

**COLUMBIA COUNTY CITIZEN TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND
STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: February 16, 2021

Time: 4:00 P.M.

Place: Columbia County Transit, St. Helens, OR

Present: Bill Eagle; Blanche Katz; Claudia Eagle; Marty Rowe

Absent: Scott Burge; Charlotte Hart; Dena Chesney

Staff: John Dreeszen, Transit Director

Guests: Kathy Kleczek; Alta Lynch; “Get Some Riders”

Call to Order (CCRTAC): Chair B. Eagle called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

Approval of January 19, 2021 minutes: Committee delayed approval of the January 19, 2021 minutes unanimously.

Public Comments: Kathy Kleczek introduced herself and gave information on a weekly transit program. No additional comments were offered.

Grant Update: John Dreeszen stated all grants for the upcoming biennium have been completed, reviewed, and approved by the County Commissioners. Mr. Dreeszen reviewed the purpose of each grant for the benefit of the committee and guests.

Dial-a-Ride fares: Mr. Dreeszen said he is continuing to be concerned about DAR rides that overlap with fixed route service and is looking at solutions. Mr. Dreeszen also stated he is looking at expanding the Reduced Fare Program to include DAR fares after the DAR fare adjustments. One of the priorities is to keep the DAR program as affordable for as many people as possible, while incorporating adjustments that address the expenses that come with the distance needed to travel to farther flung areas of the county like Clatskanie and Vernonia. One of the options Mr. Dreeszen suggested is to implement a base rate + per mile charge after 10 miles. Committee member Katz suggested reaching out to Kaiser as a partner in providing medical rides for their insureds.

Meeting Schedule: Mr. Dreeszen recommended delaying the next CCRTAC meeting until April. Chair B. Eagle was hopeful in being able to meet in person for the April meeting. There was some discussion around the desire to meet in person. The committee agreed to hold the next regular meeting on April 20, 2021

Committee Round Table: Committee member Katz suggested people identify themselves before speaking in a virtual meeting. Committee member Rowe asked Mr. Dreeszen if he would

be willing to appear on his KOHI radio program. Chair B. Eagle asked if any guests had comments to offer.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.