



## Minutes

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<b>Meeting:</b>	TriMet Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting	<b>Date:</b>	October 26, 2011
		<b>Time:</b>	9:00 a.m.
<b>Presiding:</b>	Rick Van Beveren	<b>Location:</b>	City of Portland Building 1120 SW Fifth Avenue Room C Portland, Oregon
<b>Board Members Present:</b>	T. Allen Bethel Steve Clark Tiffany Sweitzer Rick Van Beveren	<b>Board Members Absent:</b>	Lynn Lehrbach Consuelo Saragoza

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### 1. General Manager's Report

#### A. Neil McFarlane reported on:

- **Safety** – The Board received a comprehensive safety briefing on October 12, 2011. Only one major update – tomorrow is the final operator recertification class – this is an unprecedented investment in safety.
- **Ridership** – September ridership continues to show positive results with the largest increases on the MAX Green Line and WES commuter rail, both up 13 percent. The week day bus trips are up slightly as well.
- **CAT Meeting** – The highlights of the October 19, 2011 CAT Business meeting were distributed to you. Please note that CAT passed a motion that recommends against the approval of the Boring Petition Withdrawal that will be presented at the hearing and to the Board.
- **PMLR** – TriMet received a Letter of No Prejudice from FTA for construction work to begin on the bridge and other activities which moves us one step further in the process.
- **Executive Director of Labor Relations/Human Resources** – We are very pleased to welcome Randy Stedman who brings 30 years of experience in labor relations to this position and will begin on November 14, 2011.

#### B. Budget Update – Neil McFarlane briefed the Board on the outlook for the upcoming budget and the reasons behind the early kick-off of the budget process for this year.

Beth deHamel provided a presentation on TriMet's FY13 budget challenges and the process moving forward, including the formation of a Budget Task Force Committee.

Neil McFarlane stated that once we have a comprehensive report and recommendations from the task force, we will identify the best corrective action and bring it to the Board for review early on in the budget process. The process will include public input and the LIFT Fare increase that will be considered by the Board in January/February 2012.

Board Member Sweitzer stated that we need to be clear to the public about the challenges we face, it is not just one issue we are considering as we enter into this process, but several critical, long-term issues.

Board Member Clark stated that the task force should represent our community to allow us to look at all aspects objectively, the Union issues, LIFT fares and the current fare structure, including OPAL's fare transfer proposal – everything is on the table.

Neil McFarlane stated that it is our goal to look at all aspects of the budget with the priority being preserving as much service as possible.

Rick Van Beveren reiterated the importance of maintaining as much service as possible while meeting our current commitments and allocating the resources we have available to us effectively.

## **2. Consent Agenda**

Action: Tiffany Sweitzer moved adoption of the consent agenda items listed below; Steve Clark seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution directing all ordinances shall be read by title only

Approval of Minutes for September 28, 2011

Resolution 11-10-67 Authorizing a Contract with CorVel Corporation for Third-Party Administration of TriMet's Self-Insured Workers' Compensation Program

Resolution 11-10-68 Authorizing Submittal of Ten (10) Grant Applications to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for FY12 Federal Formula and Discretionary Funds

Resolution 11-10-69 Authorizing a Contract with Don Thomas Petroleum for the Purchase of Bulk Motor Oil

Resolution 11-10-70 Authorizing a Contract with Loram Maintenance of Way, Inc. for Rail Grinding Services

### 3. Resolutions

Neil McFarlane introduced the following resolutions:

#### **Resolution 11-10-71 Adopting the FY2012 Transit Investment Plan**

Discussion: Board member Clark asked that as we move forward we continue to exercise this level of diligence in the “measurables” and share the results with the Board and the public. He also stated the importance of strengthening our relationship with Portland Streetcar, Inc. as we expand in the region.

#### Public Comment:

Keith Sholz, OPAL and TIP Advocates Team, addressed the Board regarding OPAL’s priorities for the 2012 TIP: 1) restore service first, and 2) develop a transit equity committee, comprised of transit dependent riders to serve as an advocacy and advisory group that would address issues that affect transit dependent riders. Mr. Sholz stated that although riders appreciate the restoration of some frequent service, there is a lot more work to be done, and 14 years is too long of a wait for restoration of service.

Cameron Johnson, OPAL and TIP Advocates Team, reiterated the importance of restoring service first and consideration of the Transit Equity Committee and his understanding of TriMet’s commitment to include these in next year’s TIP, as well as carrying extra revenue from this fiscal year forward to the next.

Dr. Bethel asked for clarification on TriMet’s commitments and also if carrying extra revenue forward was any different than past practice.

Neil McFarlane responded that TriMet’s commitment is to transparency during the budget process and moving forward as we make critical decisions for FY13.

Beth deHamel stated that TriMet has always carried revenue forward in compliance with State budget laws and will continue to do so.

Action: T. Allen Bethel moved approval of Resolution 11-10-71; Tiffany Sweitzer seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 11-10-72 Authorizing a Modification to the Contract with Stacy and Witbeck, Inc./Mowat Construction Company, A Joint Venture, for Construction Manager/General Contractor Services for the West Segment of the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project**

Action: Steve Clark moved approval of Resolution 11-10-72; Tiffany Sweitzer seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 11-10-73 Authorizing a Modification to the Contract with Stacy and Witbeck for Construction Manager/General Contractor Services for the East Segment of the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project**

Action: T. Allen Bethel moved approval of Resolution 11-10-73; Tiffany Sweitzer seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 11-10-74 Authorizing a Modification to the Contract with CH2M Hill Inc., a Corporation of Florida, for Engineering Services for the West Segment of the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project**

Action: T. Allen Bethel moved approval of Resolution 11-10-74; Steve Clark seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 11-10-75 Authorizing a Modification to the Contract with David Evans and Associates, Inc. for Engineering Services for the East Segment of the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project**

Action: T. Allen Bethel moved approval of Resolution 11-10-75; Tiffany Sweitzer seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 11-10-76 Authorizing a Contract with GFI Genfare, a Division of SPX Corporation, for Upgrading Bus Fareboxes**

Action: Steve Clark moved approval of Resolution 11-10-76; T. Allen Bethel seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 11-10-77 Authorizing a Contract with Schetky Northwest, Inc. for the Purchase of Replacement Vehicles for Provision of LIFT Service**

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Action: After general discussion, Steve Clark moved approval of Resolution 11-10-77; Tiffany Sweitzer seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

**Resolution 11-01-78 Authorizing TriMet to Acquire by Purchase or by the Exercise of the Power of Eminent Domain Certain Real Property Necessary to Construction of the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project**

Action: After general discussion, Tiffany Sweitzer moved approval of Resolution 11-10-78; Steve Clark seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

**4. Ordinance**

**Ordinance No. 319 of the Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon (TriMet) Amending Chapter 14 of the TriMet Code to Revise the Definition of “Net Earnings from Self-Employment” (First Reading)**

Jana Toran read Ordinance 319 by title only and Neil McFarlane introduced – no action was necessary.

**5. Public Forum**

President Van Beveren opened the meeting to the public forum and the following people addressed the Board:

Michael Levine stated that he agrees with OPAL on the importance of equity in TriMet’s service delivery. Mr. Levine addressed the Board regarding concerns: 1) there is no one representing people with disabilities on the Budget CAC; 2) staff’s proposal for the LIFT fare increase that was presented at the Board Retreat on October 10<sup>th</sup> and that he feels it is basically the same as the previous proposal presented to the Board in July; and 3) the importance of the Board and staff complying with ORS and using people first language, such as “people with disabilities”.

Nicholas Johnson, Portland Commission on Disability, addressed the Board about the important role the Commission plays in the community. Mr. Johnson stated that he appreciated Board member Clark’s input to include representatives from all aspects of the community in the important budget decisions facing TriMet. Mr. Johnson provided examples of cost-savings measures from the previous recession and the American people’s ability to tighten their belts during tough times.

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Sue Dana, bus rider, addressed the Board about her concern that when she uses an un-validated ticket on the bus during the week, she only receives a one-hour transfer in exchange for her two hour ticket and would like this issue addressed.

Neil McFarlane clarified that the bus ticket is good for one hour beyond the end of the line.

Steve Clark stated that we will have an opportunity in our fare evaluation to look at this issue as well.

Marisa Espinoza, member of OPAL and a transit advocate, addressed the Board with an update on the Fair Transfer Campaign Cost Benefit Analysis and the results of the initial meeting with committee members and TriMet staff to analyze the proposal that would extend the transfer time to three hours and would allow tickets purchased after 7:00 p.m. to extend until end of service.

Mark Jackson with REAP, Inc. (Reaching and Empowering All People) introduced students Isaiah Ford-Lucas, Isaiah Feir, and Daniel Gonzales that will be addressing the Board regarding the student pass program for Portland Public High School students.

Isaiah Ford-Lucas, Senior at Lincoln High School and member of REAP Leadership Class, addressed the Board to advocate for kids that do not have access to transportation or the financial backing to get to school, but want to succeed in life. Mr. Ford-Lucas stated that their class expressed concern about losing their bus passes, so Mr. Jackson invited Portland Public Schools Transportation Services Director Andy Liebenguth to speak about the student pass program and the current situation. Mr. Isaiah Ford-Lucas stated the importance of continuing the student pass program and his concerns that if the students do not receive passes, they will not be able to get to school.

Isaiah Feir, Sophomore at Lincoln High School and member of REAP Leadership Class, addressed the Board advocating for the continuation of the student pass program and the important role it plays in education and getting kids to school. Mr. Feir stated that paying for bus passes is cheaper than providing Yellow Bus Service and we believe that kids should not have to worry about a reliable way to get to school every day.

Daniel Gonzales, Senior at Lincoln High School, stated that as students our main priority is to get an education and the importance of the program to ensure all kids get to school every day and grow as individuals.

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Board member Bethel commended the students for coming before the Board to talk about this important issue today. Dr. Bethel asked the students to share their message with PPS Superintendent Carole Smith, and Oregon State Senators and Representatives to motivate them to find a way to fund this important program. Dr. Bethel stated that this was a partnership that was created with the State BETC program as a solution to Portland Public Schools opting out of the Yellow Bus program -- TriMet is committed to finding a way to provide passes, but we cannot do it alone.

Board member Clark encouraged the students to register to vote so they will have the opportunity to influence those important issues and decisions made in Salem.

Chris Walker addressed the Board about the LIFT fare increase that will come before the Board in January, 2012. Mr. Walker asked that the people with disabilities community come together peacefully to talk about this issue at a town hall meeting to find a compromise.

Bruce Peek, Merlo Extra Board Operator, addressed the Board, not as a TriMet employee, but as an advocate for truth, about his concerns about Cascade Policy Institute and their anti-transit agenda supported by right-wing reactionary funders.

Mr. Peek also asked about the Customer Service Committee that was promised on page 45 of the Labor contract that would be modeled after the Accident Review Board that he feels is doing a very good job.

President Van Beveren adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Kelly Runnion, Recording Secretary

A copy of the full audio-recorded transcript is available for review in the Office of the General Manager.