Salem Area Mass Transit District

Board Of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 25 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

Index of Board Actions

Attendance

Board Directors:
Present:
President Maria Hinojos Pressey
Ramiro Navarro Jr.
Sadie Carney
Sara Duncan
Ian Davidson
Bill Holmstrom

Staff:
GM Allan Pollock
DGM David Trimble
CSO Cliff Carpentier
CPDO Shofi Azum
COO Tom Dietz
Security & Emergency Management Manager Karen Garcia
Senior Manager, Project & Contract Administration Melissa Kidd
Financial Services Manager Tim Reedy
Executive Assistant Kirra Pressey
Guest:
Legal Counsel Bill Ohle
Budget Committee Chair Nick Fortey
STIFAC Chair Marja Byers

Meeting Information

1. **Call To Order**
   A. **Note of Attendance for a Quorum**
   President Hinojos Pressey called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
   Attendance was noted and a quorum was present.
   B. **Safety Minute**
   COO Dietz presented the Safety Minute recognizing National Safety Month, focusing on mental health and emotional well-being. He emphasized the importance of proactive self-care and utilizing available support resources.
   C. **Announcements and/or Changes to Agenda**
   None

2. **Executive Session**
   President Hinojos Pressey recessed the regular meeting at 5:35 p.m. into Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(a) and (e).

3. **Reconvene Regular Meeting**
   President Hinojos Pressey reconvened the regular meeting at 5:53 p.m.

4. **Budget Hearing**
   A. **Open Public Hearing**
   President Hinojos Pressey called the Budget Hearing to order at 5:54 p.m.
   B. **Public Comment**
   Public comment was received from Budget Committee Chair Fortey, who presented the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the Approved FY2027 Budget. No additional public comment was received.
   C. **Close Public Hearing**
   President Hinojos Pressey closed the Budget Hearing at 5:57 p.m.

D. Action Item

I. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-09, Adopting the FY2027 Budget, Making Appropriations, Imposing, and Categorizing Taxes.
Presenter: Financial Services Manager Tim Reedy
Agenda Packet: Page 4-172
Financial Services Manager Reedy presented Resolution No. 2026-09 to adopt the FY2026–27 Budget. He reviewed the budget adoption process and explained a typographical and formula error identified on page 79 of the approved budget document. He noted the correction had no net financial impact, did not affect the overall budget, and did not require an additional public hearing.

Action

- Motion: I move the Board adopt Resolution No. 2026-09 to adopt the FY2026-27 Budget reflecting the corrected version of page 79, making appropriations, and imposing and categorizing taxes.
- Motion by: President Hinojos Pressey
- Second: Director Holmstrom
- Vote: Aye: President Hinojos Pressey, Directors Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan and Holmstrom.
  Nay: None
- Outcome: Motion passes unanimously 6-0

5. Presentations

None

6. Public Comment

None

7. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of Minutes

I. April 28, 2026 Board Meeting
II. June 11, 2026 Board Work Session
III. August 14, 2025 Board Service Enhancement Subcommittee
IV. September 11, 2025 Board Service Enhancement Subcommittee

B. Routine Business Items

I. Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Appointment
II. Adopt Resolution 2026-10, Adopting & Rescinding Board Policies
III. Authorize DPI Security Inc Contract
Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with DPI Security, Inc for security services (unarmed) at the Del Webb Operations Headquarters, and approve a project budget for a one (1) base year contract with four (4) option years for a total amount not to exceed $1,659,136.69.
IV. Approval of FY2027 United Way Donation

Director Holmstrom declared a potential conflict of interest for Item B.VI, stating that his wife, an attorney in private practice, had previously performed legal work for the United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley. Although he was unaware of the details of that work due to attorney-client privilege and understood it was unrelated to the matter before the Board, he disclosed the potential conflict out of an abundance of caution.
Director Davidson requested to pull Item B.IV from the Consent Calendar.

Action

- Motion: I move to approve the Consent Calendar excluding Item B.IV.
- Motion by: President Hinojos Pressey

- Second: Director Sara Duncan
- Vote: Aye: President Hinojos Pressey, Directors Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan, and Holmstrom.
  Nay: None
- Outcome: Motion passes unanimously 6-0

8. Items Deferred From Consent Calendar

A. Approval of FY2027 United Way Donation

Prior to Board discussion, Director Holmstrom reiterated his previously declared potential conflict of interest regarding this item.

Director Davidson introduced the discussion, expressing no concerns about the United Way program itself but raising the possibility of increasing the number of day passes allocated to the United Way beyond the current 7,500. He noted that requests from member agencies far exceed the annual disbursement.

General Manager Allan Pollock provided historical context: the initial allocation was 4,000 day passes, increased to 5,000 in 2016 and to 7,500 in 2023. The passes are distributed through a grant-like process in which United Way member agencies submit applications and United Way determines distribution based on trip purpose, primarily medical appointments and bridging transportation for new employees awaiting their first paycheck.

Director Duncan expressed support for increasing the number of passes and suggested as many as 10,000, noting the likely minimal financial impact since recipients would not otherwise be riding the system. Director Duncan also raised, as a recurring concern, the idea of bringing the pass distribution program in-house, noting that members of the public regularly ask about the passes without knowing that United Way administers the program. However, Director Duncan acknowledged that given the General Manager transition underway, now was not the appropriate time to pursue that change, and requested that the full program be brought before the Board as a work session item before the next annual allocation decision.

Director Navarro provided additional context, noting the program had evolved from organizations coming to Cherriots individually toward a consolidated model through United Way. Director Navarro acknowledged that the 501(c)(3) status requirement and the need for organizations to apply through their parent agency represent barriers for some community groups, and expressed agreement with holding a work session discussion.

Director Carney asked whether there were any barriers to participation in the United Way distribution process for eligible organizations. Director Navarro confirmed that individual programs within an agency cannot apply independently, they must apply through the agency, and that 501(c)(3) status is a prerequisite.

President Hinojos Pressey clarified for the record that the program serves the clients of member nonprofit agencies, not individual members of the public.

The Board reached a consensus to direct staff to schedule a work session for a comprehensive review of the bus pass distribution program and to explore potential changes to the operating model. Director Davidson also requested that a review of the group pass program for nonprofits be included as part of that same discussion.

Action

- Motion: I move that the Board approve an annual allocation of 8,500 Day Passes to the United Way of Mid-Willamette Valley for FY2027.
- Motion by: President Davidson
- Second: Director Navarro

- Vote: Aye: President Hinojos Pressey, Directors Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan and Holmstrom.
  Nay: None
- Outcome: Motion passes unanimously 6-0

9. Action Items

A. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-10, Approving the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory Committee FTA 5310 Funding Recommendation

Presenter: STIFAC Chair Marja Byers & CPDO Shofi Azum
Agenda Packet: Pg. 236-278
STIF Advisory Committee Chair Byers and CPDO Azum presented the item. Chair Byers noted the District is the designated recipient of FTA Section 5310 funds for the Salem-Keizer urbanized area, supporting mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. A public solicitation was issued on April 13, 2026, with no eligible nonprofit applications received, allowing Cherriots to apply for the full $407,546 award.

The STIF Advisory Committee met on June 10, 2026, to review and unanimously recommend funding for the following projects:

- Cherriots Mobility Management Call Center – $209,948
- Cherriots Shop and Ride Purchase Service – $183,396
- Cherriots Shop and Ride Preventative Maintenance – $14,202

Director Davidson inquired about the Shop and Ride operating cost relative to federal funding.

General Manager Pollock stated the FY2027 budget is $438,832, with the remaining costs covered through federal, state, STIF formula funds, and fares. Director Davidson noted the use of STIF formula funds and its relevance to future fiscal constraints.

Action

- Motion: Adopt Resolution No. 2026-11, approving funding of the FY26 Section 5310 projects as recommended by the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory Committee, and direct the General Manager to submit the application for the Section 5310 grants in accordance with the recommendation
- Motion by: Director Davidson
- Second: Director Duncan
- Vote: Aye: President Hinojos Pressey, Directors Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan and Holmstrom.
  Nay: None
- Outcome: Motion passes unanimously 6-0

B. Potential Action Following Executive Session (ORS 192.660(2)(a)

Presenter: President Hinojos Pressey
Following Executive Session regarding the employment of a public officer, the Board considered action to ensure continuity of leadership during the General Manager transition.

Action

- Motion: Appoint Deputy General Manager David Trimble as Interim General Manager, effective July 22, 2026 and authorizes the Board President to negotiate, approve, and execute a temporary salary increase for the interim appointment, consistent with applicable policies and budgetary limitations. The temporary salary adjustment shall remain in effect only for the duration of the interim appointment unless otherwise authorized by the Board.
- Motion by: Director Davidson
- Second: Director Duncan

- Vote: <u>Aye</u>: President Hinojos Pressey, Directors Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan and Holmstrom.
  <u>Nay</u>: None
- Outcome: Motion passes unanimously 6-0

C. Potential Action Following Executive Session (ORS 192.660(2)(e)

<u>Presenter</u>: President Hinojos Pressey & Senior Manager, PCA Melissa Kidd

Following Executive Session regarding real property transactions, Senior Manager, PCA Kidd presented the staff report. The Board was asked to authorize the General Manager to complete the purchase of property located at 5800 Wiltsey Road SE for construction of the South Salem Transit Center, for an amount not to exceed $4,724,331.

Kidd noted the District had negotiated a purchase price intended to reflect fair market value and that the Board previously authorized a binding offer through Resolution 2025-12 at its September 11, 2025 work session. Funding sources include federal community project funding, STIF formula, STIF discretionary, and general funds, with an 80/20 match requirement for federal and STIF discretionary grants.

Director Davidson expressed support for the acquisition, noting it represents the second site pursued for the South Salem Transit Center. He emphasized the purchase will be completed without borrowing or bonding and highlighted the Board's practice of maintaining reserves for capital investments. He also acknowledged the District's federal delegation for their support.

Action

- Motion: Authorize the General Manager to complete the purchase of the Property located at 5800 Wiltsey Rd. SE for the construction of the South Salem Transit Center, for an amount not to exceed $4,724,331.
- Motion by: Director Davidson
- Second: President Hinojos Pressey
- Vote: <u>Aye</u>: President Hinojos Pressey, Directors Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan and Holmstrom.
  <u>Nay</u>: None
- Outcome: Motion passes unanimously 6-0

D. Discussion & Potential Action on Board & Business Coalition Task Force

<u>Presenter</u>: President Hinojos Pressey

President Hinojos Pressey provided a summary of the Board's prior work session discussion regarding the Business Coalition Task Force. The Board had previously considered sunsetting the collaboration with business representatives from the Salem-Keizer area. She noted the effort was unable to reach agreement within existing constraints and timelines, including the pending General Manager transition, and reaffirmed the District's commitment to transit investment and community connection.

Director Davidson expressed appreciation to the business community for their engagement and stated his hope for continued partnership. President Hinojos Pressey emphasized that the conclusion of the task force does not end the District's relationship with the business community and reaffirmed the District's commitment to pursuing sustainable funding solutions to expand service, particularly on weekends and nontraditional hours, for riders who rely on Cherriots for work, shopping, and daily travel needs.

Action

- Motion: I move that we pause the current iteration of our Business Coalition Task Force.
- Motion by: President Hinojos Pressey

- Second: Director Davidson
- Vote: Aye: President Hinojos Pressey, Directors Navarro, Carney, Davidson, and Holmstrom.
  Nay: Director Duncan
- Outcome: Motion passes unanimously 5-1

10. Informational Reports

None

11. Reports

A. General Manager's Report

General Manager Pollock opened by requesting that Board members return their updated service log hours worksheets to the Clerk of the Board.

He then offered remarks marking the close of his tenure, noting that his first action item before the Board on June 28, 2007 was the FY2008 budget, and that the FY2027 budget represented his 20th and final budget presentation. He thanked current and former Board members, District staff, the Executive Leadership Team, and customers for their support and trust. He noted that during his tenure, Cherriots has provided over 62 million rides to the community. General Manager Pollock concluded by stating he was confident the organization is in good hands.

B. Board Of Directors Report

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

12. Adjourn

President Hinojos Pressey adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Hinojos Pressey
Maria Hinojos Pressey (Aug 11, 2026 18:25:28 PDT)

Maria Hinojos Pressey, Board President