



Salem Area Mass Transit District  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
January 25, 2024

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Salem Area Mass Transit District  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Senator Hearing Room: 555 Court St. NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

**January 25, 2024**

Full Video of Board Meeting can be accessed at: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSUQ1gg6M78XRjv71iiYD\\_YiUu7ABEx92](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSUQ1gg6M78XRjv71iiYD_YiUu7ABEx92)

**Attendees:**

Board: President Maria Hinojos Pressey, Directors Joaquín Lara Midkiff, Ramiro Navarro Jr., Sadie Carney (Virtual), Ian Davidson, and Bill Holmstrom. Absent: Director Sara Duncan

Staff: General Manager Allan Pollock, Deputy General Manager David Trimble, CFO Denise LaRue, CHRO Jaél Rose, CCO Patricia Feeny, CPDO Shofi Ull Azum, COO Tom Dietz, Maintenance Manager Gregg Thompson, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Mike Taylor (Virtual), Executive Assistants Crisandra Williams, and Kirra Pressey.

Guest: CFM Partner Dale Penn, CFM Partner/Federal Affairs, Kirby Garrett, CFM Counsel/State Affairs Waylon Buchan, and Legal Counsel Sara Sayles (Virtual)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A.** President Hinojos Pressey called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Attendance was noted, indicating Director Duncan was absent and Director Carney would be attending virtually.
- B.** GM Pollock asked COO Tom Dietz to provide a winter storm disruption update. COO Dietz provided a brief update on the emergency operation center's actions and decisions made during the inclement weather last week. Service was suspended for a total of 3 complete days and 2 partial. He also discussed the crucial work completed by Maintenance, Facilities, and MTM during the winter storm in efforts to keep both the Districts employees and riders safe.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS | CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Director Carney proposed an additional action item (Item D) be included on the agenda, suggesting the drafting of a letter to the Salem Keizer Area Transportation Study Policy Committee.

**III. PRESENTATION(S)**

- A.** Advisory Committee Member Recognition  
Presenter: President Maria Hinojos Pressey

President Hinojos Pressey took a moment to recognize advisory committee members for their time and dedication to the District. The following members were recognized:

**Community Advisory Committee Members** – Davis Dyer (not present), John Hammill, Laurie Dougherty (virtual), Rick Hartwig, and Davis Dyer (not present).

**Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory Committee Members** – Emily Broussard, John Hammill, and Ron Harding (not present).

**B. Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) Recognition**

Presenter: President Maria Hinojos Pressey

President Hinojos Pressey presented Director Davidson with a certificate from SDAO for his continued dedication to the Salem Area Mass Transit District (SAMTD).

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Board received public comment from Tyler McCulley for their review and consideration. The comments can be heard on the January 25, 2024 Board Meeting recording and can be accessed on the Capital Community Media YouTube channel.

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Presenter: President Hinojos Pressey

Staff Report: Pg. 4-20

**A. Approval of Minutes**

4. December 14, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting
5. January 11, 2024 Board of Directors Executive Session
6. January 11, 2024 Board of Directors Work Session

**B. Routine Business Items**

4. Approve Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory (STIFAC) Committee Appointment
5. Award of Contract for Purchase of Lifts
6. Award of Contract for Lift Construction

Motion:	<b>Approve the Consent Calendar</b>
Motion By:	<b>Director Ian Davidson</b>
Second:	<b>Director Joaquín Lara Midkiff</b>
Vote:	<b>Motion Passed Unanimously</b>

**VI. ITEMS DEFERRED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR – None**

**VII. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Adopt 2024 Legislative Agenda and Board Priorities and Principles**

Presenter: General Manager Allan Pollock, CFM Partner Dale Penn, CFM Partner/Federal Affairs, Kirby Garrett, and CFM Counsel/State Affairs Waylon Buchan  
Staff Report: Pg. 21-33

GM Pollock highlighted the legislative agenda, noting it is typically brought before the Board annually in January. This agenda serves as a compass for the Districts legislative engagements and informs our responses to legislative issues. In addition, following discussions with the Legislative Subcommittee, the District has revised and reaffirmed the Board Principles and Priorities.

CFM Partner Garrett presented the Federal Legislative Agenda. He elaborated on the funding requests for 2024 and highlighted key policy priorities. Additionally, he offered a glimpse into what stakeholders can anticipate during this legislative season."

CFM Partner Penn and Counsel Buchan presented the State Legislative Agenda. They outlined the District's foremost priorities for this legislative session while also providing insights into what lies ahead in the 2024 state legislative session.

Motion:	<b>I move that the Board adopt the 2024 legislative agenda and Board Priorities and Principles as shown in Attachment A, B, and C.</b>
Motion By:	<b>Director Bill Holmstrom</b>
Second:	<b>Director Ian Davidson</b>
Vote:	<b>Motion Passed Unanimously</b>

**B. Award of Contract for Purchase of Paratransit Buses**

Presenter: Maintenance Manager Gregg Thompson  
Staff Report: Pg. 34-35

Maintenance Manager Thompson addressed the delay in procuring seven CNG buses, citing economic challenges resulting from COVID-19, as well as issues with availability of alternative-fueled chassis and price increases. These factors ultimately led to the District canceling the initial order. Subsequently, in September 2023, the solicitation was refreshed and released.

Motion:	<b>I move the Board authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Northwest Bus Sales for the purchase of 7 CNG paratransit buses for use in the Cherriots LIFT ADA service for an amount not to exceed \$1,297,084.</b>
Motion By:	<b>Director Joaquín Lara Midkiff</b>
Second:	<b>Director Ramiro Navarro Jr.</b>
Vote:	<b>Motion Passed Unanimously</b>



C. Award of Contract for Battery Electric Buses

Presenter: Maintenance Manager Gregg Thompson

Staff Report: Pg. 36-37

Maintenance Manager Thompson offered a concise summary of the awarded grants allocated for the purchase of ten battery electric buses from Gillig. Pending approval, delivery is expected in December 2024.

Motion: **I move the Board authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Gillig for the purchase of 10, 40' battery electric buses for an amount not to exceed \$12,757,050.**

Motion By: **Director Ramiro Navarro Jr.**

Second: **Director Ian Davidson**

Vote: **Motion Passed Unanimously**

D. Letter of support aiming for a more equitable and inclusive voting framework on the Salem Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS) Policy Committee

Presenter: Director Sadie Carney

Staff Report: Pg. NA

Director Carney elaborated on her role within the SKATS Policy Committee, shedding light on the composition of its membership. She discussed the current voting structure and underscored the imperative for its reassessment, aiming for a more equitable and inclusive voting framework. She requested the Board to compose a letter to the SKATS Policy Committee, reaffirming the ongoing commitment to achieving such a voting framework.

Motion: **I move the Board direct General Manager Pollock to work with Director Carney on drafting a letter to the Salem Keizer Area Transportation Study Policy Committee to be brought back to the Board in February for approval.**

Motion By: **President Hinojos Pressey**

Second: **Director Ian Davidson**

Vote: **Motion Passed Unanimously**

VIII. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

A. Battery Electric Bus Update

Presenter: Maintenance Manager Gregg Thompson

Staff Report: 38-45

Maintenance Manager Thompson delivered a concise overview of the battery electric bus project, highlighting the District's key partners and their respective roles. Additionally, he delineated the completed tasks and those still pending, offering a timeline for reference.

**IX. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

GM Pollock provided the General Manager's Report.

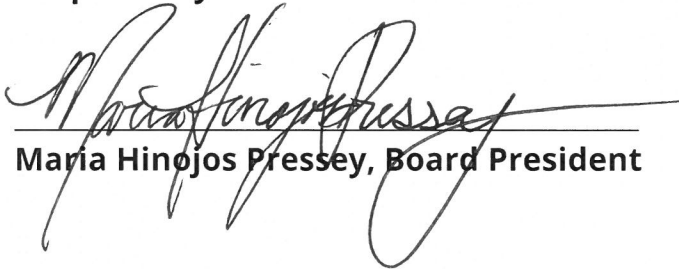
**X. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT**

President Hinojos Pressey and Directors provided reports on committees and activities in which they represent SAMTD.

**XI. ADJOURN**

President Hinojos Pressey adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted**



Maria Hinojos Pressey, Board President