

Tillamook County Transportation District
Transportation Advisory Committee
Tuesday, October 18, 2022 – 1 PM
Meeting Minutes



1. **Call to Order:** Committee Chair Chris Kell called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

2. **Introductions:**

Mike Reed, Interim General Manager/Operations Superintendent
Cathy Bond, NWR Brokerage Manager
Natalie Zuercher, Administrative Assistant/TAC Clerk
Chris Kell, Committee Chair
Carol McAndrew, Committee Member
Ross Tomlin, Committee Member
Brook Wyntergreen, Committee Member
Sonya Kazen, Committee Member
Mary McGinnis, Committee Member (ABSENT)
Ron Rush, Committee Member
Nick Torres, Committee Member (ABSENT)
Jeff Hazen, Committee Member

Guests:

Will Cheppell, Tillamook Headlight Herald
Arla Miller, ODOT

3. **Appoint Committee Chair**

Motion by Jeff Hazen to appoint Chris Kell as TAC Chair. *Motion seconded* by Ron Rush. Unanimously approved.

BM Bond updated TAC about GM passing and FS resigning. We are taking advice from Arla Miller 2A regional ODOT Manager she helped with grant management. TCTD has opportunity at hand for \$13.5 million discretionary funding. Gave letters of interest to ODOT.

Ron Rush asked about process changing and if a subrecipient applies for transportation support in the past.

BM Bond replied that this hasn't changed.

CM Hazen replied that they apply through QE (qualified entities).

BM Bond said these are discretionary, so we need letters of intent, this process is new to us.

CM Kell asked if TAC approves then does this go to the Board.

BM Bond replied yes, saying that TAC recommends, and we need a motion to perceive. We will reconvene when the costs are solid and not just estimates. You will do one last recommendation.

CM Wyntergreen asked if this is a short list from a long list.

BM Bond replied yes.

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IGM/OS Reed replied that we are limited to four projects, one is NWOTA, and rest is specific to TCTD.

BM Bond explained to TAC about NWOTA and how they are included in these projects.

CM Kazen asked if the \$13.5 million is just for NWOTA.

BM Bond replied no, this is the discretionary pot so if you don't have continuing projects you can apply. These are one off projects.

4. **Approval of November 17th, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Carol McAndrew to Approve November 17, 2021, Meeting Minutes. *Motion seconded* by Jeff Hazen. Unanimously approved.

5. **Discussion Regarding Grant Opportunities/LOI's:**

Route 60/70x Vehicle Replacement:

IGM/OS Reed said this is continuation of work that we have done. We are running old vehicles and both vehicles have 600,000 miles. Advised by Arla Miller to include a 40% increase. 18 months to 2 years out to receive vehicles. These numbers are higher because of this. ODOT believes that we won't get what we need unless we ask.

CC Kell asked if they are propane vehicles.

IGM/OS Reed replied they could be but not at this time. Technology and supply aren't there to make this happen. Not committing to propane currently.

CM Wyntergreen asked if propane is the future of busses.

IGM/OS Reed replied maybe, there's debate on feasibility of this. We have range requirements on these as well with fueling these propane vehicles. We are purchasing new propane vehicles going forward.

CM Tomlin asked about gas milage.

IGM/OS Reed replied its less with propane. Since we are in seismic zone, we don't have that vantage.

BM Bond said we are estimating since we don't have the information and research on it.

IGM/OS Reed said we have 4 propane vehicles but not the intercity ones.

CM Kazen asked about reverting to electric powered busses.

IGM/OS Reed said Jeff Hazen has more experience in this.

CM Hazen said with electric vehicles, there is only smaller busses that are used. The range isn't there, have been looking into these as well as provided grants. The bus I wanted to purchase was a \$1.4 million dollar project for one bus running 6 hours a day.

IGM/OS Reed said the tech isn't there yet.

CM Tomlin asked about cost at bottom.

BM Bond replied that these helps offset the formula with all that goes into it.

CM Kazen asked if there is funding to continue after two years.

BM Bond said yes, we are replacing vehicles in existence. Discretionary is just our wish list.

Route 5 Coastal Expansion Service:

IGM/OS Reed said he is excited of this, lots of hours of work in this. The expectation in January is that we are moving a third trip to Portland. Our busses now pass each other, this will interline with max redline to the airport. Folks in Tillamook now have times for frequent flights at PDX.

CM Tomlin asked about cost coverage.

IGM/OS Reed replied starting July 1st 2023-2025. With this expansion we are asking for the money from discretionary. When we are expanding in future, we can use formula money.

CM Wyntergreen said from a tourism standpoint, this is awesome.

IGM/OS Reed said we are hoping this is a big boom for NWOTA. Good thing for district.

CM McAndrew said people that work will have access to this more too.

CM Hazen replied that it's important to say that this is important, but it can't be the source for this route. Majority of people use this for visiting the coast.

BM Bond said the biggest goal is it helps connectivity. We can get to Amtrak this way. We can open a whole other window interlining.

IGM/OS Reed said interlining will drive ridership.

CM Kell said there's many times that people ask for Portland rides, people suggest the WAVE, but you have to be in earlier, but this helps that need.

IGM/OS Reed said we will be in earlier around 7AM for PDX as well as the last ride will be later at 7PM. Longer day but more opportunity.

BM Bond mentioned St. Vincent's, this will help medical uses.

IGM/OS Reed said this allows us to move some folks using NWR or DAR and move them on the transit system.

NWConnector Transit Access Project:

IGM/OS Reed said Doug and Jeff worked on this, will let him explain.

CM Hazen said this is a project NWOTA has been working on for several years, found research with alliances, start construction phase. This is a continuation of that, we need more money since price of goods increased dramatically. This will fund final plans of three stops in Tillamook, Clatsop and Lincoln. It cost a lot to put a bus stop in. Permit, final design, construction, went with a larger number to make sure there is enough. We are excited about it. One in Tillamook County is in Pacific City. Warrenton is going to be at Costco. Lincoln will be in Newport.

CM Kazen asked where the bus stop in Pacific City is.

CM Hazen said he doesn't know street names.

BM Bond asked if it replaces existing one.

CM Wyntergreen said she wouldn't imagine it's at the cape.

CM Hazen said its on Alder Street.

CM Wyntergreen said its right behind the Pelican.

BM Bond said people never knew where to stand there.

IGM/OS Reed said we miss people because of misconnection, glad to hear that's where that's at.

CM Wyntergreen brought up Kiwanda project. We are redoing project, there will be a PC shuttle stop into this.

IGM/OS Reed said these will be different sources.

BM Bond said NWOTA is unique nationwide. We support the NWOTA project as Tillamook County because of the uniqueness of this project. It creates connectivity.

IGM/OS Reed said you are seeing this because we are fiscal agent for NWOTA.

CM Rush said between Arla and Jeff you are in a good position.

CM Wyntergreen asked about \$13.5 million being specific to 2A.

BM Bond replied that its formula and nationwide.

CM McAndrew said in the years that I have volunteered with Doug's vision; we have a lot of national recognition. Doug was a big part of that. Has been extremely proud to be a part of this district.

CM Hazen added when he was down in Tillamook on Friday, bought a Tillamook shirt and will be wearing it to Indiana at transit conference.

TCTD Software Upgrade:

IGM/OS Reed said these are urgent, we need a software upgrade for the district.

BM Bond explained the data that goes into our software with ridership, in Transit Ace. This was built by Doug and Anthony; this isn't a supported software anymore and is very fragile. Mike and I hold our breath every month, it needs to be replaced immediately, it's a one-time deal, software is expensive. We are very urgently needed to replace this, there isn't a lot of options. We are in process of gathering costs.

CM Rush said we bumped that three years ago and did QuickBooks.

CM Wyntergreen asked about why not QuickBooks.

BM Bond said we need funded software.

CM Hazen said it's not set up for government.

BM Bond said it's about \$75,000 for software upgrade with accounting and right now its \$1,300 a month and that's ridiculous. Need a more efficient way. Will not proceed with accounting software if we don't get this grant.

BM Bond added they are together because it's a package.

IGM/OS Reed said we get 3 letters of intent, one goes to NWOTA. We included this in the same LOI because these two are the same within the district. It could come in under with cost. We can investigate integration of software's. If that tech is available to us, this number could be lower, but we can't bank on that yet.

BM Bond said when looking at ridership software cost or any software, they won't tell you, a salesman will want to call you and tell you. We need thumbs up from discretionary grant before this happens.

CM Sonya asked if ODOT funds part of a request.

Arla Miller replied that we did not ask for separate LOI for vehicles, it depends on applicants and pool of money. Or if there are tough decisions to be made. We added a 20% match last year to fund more projects.

Motion by Ron Rush to accept projects as written. Unanimously approved.

6. Other Business

BM Bond said Ron asked about grant cycle and course going forward and subrecipient grant.

CM Rush asked about formula grants with subrecipients.

Arla Miller replied 5310 and STIF formula there is a possibility there as well. Those funds are population based.

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CM Rush asked about cycle starting.

Arla Miller said its going on now, due around late part of January. With 5310 you need advisory committee.

CM Hazen said STIF formula funds due Jan 16th and 5310 is due on Jan 20th 5311 on Jan 20th as well. Tillamook county must go through solicitation of subrecipients. Mike and Cathy will have to set up times and dates.

BM Bond said we will look at grant calendar to get a timeline for next meeting and will reach out to the committee. This is our fund money so we want to take it while we can.

Arla Miller said STIF formula needs to be asked 27%, 5310/5311 infrastructure and job acts bill, about 30% added to them. Right now, we say 20%.

CM Hazen said that the 5311 we have been working on allocation statewide and should be released on Monday. We have had money saved up in sizeable reserve. Agencies across the state and those numbers will be before PTAC on Nov 7th. We ended up with nobody will get less than 102% from last biennium. I don't remember what Tillamook's ended up being.

7. Future Meetings

CM Kell said thank you Arla and Jeff and appreciate everyone being here.

8. Adjourn

Chair Kell adjourned the meeting at 2:02pm.

These minutes approved this 17th day of January 2023.

ATTEST:

Chris Kell, Committee Chair

Mike Reed, Interim General Manager