

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING
LANE TRANSIT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING/WORK SESSION

Wednesday, May 16, 2007

Pursuant to notice given to *The Register-Guard* for publication on May 10, 2007, and distributed to persons on the mailing list of the District, the Board of Directors of the Lane Transit District held its regular meeting on Wednesday, May 16, 2007, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the LTD Board Room at 3500 East 17th Avenue, Eugene.

Present: Gerry Gaydos, President, presiding
Debbie Davis, Treasurer
Michael Dubick
Greg Evans
Mike Eyster
Dean Kortge, Secretary
Mark Pangborn, General Manager
Jo Sullivan, Clerk of the Board
Lynn Taylor, Minutes Recorder

Absent: Susan Ban, Vice President

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – Mr. Gaydos called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Mr. Pangborn called the roll. Mr. Kortge was not yet present.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS BY BOARD PRESIDENT – Mr. Gaydos thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – Mr. Gaydos noted that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) celebration at the Eugene Station had been well attended, and was a good opportunity to talk about LTD's commitment to accessibility. He said that Facilities Services Manager Charlie Simmons and Accessible Services Program Manager Terry Parker had done a good job.

Mr. Gaydos also said that he and Planning and Development Director Tom Schwetz had met with a citizen group calling themselves the Residents for Responsible Rapid Transit (3RT). He said this group cared about the neighborhood and had creative ideas that LTD and the City would explore. An open house to kick off the West Eugene EmX process was scheduled for May 28, and Mr. Gaydos suggested that Board members drop in if they could.

Mr. Pangborn asked to add an action item to the agenda, to approve the negotiating team designated by Human Resources Director Mary Adams.

Mr. Pangborn also introduced Jeanne Schapper, an administrative secretary in General Administration, who was working with Ms. Sullivan on Board agenda materials and would be attending meetings in Ms. Sullivan's absence.

Mr. Pangborn noted that the Board members had driven past people handing out literature on the sidewalk outside the Glenwood facility. He explained that they were Portland union employees who likely would be running for treasurer of the union. Director of Transit Operations Mark Johnson noted that they were on the sidewalk because campaigning on LTD property could not begin officially until July 16, according to LTD's policy regarding campaigning for union office.

BOARD CALENDARS – Mr. Pangborn noted that there would be both a work session and regular Board meeting in June, on June 11 and June 20, respectively.

MOTION LABOR NEGOTIATION TEAM APPOINTMENT – The Board received an agenda item summary on this topic. Director of Human Resources and Risk Management Mary Adams explained that at the January 17, 2007, meeting, the Board had designated her position, the director of Human Resources and Risk Management, as LTD's permanent designee for the purposes of labor negotiations. The resolution before the Board would name the rest of the negotiating team for the current negotiations session.

Mr. Eyster moved approval of LTD Resolution No. 2007-020:

It is hereby resolved that the LTD Board of Directors appoints the following additional members to the LTD Negotiating Team for the purposes of negotiating the 2007-2010 labor agreement: Diane Hellekson, LTD director of Finance and Information Technology; Mark Johnson, LTD director of Transit Operations; and George Trauger, LTD director of Maintenance. Attorney Jackie Damm will act as legal advisor to the Negotiating Team.

VOTE Ms. Davis seconded, and the motion was approved as follows:
 AYES: Davis, Dubick, Evans, Eyster, Gaydos (5)
 NAYS: None
 ABSTENTIONS: None
 EXCUSED: Ban, Kortge (2)

MOTION EXECUTIVE SESSION – Ms. Davis moved that the Board meet in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d), to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations, and pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e), to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

VOTE The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous vote. The Board entered executive (non-public) session at 5:40 p.m.

Mr. Kortge arrived during the executive session.

RETURN TO REGULAR (OPEN) SESSION – The Board returned to regular session at 6:20 p.m.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AT THIS MEETING

Legislative Update – Assistant General Manager Stefano Viggiano provided a brief update on the status of state legislative issues of interest to LTD.

Status Report on West Eugene EmX Extension Planning – Director of Development Services Tom Schwetz explained that the West Eugene or WE Group, a citizen committee, had changed its name to the West Eugene Collaborative. With the support of LTD, the City of Eugene, the environmental community, and the business community in equal shares, this group was able to hire a facilitator to begin the collaborative process. At the first meeting the previous week, they had hired Osprey, a facilitation group from Colorado, who had also worked on the West Eugene Parkway discussion during the previous year. LTD also was working with the Residents for Responsible Rapid Transit (3RT), a neighborhood-based group along West 11th Avenue.

Mr. Schwetz said that LTD was still working through what role these groups would play in LTD's West Eugene EmX extension study process. He said that this would dovetail into a federal environmental process, so the District needed to be careful about how decisions would be made at which different points in the process.

The EmX Steering Committee was scheduled to meet on June 5. Existing Steering Committee members would be appointed to each of the Board-approved subgroups, and staff proposed adding stakeholders to those groups, as well. The subgroups would be meeting on a regular basis and making reports at the quarterly EmX Steering Committee meetings for any decision-making. The Steering Committee would then bring recommendations to the Board for final decisions.

Mr. Gaydos called for a two-minute break at 6:28 p.m.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – Transit Operations Manager Mark Johnson introduced Bus Operator Pam Guthrie as the June 2007 Employee of the Month. He said Ms. Guthrie was nominated by a customer because of service that exceeded expectations for customer service.

Mr. Gaydos presented Ms. Guthrie's awards and expressed the Board's appreciation for her exceptional customer service.

Ms. Guthrie thanked the Board for the award and said that LTD was one of the best places she had ever worked. She enjoyed her job and the camaraderie.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – Mr. Gaydos determined there was no one wishing to speak.

ITEMS FOR ACTION AT THIS MEETING

MOTION **Consent Calendar** – Mr. Dubick moved adoption of LTD Resolution 2007-017: "It is hereby resolved that the Consent Calendar for May 16, 2007, is approved as presented." Mr. Eyster provided the second. The Consent Calendar consisted of the minutes of the March 21, 2007, regular Board meeting and the April 25, 2007, special Board meeting.

VOTE The Consent Calendar was approved as follows:
 AYES: Davis, Dubick, Evans, Eyster, Gaydos, Kortge (6)
 NAYS: None
 ABSENTIONS: None
 EXCUSED: Ban (1)

Transportation Financing Proposal – Assistant General Manager Stefano Viggiano introduced Tim Clevinger, a director with the Oregon Business Council (OBC), to present the proposal. He said staff recommended the Board's support.

Mr. Clevinger spoke to the Board about the pressing need for transportation financing and the OBC's proposal to the legislature for addressing permanently what was estimated to be a \$1.7 billion shortfall in financing for the State's transportation infrastructure. He said that Oregon was one of the most trade-dependent states and a recent study on transportation estimated that slightly over \$1 billion a year in economic activity was lost due to the backlog of transportation projects. He said that congestion was a growing problem in cities across the state and affected citizens, transit, and industry. He said that both population and freight volumes were increasing and infrastructure problems were becoming increasingly expensive to fix.

Mr. Clevinger said the Oregon Business Council, Association of Oregon Counties, Portland Business Alliance, and Port of Portland had joined together in support of a proposal calling for an increase in the gas tax and registration and vehicle title fees. He said that HB 3018 and HB 2653 would direct those increases and were scheduled for a work session on May 18, and asked for the Board endorsement and support of both bills.

Mr. Kortge asked if a conflict likely would arise between east and west when the bills went to the House floor. Mr. Clevinger replied there was some opposition from the more rural eastern parts of the state, but Central Oregon was experiencing significant congestion and understood the need for additional funding.

Mr. Evans asked how the revenue from increases in user fees would be distributed. Mr. Clevinger said the details had not been finalized, but the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) was working with cities and counties to develop a completely integrated Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP) and, specifically, congestion relief and freight mobility projects would be forwarded to ODOT for a review of consistency with the OTP. He said the concept was that projects would be funded on the basis of consistency and integration, rather than on a geographic basis.

Mr. Eyster said the proposal would ask the legislature to prioritize transportation funding over other needs such as education, public safety, health care, and other needs. He asked how the Oregon Business Council could make that argument. Mr. Clevinger said the OBC had a variety of issues it believed were priorities for the state, including education and health care. He said those were General Fund programs, and transportation funding was through user fees.

MOTION Mr. Evans moved approval of LTD Resolution No. 2007-018: "It is hereby resolved that the LTD Board of Directors supports HB 2653 and HB 3018, relating to increases in highway user fees." Mr. Eyster provided the second.

Mr. Viggiano noted that the bills could be merged during the legislative process and some of the specific details might be changed. He noted that the Board was voting on a user fee increase concept, but the specifics might be different from the current language in the bills.

Director of Planning and Development Tom Schwetz, in response to a question from Mr. Gaydos, said ODOT operated primarily on the gas tax, and revenue was allocated annually through the

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) to the five regions in the State. He said Region 2, which included Lane County, was one of the more complex regions, with a mix of urban and rural areas and many transportation needs. He explained the allocation formula and said the gas tax revenue did not begin to address those needs. He felt the OBC proposal would help to solve the shortfall problem.

VOTE The motion was approved as follows:

AYES: Davis, Dubick, Evans, Eyster, Gaydos, Kortge (6)

NAYS: None

ABSENTIONS: None

EXCUSED: Ban (1)

Mr. Viggiano said that staff would draft a letter of support for Mr. Gaydos' signature and invited Board members to testify at the May 18 work session.

River Road Station Site Purchase – Mr. Schwetz reviewed the agenda material and emphasized that the current site was vital to LTD's operation. A public investment already had been made on the site as a Park & Ride and transfer station, and there were no other suitable vacant or underdeveloped sites within a reasonable distance of the current site. He said the Board Service Planning and Marketing Committee had recommended purchase of the site.

MOTION Mr. Eyster moved approval of LTD Resolution No. 1007-021: "It is hereby resolved that the LTD Board of Directors authorizes the general manager to pursue purchase of the River Road Transit Station site. Mr. Evans provided the second.

VOTE The resolution was approved as follows:

AYES: Davis, Dubick, Evans, Eyster, Gaydos, Kortge (6)

NAYS: None

ABSENTIONS: None

EXCUSED: Ban (1)

Human Resources Committee Recommendation: General Manager's Goals and Objectives – Mr. Gaydos reported that the Human Resources Committee had reviewed draft goals and discussed them with Mr. Pangborn and Director of Human Resources and Risk Management Mary Adams. He said the goals had been revised and were recommended by the Committee to the Board for approval.

Ms. Adams pointed out that the general manager was the Board's only direct employee and goals and objectives were required as part of the performance evaluation process. She then invited questions from the Board.

Mr. Kortge noted that Goal 1.b under the One-Year Goals section was to secure funding for the Pioneer Parkway Green Line extension. He felt it was not possible to hold the general manager responsible for securing the funding and preferred more measurable language, as there were so many variables involved. Mr. Pangborn felt that the general manager's goals were a blend of personal and organization goals and it was appropriate to expect him, as general manager, to guide the District in attaining those goals.

Mr. Evans suggested rewording the goal as "*Actively pursue securing funding . . .*" Mr. Kortge agreed with the suggestion.

Mr. Kortge pointed out that the term "successful" as used to describe negotiation of a new ATU labor agreement in Goal 1.c would be difficult to measure.

Mr. Pangborn suggested rewording the goal to read "Oversee the *resolution of* negotiation" Mr. Kortge thought that was better language.

Mr. Dubick commented that Mr. Pangborn was a Board employee and the Board would evaluate him. He said the goals represented direction from the Board and he was comfortable with the current wording as he felt the Board would be reasonable in the application of those goals during a performance evaluation. He said that none of the goals was impossible to achieve and the Board would be realistic in its expectations.

Mr. Eyster concurred with Mr. Dubick's remarks. He said that even though the goals were discrete, he would measure Mr. Pangborn's performance on a continuum that considered the context.

Mr. Kortge agreed that the goals represented the Board's direction, and said they needed to be as clear as possible with precise language. He said that a term like "successful" was a measurement term that had nothing to define it. Mr. Pangborn said he would define "success" as maintaining open communications with the Board throughout the entire negotiation process.

Regarding Goal 1.f, Mr. Kortge did not perceive the general manager as the District's only representative before the legislature. He did not think that the Board could hold the general manager accountable for working with the school districts to secure replacement funds as set forth in Goal 1.h or accountable for improving the community's understanding of transportation/transit needs under Goal 2.a(1).

Following a discussion by members, Mr. Gaydos directed that the Human Resources Committee review the performance goals again, amend them as necessary, and bring them back to the Board for consideration.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AT THIS MEETING (continued)

Board Member Reports – Mr. Gaydos reported on a listening session with the Federal Highway Administration as part of the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) certification process. He said that several Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) members were in attendance.

Mr. Kortge reported that he and Mr. Viggiano had attended a meeting of the Rubicon Society of Lane County.

Mr. Eyster said he had visited the Walnut Station open house and it appeared to be a success.

Monthly Financial Report – Director of Finance & Information Technology Diane Hellekson reported that fuel prices continued to trend upward but were still within the budget. She said there were still concerns about Accessible Services and there might be a supplemental budget to address expenditures. She said there were good indicators on the EmX services, including a drop in overtime. She said that the District was expected to finish the fiscal year in good shape.

She hoped to report a jump in fuel tax revenue in conjunction with the rate increase. Regarding the River Road Station, she said that funding the acquisition would be referred to the Finance Committee.

In response to a question from Mr. Evans, Ms. Hellekson indicated that currently there were no unallocated federal funds that would be available for the station purchase. She said unprogrammed federal funds would not be available for at least a year and that would be outside the window of opportunity for purchasing the property. She said that the property could be purchased in accordance with federal regulations and permission requested from the Federal Transit Administration for the District to reimburse itself with future funding. She said the Finance Committee would consider the issue in depth at its next meeting.

Mr. Eyster asked if the District would need to make a lease payment as a bridge. Ms. Hellekson replied that the current lease expired in September, during the new fiscal year, and a lease payment amount was included in the new budget as a placeholder.

Mr. Pangborn announced that Director of Maintenance George Trauger was beginning a test program for biodeisel. Mr. Pangborn said the fuel was already on site and the vehicles were being selected. He said that Mr. Trauger was working with other transit properties that had already begun a biodeisel program. He explained that the program would begin with a 95 percent diesel/5 percent vegetable oil mix and noted that regular engines could be run on up to 20 percent vegetable oil mix without voiding the warranty.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.


Board Secretary

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