, Eugene Chapter...".

MOTION APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Moved that the minutes of the July 21, 1981
VOTE regular Board meeting be approved as amended. Seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

MOTION HOLIDAY SERVICE: The Board decided unanimously in favor of eliminating
VOTE Thanksgiving Day service. Motion was made by Mr. Kohnen.

MOTION POLICY FOR FREE FARES: The Board discussed the Free Fare Policy sub-
VOTE mitted by Mr. Herbert. Major concerns included administrative problems, difficulty in making judgements based upon merit and the immediacy of response by various groups upon knowledge of the program. A motion was made and seconded to accept the staff recommendation. The motion was defeated 3 to 2 with Mr. Booth, Mr. Loomis and Mr. Langton opposing.

TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM: Ellen Bevington briefly presented the revised T.D.P. and stated that no substantive changes had been made. The only changes were to revise appropriate statistics to reflect the new fare structure adopted by the Board at its previous meeting. Dr. Loomis commented that the farebox to operation revenue ratio was too low. Mr. Booth supported this statement and further stated that the basic philosophical difference on the Board was that some Board members favored maximizing ridership while others favored maximizing farebox-operating cost ratio. Mr. Kohnen stated that he felt a higher farebox-operating cost ratio could eventually be achieved by maximizing ridership. After further discussion a motion was made to accept the T.D.P. as presented except the farebox-operating goals should revert back to the statistics presented in the first draft. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously, which includes the goal of 30% farebox-operating cost ratio.

MOTION

VOTE

MOTION

VOTE

APTA NOMINATION: A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to authorize the General Manager, Phyllis Loobey to accept the APTA appointment to the Executive Committee for the 1981-82 term.

1981 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: Ms. Loobey spoke on the 1981 Legislative Session. A memo describing legislative attainments was included with the agenda packet. Ms. Loobey advised the Board of the post-legislative conference with Governor Atiyeh attended by herself and Mr. Kohnen. The Governor subsequently signed the Senior Fare Bill (HB 2510); several seniors were asked to voice their support of the bill to the Governor's office. It was felt that the senior support was instrumental in persuading the Governor to sign HB 2510.

MOTION

VOTE

EUGENE MALL TRANSIT STATION: It was motioned and seconded to bypass discussion of the Eugene Mall Transit Station Update.

MOTION

VOTE

MARKETING ACTIVITIES REPORT: It was motioned and seconded to bypass discussion of the Marketing Activities Report.

There was no discussion on any of the other Items for Information, and the meeting was duly adjourned.

 Secretary