

Salem Area Mass Transit District
Board of Directors

~ **WORK SESSION** ~

January 9, 2017
Courthouse Square – Senator Hearing Room
555 Court Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

MINUTES

PRESENT:	President Robert Krebs; Directors John Hammill, Kathy Lincoln, Marcia Kelley, Jerry Thompson, and Steve Evans
Board	
Staff	Allan Pollock, General Manager; David Trimble, Chief Operating Officer; Paula Dixon, Director of Administration; Patricia Feeny, Director of Communication; Wendy Feth, Accountant; Linda Galeazzi, Executive Assistant; Ben Fetherston, SAMTD Legal Counsel
Guests	Dale Penn, SAMTD Legislative Advocate; Bill Holmstrom, Chair, Budget Committee

1. CALL TO ORDER 5:30 PM

2. DISCUSSION

a. Review Draft 2017 Legislative Agenda 5:30 PM

Staff report: Pages 1-6 of the agenda

Presented by: Allan Pollock, General Manager
Dale Penn, SAMTD Legislative Advocate

The Board reviewed and discussed a proposed list of projects for the federal legislative agenda on pages 1-2 as explained by Mr. Pollock. He noted that the grant requests have not changed from those submitted last year. The list includes a request for bus replacement at \$4,068,875 applied to five zero emission battery electric buses and twelve compressed natural gas (CNG) buses at \$4,560,000; construction of the second of four regional transit centers at \$2,000,000 in south Salem at Baxter and Commercial Streets; and funding for an Intelligent Transportation System at \$1,500,000. Mr. Pollock reviewed two policy issues that the District supports that will be considered in legislation to extend and make permanent the Alternative Fuels Tax Credit; and legislation that will provide northwest employees of political subdivisions who participate in voluntary employees' beneficiary association trusts with more flexibility in designating beneficiaries for their Health Retirement Accounts when they pass away.

There was brief discussion about the "Buy America" program for the purchase of electric buses. Mr. Pollock noted the two primary electric bus vendors are listed in the Buy America program. One vendor, the China-based "BYD" is in California. The other vendor

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“Proterra” is based in Greenville, South Carolina.

In the second half of the legislative report, Dale Penn reported that the State Legislative Session had begun with the swearing in of elected officials. The next two days will include training for legislative staff. The legislative period is 150 days long with legislators working toward a balanced budget by the end of the session. He noted there were 1,500 bills released today. Mr. Penn shared a handout with Governor Brown’s priorities for the State (<https://katebrownfororegon.com/priorities>).

The Board reviewed the list of projects on the District’s state legislative priority list for 2017 (on pages 4-5). The top legislative priority for the District is the continuation of the state employee bus pass program. The District’s other advocacy efforts will be focused on the transferability of the existing energy incentive tax credits obtained in 2012 and 2013 to entities who have tax liability; and a transportation funding package that will benefit small and urban transit districts as well as Oregon’s larger metro districts. The District has been asked to participate in a stakeholder work group to address inequality in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding going forward to ensure that the District and the Salem Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS) receive an equitable distribution of CMAQ funding in the year 2019 and onward. The District will monitor the ridesharing legislation that involves Uber and Lyft; and the Volkswagen automobile company settlement of several federal, state and consumer claims having to do with the installation of deceptive emissions software on their vehicles.

The Board received handouts about the Oregon Transit Association’s efforts on behalf of its member transit agencies and through the statewide coalition of supporters. Information about those efforts can be found on their websites at www.bettertransitoregon.org and www.gooregon.org.

b. Strategic Planning Discussion

6:18 PM

Staff report: Pages 7-26 of the agenda

Presented by: Allan Pollock, General Manager

The Board received a copy of the Strategic Plan for fiscal year 2012-2017 (on pages 8-26) that provided a history of the District, and a narrative on the District’s potential future in the year 2015, 2012 and 2030 with guiding principles and goals to work toward.

Mr. Pollock advised that the Strategic Planning Subcommittee’s goal is to update the 2012-2017 Strategic Plan no later than June 2017. This plan will set the District’s course for the next 12 years. In the next few months, the Board will define what the District’s future should look like and create objectives, outcomes, and a work plan to provide guidance

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about what the District should look like in the next 20-30 years.

Director Kelley noted one of the inhibitors is the resources to grow the service.

President Krebs attended the Salem Chamber luncheon where there was interest shared in working together with the city, chamber and transit district regarding the expansion of the District's funding. President Krebs will attend Salem's next City Council meeting to welcome the new council members and let them know he welcomes the chance to work with them in the future. If legislation for transit funding fails, the Board can discuss revenue options with both the City of Salem and Keizer. President Krebs suggested that they share the benefits that Cherriots brings to the community.

Mr. Pollock recommended that the Board have this discussion at the Board's strategic planning session. They may want to consider bringing a work group together with partners from the hospital, non-profits, and the Mayors, etc.

Director Evans suggested they share why the service routes are planned the way they are.

Board members discussed whether to work on an update of the Strategic Plan in work sessions or plan to meet on a Saturday in a half-day session. Staff will send out a Doodle Poll to determine the Board's availability and decide on a date.

3. GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

6:35 PM

Staff report: Pages 27-30 of the agenda

Presented by: Allan Pollock, General Manager

The Board reviewed their calendar for upcoming meetings and events, a list of upcoming Board meeting agenda items, and the draft agenda for the Board's January 26, 2017 regular meeting on pages 29-30 where the Board will take action on the regional service changes.

Director Lincoln was provided with a map noting the frequency of services to share with constituents and help her answer any questions they might have.

Directors Thompson and Evans gave notice that they will not attend the January 26th board meeting due to other commitments.

4. WORK SESSION ADJOURNED

6:40 PM

Recorded by: Linda Galeazzi, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board

STAND WITH KATE!

Email Address

ZIP

I'M IN!



MEET KATE

PRIORITIES

ISSUES

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PRIORITIES

Kate Brown started her career as a legal advocate for vulnerable children and families, and she's still fighting to make Oregon a place where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

Kate Brown stepped in as governor after the unexpected resignation of her predecessor, at a time when faith in state government was badly shaken. She went right to work, focusing on what matters most: good schools, quality jobs, and increased transparency and accountability from our state government.

Among her first acts as governor, Kate Brown brought Democrats and Republicans together to pass ethics reform, requiring full disclosure of all lobbying activities, and cracking down on officials who abuse public office for personal gain.

As governor, Kate Brown has also:

- Made the largest investment in education in Oregon history, with \$7.4 billion to help reduce class sizes and put more resources in the classroom

- Increased the minimum wage, because no one working full time should be living in poverty

- Passed paid sick leave, so workers don't risk losing their jobs, or not being able to pay bills when they're sick or caring for a sick

child

Signed the Oregon Promise law, reducing community college tuition to as little as \$50 per semester and expanded Opportunity Grants to more than 16,000 students

Next, Kate Brown will:

Focus on increasing our high school graduation rates

Continue working to help small businesses and build an economy that helps Oregon families make ends meet

Protect our land, water, and air quality

Make transportation improvements to reduce congestion and get goods to market and workers to their jobs

MEET KATE

PRIORITIES

ISSUES

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