



August 10, 2009

Salem-Keizer Transit Board Elects New Officers

The Salem-Keizer Transit (Cherriots) Board recently elected a new slate of officers with all the Executive Committee positions changing. Three of the four officers are newly elected members of the Cherriots Board.

Shelley Hanson, executive director of the Spirit Mountain Community Fund and member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, was elected President of the Board. She has been a member for the last two years and is excited about the direction Salem-Keizer Transit is heading.

"I'm honored by my fellow Board Members' support of me in this position," stated Hanson. "As Salem-Keizer Transit continues to adapt our services to better meet the community's needs and as we move forward with some very exciting plans for improved service, I am very happy to be the new Board President and a part of the changes."

The changes Hanson is referring to include the new routes and faster times starting September 8, 2009. Cherriots conducted over 60 public meetings, open houses and forums to hear from the community what kind of service they wanted to see in the future. After those meetings, the Board voted on a new plan that helps connect people to places in the Salem-Keizer area more quickly and with new, improved routes.

The other three members were all newly elected this last May. Kate Tarter was elected Vice-President, Ron Christopher is Treasurer and Robert Krebs is Secretary. Tarter was appointed to her position in February before being elected in May.

"Having our newest Board members step up and take a very active role in setting policy and community outreach is incredibly encouraging," stated Allan Pollock, General Manager for Salem Keizer Transit. Pollock continued, "We've been fortunate to have dedicated, passionate Executive Committee members in the past and I know this one will be no different."

The new Executive Committee was elected at the July 23 Board meeting and take their positions effective immediately.