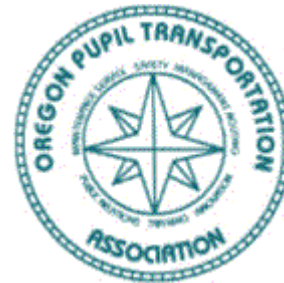


OREGON PUPIL
TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

A non-profit organization



South Willamette Chapter

Date: January 13, 2015
Location: Novak's Hungarian Restaurant, Albany
Meeting Called to Order: Cindy Moran, 11:05 AM
Members Present: Craig Pruitt, Wilbur Starr, Michael Cape, Joanna Morris, William Swift, LD Ellison, Tim O'Connell, Rich Sanner, Michelle Saavedra, Diane Clinkscales, Shawn Choruby, Dave Goetz, Trinity Yoder, Denise Balch, Troy Hageman, Kim Hevia, Dona Bolt, Sandi Miller, Cindy Moran, Deborah Maskal, David Jorgenson

Previous Minutes: No changes. A motion was made by Tim O'Connell to accept minutes as presented, seconded by David Farley. Approved.

Financial Report:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Beginning Balance: | \$27,974.40 |
| Income | \$ 21.22 |
| Expenses | <u>\$ 31.70</u> |
| Ending Balance: | \$27,963.92 |

A motion was made by Denise Balch to accept the financial report as presented, seconded by Wilbur Starr, approved.

Committee Reports

State Board: Deborah Maskal reported that the state board was requesting \$1000 from SW OPTA to sponsor a breakout session at the summer conference.

ODE Report: Legislature just started and the session kicks into high-gear the first week in February. The state school fund is going to come under a lot scrutiny, as there are already a number of changes proposed, and Craig has no doubt that the transportation grant will also come under review. Craig says to keep up the great work out there and we shouldn't have much trouble defending our work. Our safety record is very impressive. The joint ways and means committee should have their budget released by late March and Craig anticipates the amount for school funding should increase from the Governor's proposal. Beth Blumenstein took a new research job in the Assessment and Reporting unit, so ODE is scrambling to fill her position and back-fill her work. Please anticipate some delay in processing of fingerprints as they bring new staff up to speed. Shonna is working many OT hours each week trying to keep delays to a minimum. They appreciate everyone's patience. Instructor recertification went well, most met the requirements, and those that did not did not attempt to recertify. Most examiners have met the requirements as well. There are still a few more test routes to follow-up on.

Poster Contest: Denise has the theme for the poster contest and has started the flyer. She feels that the contest has been a tough sell in the schools. Would the Boys & Girls Club branches be a better option? Michael Cape said that the Oregon Mayor's Association has had similar issues getting responses for their activities. They have had better luck going through school district curriculum directors. He also mentioned that if the process could be started earlier, we might improve the response we get

Safety Exercise: Tim O'Connell and David Farley will co-chair the SW safety exercise. The Northwest and South Willamette regional exercises will be held as one event on May 2nd, 2015 at the state fairgrounds in Salem. Contestants will compete together, but awards will be given based on chapter affiliation. Costs will be shared between the two chapters, although they may not be shared equally. The state safety exercise will be held on May 30, 2015, location TBA.

Sunshine: T.J. Crockett (ODE)-mother passed away
Larry Wren (Eugene)-illness

Education: Dona Bolt (Federal Systems-Education Specialist, ODE) was on hand to discuss current issues in homeless and foster child transportation.

(a) Definitions: McKinney-Vento provides transportation to a student's school of origin. Students may be living in shelters, motels, campgrounds, other substandard housing, or may be "doubled up" with another friend or relative.

(b) Parallels between homeless and foster transportation.

(c) McKinney-Vento supersedes all other factors (including special education) for transportation purposes

(d) McKinney-Vento applies to students in grades K-12 only

(e) Each district has a designated homeless liaison (Dona can provide this information, if needed).

(f) Districts can set up attendance contracts with students receiving transportation under McKinney-Vento, and cancel transportation if minimum attendance requirements are not met.

(g) Feasibility-everyone involved in the process should look at the feasibility of the transportation that is being requested.

(h) Weighted ADM (average daily membership) for students identified as homeless-there has been discussion about giving homeless students an extra 0.5 ADM in order to help pay for transportation

Dona encouraged anybody that had questions or concerns to contact her directly. She can be reached by phone at (503) 947-5781 or by email at dona.bolt@state.or.us.

Winter Workshop: The winter workshop will be 2/21/15 at Springfield HS. Cindy Moran and Kevin Baker will co-chair. The agenda for the workshop will include two guest speakers, along with an open forum for driver questions/discussion. The first

speaker will be Officer Jermaine Galloway (“Tall Cop Says Stop”, <http://www.tallcopsaysstop.com>), speaking on drugs and gang awareness. The second speaker will be Dr. Jeffrey Sprague, a professor of special education at the University of Oregon (<https://education.uoregon.edu/users/sprague>). We will have tables available for vendors. Schetky, Western, and Brattain will be bringing buses to show. Schetky will sponsor and pick-up donuts. Brattain will sponsor folders and printing. Western will sponsor coffee, tea, and cocoa. SW will provide water and soda, along with coolers. We will be upgrading lunches this year, and will also need to add a box to the registration form for “no lunch needed”. The cost this year will be reduced to \$20. The registration form has been posted to the OPTA website; it includes a questionnaire for the open forum. Most spots on the panel are filled, but we are still looking for a driver and a dispatcher to fill the final two spots. The registration also includes a box that can be checked for those that are interested in the scholarship available for attending the summer conference. For those that are interested, an application will be sent to them, and the scholarship committee will choose the winner from applications received.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Open Discussion: Sandi Miller raised the question about school district policies regarding cell phone usage while on a bus. Denise Balch indicated that it was Salem-Keizer policy for the bus driver to be out of the seat while on the phone, in order to leave no doubt that the driver was not on the phone and operating the bus at the same time. Springfield indicated that they have the drivers also remove the keys from the ignition.

For the Good-of-the-Order

Future Meetings:

| Date | Location | Topic |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| February 10, 2015 Tuesday | Salem/Elmer’s Restaurant/11:00 AM | Winter Workshop/Safety Exercise |
| March 10, 2015 Tuesday | Eugene/Brattain International | Safety Exercise, Brattain International presentation on bus specifications |
| April 14, 2015 Tuesday | Albany/Novak’s Hungarian Restaurant | Safety Exercise/Nominate New Officers |
| May 15, 2015 Friday | Bend/TBA | Safety Exercise/Elect Officers |
| June 15, 2015 Monday | Eugene/Valley River Inn State Conference | Install New Officers |
| | | |

Meeting Adjourned: 1:00 PM

Next Meeting Date: February 10, 2015, 11:00 AM

Next Meeting Location: Elmer's Restaurant, 3950 Market St NE, Salem
(503) 363-3950