

**Salem Area Mass Transit District
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

March 24, 2016

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Salem Area Mass Transit District
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

March 24, 2016
Courthouse Square – Senator Hearing Room
555 Court Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

PRESENT: Board	President Robert Krebs; Directors John Hammill, Colleen Busch, Marcia Kelley, Jerry Thompson, and Kathy Lincoln ABSENT: Director Steve Evans
Staff	Allan Pollock, General Manager; David Trimble, Chief Operating Officer; Paula Dixon, Director of Administration; Steve Dickey, Director of Transportation Development; Patricia Feeny, Director of Communications; Linda Galeazzi, Executive Assistant; Ben Fetherston, SAMTD Legal Counsel
Guests	Dale Penn II, Senior Public Affairs Associate; Joel Rubin, Partner; and Michael Skipper, Federal Affairs Associate from CFM Strategic Communications

A. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTE OF ATTENDANCE **6:35 PM**
President Krebs called the meeting to order. Attendance was noted and a quorum was present.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Director Colleen Busch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None

D. PRESENTATION – Legislative Update **6:37 PM**
A PowerPoint presentation, on pages 1-9 and an Oregon legislative session summary on pages 12-24 of the supplemental agenda packet, illustrated highlights of the District's federal and state legislative affairs. Federal and state legislative advocates, Joel Rubin and Dale Penn, and their teams from CFM Strategic Communications provide the District with services that provide specific and broad funding advocacy.

Mr. Rubin shared a 'good story' about the FAST Act from 2012 and *MAP 21* (Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act), a two-year transportation reauthorization bill to the passing of the *FAST Act (The Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act)*; a *long term bill* that will provide funding certainty for surface transportation. He talked about the passing of the amended Surface Transportation Reauthorization Reform Act (STRR) from the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure that was created with \$90 million in the first two years of this new discretionary six-year bill, but nothing thereafter for Section 5339 a bus/bus facilities program. Representatives Jaime Herrera-Beutler (WA.) and Kurt Schrader (OR) introduced a bipartisan amendment to the Act to significantly increase federal investment in the bus capital programs under Section 5339 and would utilize funding to support bus and vehicle replacement needs in all 50 states through the Section 5339 program that was currently designed for use by just seven high density states under the Section 5340 program. Board members watched a *You Tube* video of the vote on the House floor that took place on the amendment to the bill. The amended bill passed. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W6ouSSj6548&feature=youtu.be>) Mr. Rubin also

reviewed the District's 2016 federal agenda.

Mr. Penn reported on the outcomes of the 2016 State Legislative Session that included the failure of the transit House Bill 4078 sponsored by Representative Bill Post and supported by the chambers of commerce for Salem and Keizer; SB 1521 – Mass Transit District Employee Tax, sponsored by President Courtney, authorizes mass transit districts to impose a tax on the employees of employers within the district if the district imposes an excise tax on those employers. The bill remained in committee upon adjournment. SB 1527 – Prepaid Transportation Cards exempts prepaid transportation cards from the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act and provisions related to regulation of gift cards that expire. The District provided testimony in support of the bill and lobbied legislators prior to the public hearing and work session. This bill will go into effect January 1, 2017.

The District's first priority for the session is the State Employee Bus Pass Program contract and budget that was approved. The District will also continue to work on the reimbursement of the energy tax credits, having conversations around a transit component of a 2017 transportation package, and a property tax reform.

Mr. Pollock thanked Mr. Rubin and Mr. Penn for all of their hard work with this year's legislation and the positive outcomes. He thanked Senator Peter Courtney's staff for taking the lead role working behind the scenes on the logistics for the state employee bus pass program.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

7:47 PM

Motion: Moved to approve the Consent Calendar:
1. Approval of Corrected Minutes
a. Regular Board meeting of January 28, 2016
Motion by: Director Marcia Kelley
Seconded: Director Colleen Busch
Discussion: None
Vote: Motion passed unanimously

G. ITEMS DEFERRED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR - None

ACTION ITEMS

H.1 Resolution No. 2016-02 Adopting a Policy for a G.M. Pro Tempore

7:47 PM

Staff report: Pages 7-10 of the agenda packet
Presenter: Allan Pollock, General Manager
ORS Chapter 267.145(2) allows the SAMTD Board of Directors to designate a general manager pro tempore during the absence or disability of the general manager. Board members discussed the idea at their February 8, 2016 work session to formalize this process with a policy so there are clear lines of authority during general manager absences, planned or unforeseen. Resolution No. 2016-02 identifies the positions that will be designated as the General Manager Pro Tempore, and back up, if the General Manager Pro Tempore is also not available.

Motion: Moved to adopt Resolution No. 2016-02 designating a general manager pro tempore.
Motion by: Director John Hammill

Seconded: Director Jerry Thompson
Discussion: None
Vote: Motion passed unanimously

INFORMATION ITEMS

I. **Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act Transportation Bill Briefing** 7:50 PM

Staff report: Pages 31-38 of the supplemental agenda packet

Presenter: Allan Pollock, General Manager

On December 4, 2015 President Obama signed the FAST Act reauthorizing surface transportation programs through Fiscal Year 2020. The Board received a breakdown of the components of the FAST Act prepared by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), a table reflecting the funding levels in the bill, and an estimated breakdown of FAST Act funding sources by fiscal year for the District.

REPORTS

J.1 **APTA Legislative Report** 7:55 PM

Staff report: President Krebs and Director Lincoln reported on their trip to the APTA Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. on March 12-16, 2016.

The theme of the conference was "Where Public Transportation Goes Community Grows." The main topic was about the new, federal, five-year *FAST Act* (Fixing America's Surface Transportation) bill and its benefit to transit and intercity services. The bill will replace a series of short term extensions and provide a more reliable funding package for five years. It will help to eliminate project and service reductions that have resulted from stop-gap, short-term federal funding. General sessions were very informative with talks by FTA administrators and staff, members of Congress including Representatives Earl Blumenauer and Peter DeFazio, and transit professionals. Allan Pollock, Director Lincoln and President Krebs met with FTA staff to discuss the District's funding requests and future needs; and they met with Congressman Schrader and staff leaders for Senators Wyden and Merkley. President Krebs said this was one of the better APTA Legislative Conferences that he has attended with a more positive posture to the event. This was the first APTA conference for Director Lincoln. She said it was very enlightening. The FAST Act bill will only last for five years so the Board will need to work to educate lawmakers and legislative staff over the next few years for the next bill.

J.2 **Board Subcommittee Report** 8:02 PM

Board members are appointed to local, regional and/or national committees; and may present testimony at public hearings on specific issues on behalf of the District as the need arises.

Board members inform the Board of the issues discussed in the committees listed on pages 11-12 of the agenda as they relate to transit and the District. Minutes for the external meetings can be found on the agencies' websites.

Minutes of the Board's March 7, 2016 Work Session on pages 13-14 of the agenda, and minutes of the March 1, 2016 STF Advisory Committee meeting on pages 17-20 were received and filed.

BOARD AND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

J.1 **General Manager** 8:06 PM

Mr. Pollock introduced Patricia Feeny, the District's new Director of Communication. He

expressed his appreciation for Board members who took part in the festivities for National Transit Operator and Maintenance Day at the downtown transit center; and he thanked David Trimble, the project lead for the event.

J.2 Board President **8:07 PM**
President Krebs reported on his transit-related Board and community service activities since the last board of directors meeting.

J.3 Board of Directors **8:10 PM**
Board members gave an account, both verbally and in writing, of their transit-related Board and community service activities that may be of interest to the other Board members and to the public.

L. Meeting Adjourned **8:22 PM**
Respectfully submitted,

Signed/Approved by VP Steve Evans

Robert Krebs, President