

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

Meeting Date: June 15, 2021

Time: 4:00 P.M.

Place: Columbia County Transit, St. Helens, OR

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

Absent: Scott Burge; Charlotte Hart; Dena Chesney

Staff: John Dreeszen, Transit Director

Guests: None

Call to Order (CCRTAC): Chair B. Eagle called the meeting to order at 4:10 P.M.

Approval of April 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes: The Committee approved the April 20, 2021 meeting minutes unanimously.

Public Comments: The Committee paused for public comment and none was offered.

Grants & Budget Update: John Dreeszen informed the Committee that ODOT has made additional funds available, some being the remaining amount of CARES Act funding. In total, the additional funding is roughly \$460,000. Mr. Dreeszen gave an update on the status of the grant application process for the upcoming biennium. Mr. Dreeszen noted the tight timeline for signing the new grant agreements. Mr. Dreeszen informed the Committee that Commissioner Approval for the annual budget is in process.

Service and Fare Changes Update: Mr. Dreeszen reminded the committee of the reduction in frequency of Line 1 due to a continuing decreased ridership as a result of COVID-19. There was some discussion around the likelihood of State restrictions being lifted and vaccination rates for the county as a whole. Mr. Dreeszen then updated the Committee about the status of the public hearing process for service and fare changes. Chair B. Eagle expressed some disappointment about the increase in base fare for Dial-A-Ride service. Mr. Dreeszen gave an update on the status of the suspension of Line 2 and continuing negotiations with PCC.

Committee Round Table: Chair B. Eagle expressed disappointment when Committee members repeatedly fail to call out for a scheduled meeting. Mr. Dreeszen read the Bylaws governing the committee. Committee member Rowe made a motion to declare the Vice Chair position vacant due to Committee member Burge's continued unexcused absences. Committee member Katz seconded. There was continued discussion around finding an appropriate replacement for the position. Committee member Rowe amended the motion to allow one to two weeks to find a suitable replacement for the vacant position. Committee member Katz seconded and the motion

was approved unanimously. Committee member Katz reiterated the need for a marketing committee and expressed disappointment with the suspension of Line 3. There was further discussion around the upcoming service changes. Committee member Rowe stated he has presented an idea for advertising to staff. Committee member Katz reiterated her desire for a survey.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 5:25 P.M.