

**OREGON PUPIL
TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION, INC.**
A non-profit organization



South Willamette Chapter

Date: February 8th, 2011

Location: Cascade Grill, Albany OR

Meeting Called to Order: Chris Ellison, 11:00 am

Members: Chris Ellison, Cindy Moran, Kevin Baker, Dave Farley, Deborah Maskal, Denice Blake, Shawn Choruby, Theresa Cook, LD Ellison, Patricia Green, Janet Mauldin, Vurlee Nab-Alexander, Tammy Roles, Cindy Sim, Wilbur Starr

Previous Minutes: Approved – David so moved, Deborah 2nd.

Financial Report: Deborah has not received the bank statement for January; she will be notifying the bank. There has been no activity on the account so numbers are the same. Balance is \$19,802.04

Committee Reports

State Board: The State Board meeting was January 20th. Chris and Patty reported. NW Winter workshop is March 14th in Clackamas at the Monarch Hotel, the cost is \$25 this includes lunch. NW Safety exercise is April 12th; State Safety exercise is June 4th at the Morning Star Church in Salem; SW Safety exercise is May 14th in Springfield at Thurston High School.

State Conference is June 20th-22nd in Eugene at The Valley River Inn. The board is looking into having the 2012 conference in Bend at the River house Inn. The following year it will be back in Eugene.

Be aware of a couple of house bills that would not be good for transportation. The first is house bill 2437, this bill would allow the school boards to set the elementary walking boundaries and change the transportation funding formulas. The House bill 2774 is also a bad bill. This is also a funding bill that would be crippling to the small districts. Write your legislature and let them know how you feel. D. Farley asked if we can be sent an e-mail before the vote to be able to voice our opinions. K. Baker asked if OPTA sends a lobbyist for things like this.

Cell phone and seat belt use are now a moving violation. It will be in the new CORE manuals.

Poster Contest: "I See the Bus the Bus See's me" – The announcements have been sent to the schools. We have not received any yet. There is still time, we are optimistic.

Safety Exercise: The location this year is Thurston High School in Springfield. The good news is the lot will be marked and ready to be set up when we get there. David is still getting confirmation on the busses. Chris spoke with Eugene; they have transits as does Springfield. Denice has conventional's, Sweet Home has 3 type A's, 6 conventional's, and some type B's. Salem has a lot of type B's but are waiting on word from Mr. Shields, need to get the busses dialed in.

Sunshine: Vurlee will be sending a card to Maggi; she is back to work earlier than scheduled, doing well. Denice said they lost a driver in Bend due to a heart attack. Joe Hollander

will be missed. The Creswell driver that was in the accident last month is doing pretty good: She is not driving again yet.

Education: The forum that was held in Albany February 1st, Training 101 was well received. They had 19 in attendance which included Districts in Grants Pass, Willamina; a lot of good information came out of the meeting. Thank you to Craig Pruitt for attending to answer a lot of questions on Type 10/20 training and the new testing procedures. The next forum will be a continuation of the last one. Training 102 – covering special needs busses, wheel chair, and other classes' above and beyond. This is scheduled for April 5th in Albany.

Winter Workshop: Chris set a budget of \$17,000; this is down from the \$20,000 that was budgeted two years ago for the Bus vs. Train workshop. The biggest expense was lunches and we have eliminated that. The cost of the speakers is the next biggest expense. For the DVDs add \$500 for the cases and Insert. \$1500 for the plywood to maintain the track and field the bus and swat team will be driving on. Looking at all the material the speakers will be covering it would be a large manual and the printing would be expensive. We could put it on a CD instead and give one to everybody, with a sleeve we would be looking at about \$200. After discussion it was decided that one CD would go to the sponsor of each district also a link to get the information. This will cut down on cost and a lot of CD's that would not be used. We have had 103 pay so far, OCDC in Wilsonville sent to much money se Deborah will be refunding them. Three large schools have not paid yet but the numbers are looking good. We need 700 to attend to be on the plus side. This will be made into a training DVD for all the districts. ODE is checking into the making of the DVD and postage.

- Deborah is meeting with Craig to talk about registration.
- Donuts – Chris will bring them, Food services will be providing the coffee and tea. Sweet Home volunteered for donut patrol, set up will be in the cafeteria.
- Parking – Let off at door Albany and Santiam Christian will oversee parking
- Lunch – cleanup Albany
- Registration – Deborah, Patty
- Trinkets – Tony Morrison, Cathy Harrington, Cindy Sim, Cindy Moran, Vurlee, Patty; This will be in a classroom this year.

Membership: We are standing at 207 members. Debra is going to check with Tom Saddler to see if any of the districts have contacted him with their registrations. She is also going to send out another reminder of renew to the districts she has not heard from. Chris Ellison passed around a brochure that tells what OPTA is all about: what we do and how to get involved. It will be sent out to the districts in our region. We discussed how the budget has a lot to do with why not as many people are registering, it looks like the districts are cutting the people that are not as involved; mechanics, drivers. Kevin Baker asked about grants that might help cover expenses. Chris is going to check on doing a survey to find out why people aren't signing up, budget, and non-interest or not familiar. He asked that each person present send him a question or two that would pertain to our areas – private, Head Start, District.

Old Business: Nothing at this time

New Business: *A question came up, what is cell phone policy for kids? Is there a policy that says we can or can't look at their phones if we think they are sexting or looking at bad pictures? We had a good discussion on how each district handles this.
 *Edgalog / Versatran – Lebanon is switching to Transfinder but is wondering about how to incorporate special needs. Another good discussion on how each district works with these programs.
 *LD asked that from the districts representing OPTA what time their shops run and how many mechanics they have.
 Salem – 5:30-6:30 / 16 mechanics, shop open until midnight
 Lebanon – 5:30-5 / 2.5 mechanics, 1 drives
 Bend - 5-6 / shop 6-10:30 with 7 mechanics
 Albany – 5:30-5:30 / 4 mechanics, 1 auto tech
 Santiam – all volunteer
 Several of the districts also have transportation assistants or teams that do the fueling, seat repair, cleaning.

For the Good-of-the-Order

Future Meetings:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Topic</u>
October 12, Tuesday	Cascade Grill, Albany / 11:00 am	General Housekeeping; set Drivers' Winter Workshop date & location; set Safety Exercise date & location
November 9, Tuesday	Cascade Grill, Albany / 11:00 am	State of the State's Pupil Transportation
December 14, Tuesday	Cascade Grill, Albany / 11:00 am	Winter Workshop
January 11, Tuesday	Cascade Grill, Albany / 11:00 am	Winter Workshop
February 8, Tuesday	Cascade Grill, Albany / 11:00 am	Winter Workshop/Safety Exercise
March 8, Tuesday	Cascade Grill, Albany / 11:00 am	Safety Exercise
April 12, Tuesday	Corrinos, Albany / 11:00am	Nominate New Officers
May 13, Friday	Bostons, Bend	Elect Officers
June 21, Tuesday	Valley River Inn, Eugene	Install New Officers

Meeting Adjourned: 1:00 pm

Next Meeting Date: March 8, Tuesday

Next Meeting Location: Cascade Grill, Albany / 11:00 am