



**BENTON COUNTY  
SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 22, 2018**

**Present**

Tim Bates, Vice-Chair  
Steve Harder  
Tom Wogaman  
Dave Zaback  
Tera Stegner  
Axel Deininger (remote)

**STF and City/County Staff**

Lee Lazaro, STF Coordinator  
Cathy Williams, STF Assistant (Recorder)  
Debie Wyne (Benton County Public Works)

**Visitors/Presenters**

Sara Hartstein – Benton Co. Health Dept.

**Absent**

Lisa Scherf  
Mary Marsh-King  
Rocio Munoz  
Drew Foster  
Debie Wyne

**1. Introductions**

Vice-Chair Tim Bates called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM. Committee members present introduced themselves, along with visitor Sara Hartstein from Benton County Health Department, and representing the Health in All Actions and Equity Committees. Mr. Bates also acknowledged that Axel Deininger was present via speakerphone.

**2. Review and approval of meeting minutes**

The Committee reviewed the March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 minutes. Tom Wogaman moved to accept the minutes and Dave Zaback seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with one typo correction to the noted meeting date which was changed from January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, to March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**3. Old Business**

**a) Update on 5311 (f) Offer from ODOT on Amtrak Connector Funding** – Mr. Lazaro was pleased to report that we will have been offered federal 5311(f) inter-city transit monies totaling \$45,700 in ODOT funding for the Amtrak Connector service during the next fiscal year, which would begin on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Lee is hopeful that ODOT will find other possible funding as they continue to search for resources for which the rail transportation connector service qualifies.

**b) Update on HB 2017 Transportation Bill** – Lee Lazaro stated that he, Lisa Scherf, and Debie Wyne gave a briefing to the Board of Commissioners on April 4, 2018. They also had a meeting with Joe Kirby, County Commissioner, to plan the briefing prior to delivery. They discussed the (3) main tasks for the Commissioners which include appointing a local Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Advisory Committee of seven (7) members who will advise the Board on the use of the STIF funds and methodology of fund distribution, b) developing the local STIF Plan for Benton County; and c) developing

a sub-allocation methodology for distributing the funds, in cooperation with the other jurisdictions in the County.

Mr. Lazaro informed the Committee that the next step is to give a presentation to the City Councils in the County (once they are scheduled on their agenda) and also to Oregon State University. They will also be working on Bylaws to present to the BOC. Lee distributed and discussed two documents "Formula Fund Initial Implementation Schedule" and "Committee Member Volunteer Job Description".

4. **Informational Guest Speaker** – Sara Hartstein from the Benton County Health Department was in attendance on behalf of Rocio Munoz. Ms. Hartstein provided information regarding the 2040 Thriving Community Initiative. She informed the Committee that there are (6) Core Values. The next step is to implement those into the County government prior to introducing them to the community. An Implementation Steering Committee within County government has been established to determine how best to implement the Core Values. There are also (2) important Guiding Principles, which include Health & All Actions Committee and Equity Committee. They are both internal Committees that will be connected to the Implementation Steering Committee. She encouraged anyone with questions to contact her directly for further details as they become available.

5. **Presentation on Linn-Benton Loop Service Development Plan** – Mr. Lazaro stated that this information was presented to the Linn-Benton Loop Board and AAMPO, and will probably also be presented at some point to CAMPO. In 2016, the AAMPO budget included \$28,000 for a service analysis for the Linn-Benton Loop but it was carried forward into the 2017-18 year to be performed. They asked the newly formed Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to review the project scope. Lee informed the Committee that this service has not been reviewed in 20-30 years since it first began. There is a new governing structure now in place for the Loop, and a Board that consists of elected officials, along with new funding sources to offer more opportunities for partners in different counties to become part of the expansion of services.

The Loop can apply for funding sources to allow expansion of our regional public transit system. This requires a study to develop routes and schedule changes, and help place the Loop in a position to submit requests for grant monies when callouts come for project requests. Pre-approved consultants that ODOT obtained were used in the planning process to speed up time factors for seeking proposals to select consultant to complete this project. Nelson Nygaard was the selected contractor, and it is hoped that a contract will be completed in June.

6. **Presentation on New NW Connector Website** – The presentation by Lee Lazaro was not possible due to technical difficulties connecting with the internet from a City laptop. He will attempt to present the information at a future meeting.

## 7. New Business

a) **Election of STAC Officers** – Will be held at May 2018 meeting.

b) **Benton County Thriving Communities 2040** – Guest speaker will be Sean McGuire at May meeting.

c) **Strengthening Rural Families** – Guest speaker will be Paul Smith at June meeting.

- d) **Reconfigured Senior Companion Program** – Guest speaker will be Alicia Lucke at July meeting.
- e) **Regional Chapter of Linn-Benton-Lincoln Coordinated Plan** – no update this month.
- f) **Benton County Transportation System Plan – Transit Portion Update** – no update this month.
- g) **ODOT & BenCo Transit Asset Management Plan – Transit Safety Plan** – no update this month.

**8. Roundtable:**

- a) **First Student Bus Services** – Tim Bates informed the Committee that as of July 1, 2018, contractor services with First Student will end. New contracting services with MTR Western to operate CTS transit service will begin on that date.
- b) **Dial-A-Bus Open House** – Steve Harder informed the Committee that Dial-A-Bus will be holding an Open House from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, in the Sunset Building Conference Room. They are hoping to recruit new volunteer drivers, introduce current drivers to the community, and provide answers and/or resource referrals to those needing assistance for services.

**9. Conclusion:** The meeting adjourned at 2:38 PM.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, from 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM.