Special Board of Directors Meeting

Umpqua Public Transportation District

Monday, September 30, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

3076 NE Diamond Lake Blvd, Roseburg, OR 97470

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Called to order by 5:06 pm

Roll Call

Doug Mendenhall- P Michaela Hammerson- P John Estill- P Natasha Atkinson- P
Cathye Dewhirst Curreri - P

Pledge of Allegiance led by Director Mendenhall

Review Board of Directors Applications, Interview Applicants

Board interviewed all 6 applicants, each applicant started with an intro of themselves, then questions were asked by the board, they were varied based on the applicant, with 1 applicant in the room at a time.

Applicants were interviewed in order of packet:

1. Jennifer Bragg
2. Monica Leisner
3. James DeLap
4. Todd Vaughn
5. Leslie Wilson
6. Lisa Lanza

After interviews were completed, applicants were asked to rejoin the meeting. Discussion followed. We have 2 positions that are available, #4 & 7. All applicants applied for the 2-year position and are willing to serve any position. Chair Hammerson asked the board to nominate someone, with conversation after.

Position #4, Director Atkinson nominates Jennifer Bragg, Director Mendenhall seconds. Discussion follows: Director Atkinson stated she nominated Jennifer for her historically knowledge. Especially important due to lack of General Manager and Operations Manager. Director Curreri stated we are in the problem we are due to the past. Chair Hammerson, appreciate the experience, this is a situation we inherited. Transportation knowledge is important, however, problem solving can come from a variety of things. When people are elected to represent the public, they are to be a community member with oversite of the agency. Biggest concern is Jennifer is someone that was elected and did not fulfill their role. I would like to give someone else a chance. Jennifer requested to respond, not permitted. Director Atkinson stated our lack of knowledge does a disservice to the board.
Nomination does not carry.
Vote: 2 – Aye, 3 – Nay, 0 – Abstain, 0 - Absent.

Position #4. Vice Chair Estill nominates Todd Vaughn, seconded by Doug Mendenhall. Discussion follows: Vice Chair Estill stated Todd professional and will abide to the bylaws. Make everyone accountable. He will pick up the knowledge quickly. Director Atkinson stated she is concerned he is polarizing. When asked how she stated when asked about his political views he went straight into them. This can be off-putting to public members with differing views. This is a nonpartisan board, that should be open and transparent, inclusive and welcoming. Vice Chair Estill believes this perspective is due to lack of knowing the individual. Director Curreri stated she could be labeled the same way and has conducted herself professionally.
Nomination carries.
Vote: 4 – Aye, 1 – Nay, 0 – Abstain, 0 - Absent.

Position #7. Both Director Mendenhall and Director Atkinson raise their hands. Director Mendenhall nominates Lisa Lanza, seconded by Director Curreri. Discussion follows:
Director Mendenhall knows Lisa and she is not polarizing. Able to work with and get along with people who have different views. Director Curreri appreciates she is a teacher and has grant experience. Chair Hammerson agrees, especially regarding grant writing.
Nomination carries.
Vote: 5 – Aye, 0 – Nay, 0 – Abstain, 0 - Absent.

Appoint Directors to complete terms for the vacant Position #'s 4 and 7
New board members sworn in, oath of office completed and notarized.

Review Interim General Manager Applications and first interview notes
ICC will lead this meeting, 3-person committee, has interviewed 6-7 applicants. Director Mendenhall started by informing board of highly qualified applicants. He discussed 2 applicants out of California, stating their names and work experience.

Jennife Bragg cautioned that this conversation should be discussed in executive session, not public meeting, as this was highly unusual. Chair Hammerson stated the interviews are public. Director Atkinson clarified the final interviews are public. Vice Chair Estill stated we should be cautious and respect the applicants. Director Atkinson agreed with Vice Chair Estill.

Chair Hammerson stated we needed to ensure it is eligible for executive session. Discussion followed. It was determined the public needs an opportunity to comment, we determine we needed to have another meeting. Director Atkinson advised that News Review needs to be notified by 12:00 pm the day before the meeting.

Meeting set for 10/7/24 at 9:30 am - description of our ICC process, hiring an interim general manager. Director Mendenhall stated we have outlived the usefulness of interim. Vice Chair Estill disagrees. Director Atkinson stated she agrees with Director Mendenhall. The procedure has taken too long, UPTD needs strong leadership. Director Curreri stated we were reacting when we originally posted and thinks the position should be remain interim.

Hiring Process:

- Criteria and Standards are set forth in our posted Request for Proposal (RFP)
- Interim Contract Committee (ICC) will offer an interview to any eligible applicant from the RFP
- ICC will bring feedback to the board in executive session, board will discuss
- In public meeting board will vote to move candidates forward.

Review Interim Operations Manager Applications and first interview notes
After the class we took last week Director Curreri asked if we should wait to hire the operations manager. Discussion occurred with everyone supporting this path.
Motion: Director Curreri motioned that we table discussion regarding the interim operations manager to our next board meeting October 21st at 5:30. Seconded by Vice Chair Estill
Motion Carries
Vote: 7 – Aye, 0 – Nay, 0 – Abstain, 0 - Absent.

Adjourned at 8:08 pm.

NO AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION PERMITTED DURING THIS SPECIAL MEETING
NO CITIZEN PARTICIPATION – ON AGENDA ITEMS & NON-AGENDA ITEMS

The Oregon Attorney General's Public Records and Public Meetings Manual states that the Public Meetings Law is a public attendance law, not a participation law. "The right of public attendance guaranteed by Public Meetings Law does not include the right to participate by public testimony or comment [...] Governing bodies voluntarily may allow limited public participation at their meetings" (Attorney General Rosenblum, 2019, p. 155). Additionally, the Oregon Attorney General's Manual states, "The presiding officer has inherent authority to keep order and to impose any reasonable restrictions necessary for the efficient and orderly conduct of a meeting. If public participation is to be a part of the meeting, the presiding officer may regulate the order and length of appearances and limit appearances to presentations of relevant points. Any person who fails to comply with reasonable rules of conduct or who causes a disturbance may be asked or required to leave, and upon failure to do so becomes a trespasser. The law's requirement that 'all persons be permitted to attend any meeting' does not prevent governing bodies from maintaining order at meetings" (Attorney General Rosenblum, 2019, p. 156).

Reference:
Attorney General Rosenblum, E. F. (2019). *State of Oregon Department of Justice Attorney General's Public Records and Meetings Manual*. Salem, OR: Department of Justice.