

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
LANE TRANSIT DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, March 18, 2015

Pursuant to notice given to *The Register-Guard* for publication on March 12, 2014, and distributed to persons on the mailing list of the District, the Board of Directors of the Lane Transit District held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, beginning at 5:30 p.m., at the Eugene Public Library, Bascom-Tykeson Room, 100 W. 10th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon.

Present: Gary Wildish, President  
Carl Yeh, Vice President  
Julie Grossman, Secretary  
Ed Necker, Treasurer  
Gary Gillespie  
Angelynn Pierce

Ron Kilcoyne, General Manager  
Jeanne Schapper, Clerk of the Board  
Lynn Taylor, Minutes Recorder

Vacant: Position 3

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** Mr. Wildish convened the meeting and called the roll.

**PRELIMINARY REMARKS BY BOARD PRESIDENT:** Mr. Wildish expressed his appreciation to the members of the public for attending the meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER:** Mr. Kilcoyne stated that in 2013 Lane Transit District (LTD) was accepted for participation in the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Environmental Sustainability Management System (ESMS) program. Approximately 27 transit districts had participated in the program to date, the objective of which was to assure that each district adhered to the highest standards of sustainability. He said that the process was quite rigorous and that LTD had just received its final audit. Most districts scored in the 80s, but LTD had received a score of 94 out of 100 possible points. He thanked staff for their efforts toward achieving that success. He added that today was Transit Driver Appreciation Day and refreshments had been provided to staff, although drivers were appreciated every day for their work on behalf of the District.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Mr. Wildish announced that Item VII. Employee of the Month would be postponed until the next meeting, no executive session would be held, and an additional Budget Committee appointment had been added to Item XI., Items for Action at this Meeting.

**EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH — APRIL 2015:** This item was postponed to the next meeting as the employee was unable to attend.

**RECOGNITION OF G4S PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS:** Director of Transit Operations Mark Johnson announced that G4S Public Safety Officer Jake Carpenter was presented with the Award of Distinction for Valor on March 12, 2015, for his actions during a non-LTD involved shooting in the Four Corners area of Eugene. Mr. Carpenter serves as an LTD mobile patrol officer. Mr. Johnson also announced that G4S Public Safety Officer Todd Uhler, who worked closely with the Eugene Police Department (EPD), received the G4S Northwest Region Officer of the Year award.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:** Mr. Wildish explained the procedures for offering comments to the Board. He noted that there was a separate sign-up sheet for those who wished to speak during the annual route review public hearing.

**Quincy O'Toole**, Eugene, parent representative on the Network Charter School (NCS) Board of Directors, expressed concern about the treatment of students by LTD security. She said that students relied on transit to get to school and to move between classes during the day, and many had complained about being treated unfairly. She described an incident that also involved EPD officers and resulted in complaints being filed with both LTD and EPD. She said that LTD's security manager denied any wrong-doing and said that was supported by video evidence. She said that she felt that the concerns of the student, teacher and principal were ignored, as was a request from the principal to meet with LTD staff to address issues between LTD and NCS students. Instead, LTD had denied service to the student. She said that both of her sons had their bus passes taken away and that being unable to take the bus was interfering with their education, which is a basic human right. She said that students need to feel safe, confident, and protected instead of being the target of ridicule and harassment. She asked LTD to participate in peaceful conflict resolution with the students and staff of NCS. She provided copies of statements and communications from those involved.

**Brianna Hulick**, Eugene, NCS student, stated that she had witnessed instances of abuse of NCS students from LTD public security officers. She said that the officers were older and larger than students and should be protecting them, not harassing them. She said that the structure of NCS's open campus requires students to rely on busses to take them to classes at various locations, and kicking them off the bus creates problems. She said that giving the LTD security officers the power to arrest, or arming them, would be inconsiderate and heartless to the community and to NCS in particular. She said that she felt that NCS students were being targeted and asked LTD to cooperate in resolving the problem.

**PUBLIC HEARING: 2015 ANNUAL ROUTE REVIEW:** Director of Customer Services and Planning Andy Vobora said that the Board had decided against making any changes to fares, and the only item to be discussed was the proposed service package. He said that staff were available to answer questions and speak to members of the public about service changes.

Service Planner Tim Simon presented an overview of the results from last year's changes, which included adding service, modifying route alignments, and expanding coverage. He said that there was a net increase in ridership on all routes experiencing change in 2014 including good utilization of restored holiday service. He said that the new Annual Route Review (ARR) was an ongoing process that engaged the community throughout the year in conversation and was informed by a mid-range plan for service that was composed of those elements that could not be previously funded. He said that feedback from the community had identified the following priorities for improved service: more frequent service, later service, limited airport service and restoration of the student pass program. The 2015 ARR proposal included:

- Increasing service spans with earlier and later buses
- Increasing frequency with more buses on certain routes
- Service additions with buses serving new areas and creating new connections
- Airport connector service
- Modified routing schedule

Mr. Simon said that community input was solicited on the proposal with respect to preferences for earlier or later service and location of more frequent service. Sources of input included the public, employers, the Service Advisory Committee, and community development activities. Other factors in developing the proposal were over-crowded buses, late service, and the frequent transit network. Based on that information, the proposal was finalized for presentation to the Board. He used maps to illustrate the specific changes that were being recommended, details of which were included in the agenda packet.

Mr. Gillespie thanked staff for the recent presentation to the Eugene Public Library staff. He said that he had received feedback from people who worked downtown that LTD's service got them to work on time, but returning home in the evening often required a 30- to 45-minute wait. Mr. Simon responded that issue was being included in the mid-range plan for consideration during the next ARR.

Ms. Grossman commended the new ARR year-round process.

Ms. Pierce also commended staff. She observed that the south side of Main Street in Springfield had virtually no service and asked if that was being reviewed. Mr. Simon said that the issue had been examined during the last ARR, but staff felt the timing was not right; therefore, it was on the mid-range plan. Mr. Vobora added that feedback from Mayor Lundberg indicated that any service changes in that area should be postponed until the Main Street study was completed and a long-range vision was created.

In response to a question from Mr. Necker regarding scheduling for route numbers 51 and 52, Mr. Simon said that the details would not be formulated until additional data was available in the spring. Mr. Vobora noted that those details would be determined in conjunction with adoption of the Long-Range Financial Plan and Budget Committee deliberations.

Mr. Wildish opened the public hearing and explained the procedure for providing testimony.

**Steven Baker**, Eugene, stated that a modern transit system needed to access all of the major transportation hubs in the metropolitan area; and for that reason, LTD should provide some type of public transit access to the Eugene Airport. He said that it should be easy to reroute the bus between downtown Eugene and Junction City to accomplish that; although a separate connector from downtown Eugene would be ideal. He said that he felt that the proposed connector from Highway 99 was the worst option because that area was a wasteland and most people would not want to wait there for a connection.

**Bob Macherione**, Eugene, representing Our Money, Our Transit (OMOT), said that he was pleased with the new ARR process but was concerned that only a 4 percent service restoration was being proposed, and that did not include restoration of full service to low-income housing on Brewer Avenue. He expressed that he did not think that was on the mid-range plan either and said that he felt the District's core values were being side-tracked. He said that the Cal Young neighborhood had the least coverage of any corridor in Eugene, and it should become a priority ahead of service to the Eugene Airport as low-income people did not usually fly out of the airport.

**Robert Hendrix**, Eugene, supported the idea of having more buses running more frequently. He pointed out that Route No. 52 had to make a left turn from Arrowhead Street onto Irving Drive, and the stop sign there often caused delays as the bus waited to turn onto Irving. He asked if there were any options available to prevent those types of delays for buses trying to enter busy roads at intersections without signals.

Mr. Wildish thanked those who testified and closed the public hearing.

**ITEMS FOR ACTION AT THIS MEETING:**

**MOTION** **Consent Calendar:** Mr. Necker moved adoption of LTD Resolution No. 2015-006: It is hereby resolved that the Consent Calendar for March 18, 2015, is approved as presented. Ms. Grossman provided the second. The Consent Calendar consisted of the Minutes of the February 18, 2015, Regular Board Meeting and the appointment of Jody Cline to the LTD Board Budget Committee.

**VOTE** The resolution was adopted as follows:  
AYES: Gillespie, Grossman, Necker, Pierce, Wildish, Yeh (6)  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None  
EXCUSED: None

**Central Lane Scenario Planning - Draft Preferred Scenario:** Planning and Development Manager Tom Schwetz introduced Kristin Hull, Central Lane scenario planning project manager, to present an update on the scenario planning process and preferred scenario. He said that the LTD Board's input and advice would be provided to the adopting jurisdictions, which include the cities of Eugene, Springfield, and Coburg and also Lane County.

Ms. Hull said that scenario planning was required by House Bill 2001, which was passed by the 2009 legislature. She said that the region was required to select a preferred scenario but was not required to implement it. She described the planning activities that had resulted in the draft preferred scenario and the cooperative selection procedure that would complete the scenario planning process.

Ms. Hull described the preferred scenario as a group of aspirational statements that provided local jurisdictions with information about outcomes from certain strategies. It was not regulatory and was intended to be flexible so that each jurisdiction could decide which elements it wished to implement. She said that the preferred scenario combined elements of existing strategies, moderate changes to some strategies and policies, and significant changes, as well as new policies. She reviewed some of the projected impacts and benefits of the strategies contained in the draft preferred scenario.

Mr. Schwetz drew the Board's attention to the seven strategies related specifically to transit and the draft document containing the Board's advice on the proposed preferred scenario. He invited comments and feedback.

Mr. Wildish commented that he had participated in some of the scenario planning events and found them very interesting and informative.

Mr. Gillespie said that the seven transit strategies were good, but he was concerned that all of them represented an increase in service without a method for funding. Ms. Hull agreed and said that feedback to the State could point out the need for funding to implement those strategies.

Mr. Necker asked if additional funding was expected to come from local jurisdictions. Ms. Hull replied that the region was not required to implement the preferred scenario, and it was clear that new funding would be required in order to do so. Mr. Schwetz added that the proposed Board advice emphasized that there would need to be a partnership among local, regional, state, and federal entities in order to move the plan forward.

Mr. Wildish said that it was clear what strategies were needed to improve in the areas covered in the preferred scenario, but it could not be accomplished without additional financial resources.

MOTION Mr. Necker moved approval of LTD Resolution No. 2015-007: Be it resolved, that the LTD Board of Directors approves the Advice on Central Lane Scenario Planning Draft Preferred Scenario, as described in the attachment. Mr. Yeh provided the second.

VOTE The resolution was approved as follows:  
AYES: Gillespie, Grossman, Necker, Pierce, Wildish, Yeh (6)  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None  
EXCUSED: None

**LTD Pension Plan Trustee Appointment:** Mr. Kilcoyne explained that former Administrative Services Manager Mary Adams had served as a Trustee on the Board of Directors for the Lane Transit District Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan. Her retirement necessitated appointment of another trustee and new Director of Administrative Services Roland Hoskins had agreed to serve in that capacity.

MOTION Ms. Grossman moved approval of Resolution 2015-008, a Resolution appointing Roland Hoskins of the LTD Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan, to succeed Mary Adams as Trustee, and reappointing the other Trustees appointed by LTD (Ron Kilcoyne and Gary Gillespie), as stated in the attached Resolution. Mr. Necker provided the second.

VOTE The resolution was approved as follows:  
AYES: Gillespie, Grossman, Necker, Pierce, Wildish, Yeh (6)  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None  
EXCUSED: None

MOTION **Budget Committee Appointment:** Ms. Grossman moved adoption of LTD Resolution 2015-009: Be it resolved that the LTD Board of Directors reappoints Don Nordin to the Subdistrict 3 position on the LTD Board Budget Committee. Mr. Gillespie provided the second.

VOTE The resolution was adopted as follows:  
AYES: Gillespie, Grossman, Necker, Pierce, Wildish, Yeh (6)  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None  
EXCUSED: None

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AT THIS MEETING:**

**Board Member Reports:** Mr. Necker announced that the March meeting of the Accessible Transportation Committee had been canceled.

**2015 Legislative Update:** Governments Relations Manager Edward McGlone reported that one-third of the legislative session was completed. LTD was involved in several legislative projects, including legislation to fund youth transit passes, a statewide transportation funding package, and funding for elderly and disabled transit services. He said that there was positive testimony on two bills to provide funding for a student pass program and that there seemed to be support from legislators on the committee. He said that the committee chair had commissioned an in-session work group of stakeholders to develop legislation that had a likelihood of passing during the session.

Mr. McGlone said that another piece of legislation moving forward would standardize how transit fares were treated and make it easier for LTD to transition to an electronic fare system. There did not appear to be any opposition. He said that opposition to a low carbon fuel standard bill that had been signed into law resulted in Republican legislators refusing to negotiate on a transportation funding package, although that was likely to change toward the end of the session. He said that the transportation package contained several elements that are important to public transit and alternative transportation. Discussions of a youth pass program continued to evolve, irrespective of the transportation package. Elderly and disabled transportation funding was somewhat insulated as it would be supported from the State's General Fund.

Mr. McGlone said that federal funding supported national passenger rail routes, but local routes such as the Cascade line were expected to be supported by states. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) projected a cost to the state of \$23 million per biennium for passenger rail; a one-time federal grant provided partial funding. He believed that ODOT felt legislators were committed to finding a way to support passenger rail service; but in future years, the investment would need to be doubled, and that would be challenging. He added that several bills related to labor issues were moving through the legislative process but would have little impact on LTD.

Mr. McGlone stated that Transit Day at the Capitol was scheduled for April 8 and he hoped to see some LTD Board members in Salem to support transit. He noted that Governor Kate Brown was a supporter of transit and expressed support for the transportation package.

Mr. Gillespie was pleased with the prospect of funding passenger rail service-at least for another year. He asked if the final piece of legislation to fund a youth transit pass program would include LTD's request for \$2 million. Mr. McGlone said that it was too early to make that determination. There was support for the program among legislators, and the final version of legislation would be one that supporters thought was most likely to pass.

**2014 Business Commute Challenge Report:** Point2point Transportation Options Outreach and Events Coordinator Cammie Harris presented the results from the week-long, region-wide, workplace-to-workplace Business Commute Challenge (BCC). She described a number of BCC events that were designed to encourage participation and were very popular. There were more than 1,900 participants in the 2014 BCC, and those individuals were surveyed prior to, and six months after, the BCC regarding their transportation modes and use of transportation options. She reported that there was a 7.3 percent reduction in driving alone and a 3.8 percent increase in the frequency of alternative mode use.

Ms. Harris said that the 2015 BCC would be held on May 9-15, and prizes would be cumulative over days of participation to encourage ongoing use of alternative transportation.

Mr. Yeh commended staff for the BCC, in which he participated. He suggested developing an application for the event.

Ms. Grossman challenged other Board members to participate in the 2015 BCC and demonstrate their support for alternative transportation modes.

**SmartTrips Main Street Program Update:** SmartTrips Program Coordinator Cody Franz said that the program was intended to encourage new ways of making trips and that the 2014 program was conducted along Main Street in Springfield. He said that individualized plans, based on personal preferences, were delivered to households. Locally tailored events were held and materials were distributed to increase awareness of transportation options. He displayed a map of the target area that included 4,269 households along Main Street between 28<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> streets. He said that the area was served by transit but lacked walking and biking infrastructure. He described the outreach activities and said that the participation rate of more than 12 percent was the highest ever. Pre- and post-program surveys demonstrated a number of positive outcomes, details of which were included in the agenda packet.

Mr. Franz added that the next SmartTrips Main Street Program would be launched on June 1, 2015, and would focus on pedestrian and bicycle safety.

In reply to a comment from Mr. Gillespie, Mr. Franz said that the program would coordinate with street crossing safety awareness and improvement efforts.

**Monthly Financial Report:** Mr. Lipkin stated that the impact of the payroll tax takeback in the previous year continued to be mitigated by economic recovery in the region and that fuel prices remained fairly low. Fuel was purchased and stored at the lower prices as a budget mitigation tool. He said that materials and services were over budget because a payment in the prior year had been wrongly classified as a current year expenditure, and that had been corrected. He said that he anticipated the transfer from the General Fund to support Accessible Services to be well under budget and hoped that the same level of support from the State would be forthcoming during the current session, although the budget for next year would project a higher transfer. He reviewed the budget process schedule through the Budget Committee meeting on May 20, 2015.

**Monthly Engagement Reports:** There were no question or comments.

**Monthly Performance Reports:** Mr. Wildish said that he was pleased with the reduced number of maintenance calls.

**Monthly Grants Report:** There were no questions or comments.

**Monthly Department Reports:** There were no questions or comments.

**BOARD CALENDARS:** Mr. Kilcoyne reviewed upcoming events during the months of March, April, and May 2015. He noted that the Budget Committee would meet on March 31 at 9:00 a.m. and the next ARR public hearing would occur on April 6 at 5:30 p.m. He said that National Stand Up for Transportation Day was April 9 and additional information on planned events would be provided.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Wildish adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

LANE TRANSIT DISTRICT:

ATTEST:

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Julie Grossman  
Board Secretary

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Jeanne Schapper  
Clerk of the Board