



Minutes

Meeting:	TriMet Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting	Date:	December 15, 2021
		Time:	9:00 a.m.
Board Members Present:	Lori Irish Bauman Keith Edwards Ozzie Gonzalez LaVerne Lewis Linda Simmons Thomas Kim Kathy Wai	Board Members Absent:	none

TriMet Board Business meetings and public forum are available via web video stream. You can access the archived meetings and materials at trimet.org/meetings/board.

President Simmons called the business meeting to order at 9:15 am.

1. Committee Reports

Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT) – Director Edwards said that due to scheduling conflicts the December CAT meeting was taking place at the same time as the Board meeting. He will provide an update on the December 15, 2021 CAT meeting at the next board meeting.

Finance and Audit Committee (F&A) – Director Irish-Bauman provided an overview of the December 15 Finance and Audit Committee meeting. There was one item on the agenda this month, which was an overview of the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) from Steve Witter, executive director of Engineering and Construction.

Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) – Director Kim provided an overview of the December 8th MPAC Meeting. There were two items on the agenda. First, ODOT provided information on the tolling program on I-205. The second topic was a description of a Trends Analysis that will be carried out by Metro. The next MPAC meeting is scheduled for January 26th.

Reimagine Public Safety Advisory Committee (RPSAC) – Director Lewis provided an overview of the November 15th meeting. Items discussed at the meeting included an RFP to solicit trainings from community based organizations, and a presentation by Mimi Bernal- Graves, TriMet’s Training & Development Program Manager. She spoke about TriMet’s commitment to inclusivity and accessibility in trainings and curriculum development. The next meeting is scheduled for December 16th.

Transit Equity Advisory Committee (TEAC) – Director Wai provided an overview of the December 14th TEAC meeting. Items on the agenda included staff updates from various projects and initiatives at TriMet, a presentation from PBOT staff on the jurisdictional transfer of 82nd avenue from ODOT to PBOT. The committee also received an overview of Ordinance 364. The next meeting is scheduled for January 11th.

2. General Manager Report

Covid-19 Update

Mr. Desue provided an update on the status of Covid-19 at TriMet. He said TriMet continues to await direction from Oregon OSHA as how to how to apply the federal vaccine mandate for large employers. Release of that information is pending the outcome of legal challenges. In the meantime, the federal government has extended its mask requirement while riding transit to March 18, 2022. He thanked TriMet riders for their continued compliance and encouraged employees to get vaccinated, if they haven't already, and to consider a booster shot. He added that TriMet is closely monitoring developments at the local, state and federal levels and will respond accordingly.

Ridership Update

Mr. Desue provided an update on ridership. TriMet provided nearly 4 million trips in November. Ridership was down by about 50% from where it was in November 2019, prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is nearly 27% higher than it was at this time last year.

Quarterly Performance Report

Mr. Desue introduced Miles Crumley, manager of Service Performance and Analysis who presented the Quarterly Performance Report. A copy of the presentation can be found at www.trimet.org.

Temporary Service Reduction

Mr. Desue said that TriMet will begin a temporary service reduction on January 9th. He said the agency made the difficult decision to cut back service in response to the most critical staffing shortage in TriMet history. This reduction makes the schedules more reliable and reduces the strain on operators and station agents, who have worked hard to cover the shortage day to day. TriMet will be temporarily reducing service on 20 bus lines. Most of these lines will see reductions in weekday service. Mr. Desue apologized to TriMet riders for the inconvenience but said this is necessary while the agency works to recruit, hire and train new bus operators.

Hiring Incentives

Mr. Desue discussed hiring incentives for new operators. On November 29, TriMet announced a \$2,500 bonus for all newly hired operators. During the week following the announcement, TriMet received 67 applications. He noted that this was five times the number of applications received during the previous period. The agency also recently increased starting pay for bus operators to \$21.36 per hour, an improvement of more than \$4 an hour. He said while TriMet did see a positive response to the bonus announcement, it's important to remember that the hiring process takes some time but we are making progress and moving forward. He said he is hopeful that the momentum will continue into 2022.

Employee Recognition

Mr. Desue introduced Heather Rogers, manager of Customer Service, who shared a story about Colleen Hildebrand. In her role as a Customer Service Field Outreach and Community Relations Representative, Ms. Hildebrand helped a person in need, and she likely saved his life. Mr. Desue and the board members thanked Ms. Hildebrand for her heroic actions.

3. Consent Agenda

- Meeting Minutes for October 27, 2021
- Resolution to Read Ordinances in Title Only

Action: Director Gonzalez moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Director Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed.

4. Resolutions

Resolution 21-12-49 – Authorizing a Contract Modification with Tait Communications for Radio Infrastructure Equipment and Services

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 21-12-49 authorizing a contract modification with Tait Communications for TriMet's mobile radio system. He said this "mission critical" system is made up of more than 2,600 mobile radio units—on buses, trains and paratransit vehicles, as well as assigned to supervisors, transit police, security and other personnel across the transit system. Tait Communications' equipment and services currently support the radio system and provide sufficient capacity for all TriMet operations. TriMet's IT staff has requested an upgrade to the core control of the radio system, for which Tait has been providing services on an as needed basis. The core control upgrade is included in the IT Division's FY 22 budget. This resolution requests a modification to increase our existing contract with Tait from the current \$350,000 to about \$2.6 million, which covers the cost of the system's core control improvement. Tait currently holds a "ole Source contract due to the proprietary nature of the technology involved with the radio system. The company employs 60 people, 26 of whom identify as a female and/or minority. TriMet considers these upgrades critical to our operations.

Action: Director Edwards moved approval of Resolution 21-12-49. Director Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 21-12-50 – Authorizing a Contract with CorVel Enterprise Comp. Inc. for Workers' Compensation Program Third-Party Administrator Services

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 21-12-50 authorizing a contract with CorVel Enterprise for third-party administrator services for TriMet's Workers' Compensation Program. TriMet has used a third-party administrator to process self-insured workers compensation claims since our program was created more than 40 years ago. CorVel has provided these services to TriMet since 2011, and the firm currently holds a Sole Source contract. Due to limited competition within the market, TriMet requests that the Board approve another Sole Source agreement with CorVel for the amount of \$1.4 million over five years. The total is included in the Finance and Administrative Services operating budget. CorVel employs about 4,000 people and describes its workforce as nearly 79% women and 33% minority.

Action: Director Edwards moved approval of Resolution 21-12-50. Director Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 21-12-51 – Approve the Updated Agency Safety Plan

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 21-12-51 approving the updated Agency Safety Plan (ASP). He said the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) requires public transit agencies to develop a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan and keep it up-to-date year after year. The FTA also requires that the updated Agency Safety Plan be reviewed by executive leadership and approved by the Board. TriMet has completed our annual review and update and recommends Board approval. Mr. Desue introduced Jon Gilmore, manager of Construction Safety & Risk Assessment, who presented an overview of the ASP and answered questions from the board.

Action: Director Gonzalez moved approval of Resolution 21-12-51. Director Irish-Bauman seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 21-12-52 – Authorizing a Contract Modification with Bridge Data Solutions for IG Hardware, Software and Related Services

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 21-12-52 which requests a contract modification with Bridge Data Solutions for hardware, software and related services for TriMet's IT Division. He said TriMet

entered into a contractual agreement with Bridge for IT goods and services in 2017. However, the original contract amount and subsequent modification have been nearly exhausted by unanticipated events, which resulted in significant expense to the division and the agency. The most extreme of which led to a million dollar redesign of TriMet's entire IT network. The resolution requests another contract modification with Bridge to cover anticipated costs through the remainder of the five-year contract. This resolution would increase the total authority by about \$1.2 million dollars. The amount is accounted for in the IT Division's operating budget. Bridge Data's workforce is 16% women and 8% minority.

Action: Director Irish-Bauman moved approval of Resolution 21-12-52. Director Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 21-12-53 - Terms of the Hollywood Transit Center Joint Development Agreement are Reasonable and Fair and that the Revenue therefrom will be used for Public Transportation

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 21-12-53. He said this resolution applies to the Joint Development Agreement for the Hollywood Transit Center property. TriMet has been in negotiations around the property for approximately two years and is prepared to enter a 99-year lease agreement with BRIDGE Housing. Under the proposal, BRIDGE would build and operate an affordable housing development on the site, while TriMet would conduct a concurrent project to rehabilitate our aging transit center. Because the Hollywood Transit Center property was originally purchased with federal funds, TriMet must get FTA support of the proposed agreement before executing the lease. The budget for TriMet's work on the site is included in the FY 22 Engineering and Construction operating budget. All proceeds from the lease with BRIDGE will be used for public transportation. The company has committed to using certified firms for about 50% of the project's design work and 35% of construction work.

Action: Director Gonzalez moved approval of Resolution 21-12-53. Director Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

5. Ordinances

Ordinance 364 – Amending Chapters 28 and 29 of the TriMet Code to Limit When Law Enforcement May Conduct Fare Inspections, Create a New Offense Regarding Employee Assaults, Allow TriMet Personnel to Address Non-Criminal Violations, and Update Terminology (First Reading and Public Hearing)

General Counsel Shelley Devine read Ordinance 364 in title only. Mr. Desue provided a summary of Ordinance 364 which is a continuation of TriMet's 'Reimagine Public Safety' efforts and other recent actions TriMet has taken to ensure a transit system that is safe and welcoming for all.

President Simmons opened the public hearing to allow for comments on Ordinance 364.

No comments were received.

President Simmons closed the public hearing. Ordinance 364 will move to the next meeting agenda for a second reading and vote.

Ordinance 365– Amending Chapter 14 of the TriMet Code to Revise the Definition of “Net Earnings from Self-Employment.” (First reading and public hearing)

General Counsel Shelley Devine read Ordinance 365 in title only.

President Simmons opened the public hearing to allow for comments on Ordinance 365.

No comments were received.

President Simmons closed the public hearing. Ordinance 365 will move to the next meeting agenda for a second reading and vote.

Other Business & Adjournment

Hearing no further business, President Simmons adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kimberley Angove". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Kimberley Angove, recording secretary