



**OREGON PUPIL
TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION, INC.**
optaschoolbus.org

A non-profit organization

State Board

- Date: May 29, 2020
Location: Virtual Meeting, Zoom
Meeting Called to Order: Chris Ellison, 11:00 AM
- Members Present: David Jorgenson, T.J. Crockett, Sean Schroeder, Scott Bohl, Kathy Houck, Chris Ellison, Maggi Estes, Kim Hevia, Geoff Smoke, Teri Brady, Janet Alley, Brock Dittus, Jason Chess
- Previous Minutes: Minutes from the 4/17/2020 meeting were presented and reviewed. A motion was made by T.J. Crockett to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Maggi Estes. Approved.
- Financial Report: Financial report was presented. Not a lot of activity. Refunded money (checks/PayPal) for conference. Look to be a little ahead financially at this time, but we may have additional expenses next year. Concerns were raised about conference attendance next year due to district budget issues. David Jorgenson made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Sean Schroeder, approved.
- Chapter Reports: South Willamette: No updates, David is looking to schedule a “touch base” in June.
Northwest: Summer workshop postponed, unknown if it will be rescheduled. Will be important to try and schedule, as drivers may be short on hours. Date or location will have to be determined later, depends on district and state restrictions.
- Vendor Updates: Customers have had questions about warranty start dates, since buses are being delivered but not being used. Warranty start dates can be adjusted for buses delivered since 2/1/2020 once student transportation is resumed. Schetky has hired someone to coordinate sales of specialty vans. Schetky is starting to sell barrier shields for commercial vehicles, and will reach out to ODE about possibilities on the school bus side. Thomas has been making progress with alternative fuels and their electric bus models. They have also incorporated a self-reversing door on the C2, this may expand to other models as well. Detroit engines have been well-received, pulling 10-12 mpg on average. They currently make up approximately 30% of Thomas sales.

Committee Reports

- State Conference: The 2020 conference reservation has been rescheduled to 2023. Venue is still working on contracts, should be done in the next couple of months. Room rates will be higher in the future, but that is expected. Venue has been great to work with. 2021 conference will be at the Riverhouse in Bend, 2022-2024 conferences will be at the Resort at Mt. Hood in Welches.
- Awards: Committee Deadline has been extended to 6/30. The committee has only received two nominations as of today's date. ODE is proceeding ahead with Big Wheel award. How should awards be presented? Kathy raised the possibility of doing surprise presentations to recipients and videotaping the presentation. A question was raised about how we are reaching out to folks that are working remotely (staff, drivers, etc.). Chris will put out another e-news announcement, Brock will check and see if information could be attached to an ODE announcement. Chris and Janet will visit in a couple of weeks to see how many applications have been received and look at possibly extending the deadline again if needed. In addition to recognizing winners this year, we will also honor them at next year's conference.
- Legislative/ODE: No updates.
- Safety Exercises: No updates.
- Website: No updates
- Old Business: No updates.
- New Business: **Emergency Declaration:** Will remain in place throughout the current situation. A question was raised about the possibilities of running an annual meeting after schools are back in session-this could be difficult with different school scenarios that are being discussed. Jason asked if the meeting could be held virtually-according to T.J., we are currently limited to 100 attendees. A question was raised about whether we would receive a sufficient number of nominations if things were done in a virtual format. Kathy was concerned that switching positions for a shortened term would not be a great idea. Would new members be shortchanged? T.J. suggested that we look at a possible by-law change. Jason suggested a subcommittee to further discuss the possible ramifications. Chris appointed T.J. as the chair for this subcommittee.
- COVID-19 and student transportation:** Chris gave a webinar through Edulog last week, approximately 150 people attended. The transportation model is changing. There was discussion about what individual districts are doing. T.J. mentioned that Reynolds is looking at different models of scheduling, cleaning, etc. ODE has been fielding questions, and advises following the recommendations from ODE and the CDC that are in place. A question was raised to ODE if there was consideration of expanding the walk/non-transport areas for schools. Scott and Brock note that this is in statute, so it may be difficult to change, but there may not be any legal restrictions. ODE will need to look into further, and districts should review their current practices (in the event they are "assumed" practices. Maggi inquired about ODE-offered classes for trainers/testers/instructors, they will be visiting again next week. There was also discussion about rescheduling of national conferences. Teri raised a concern about cleaning products on the bus and what ODE's position would be. Teri also raised a question about mandatory testing procedures during the COVID situation.

T.J. noted that the guidance is that folks should remain on the list for the remainder of the quarter, and then a note added as to why the employee was not tested.

E-news items: Chris is looking for items for the E-news. Kathy suggested information for districts about ideas for dealing with COVID, guidance on drug/alcohol testing, ODE, DMV, etc. Chris inquired if ODE had information specific to yellow bus, rather than public transportation. Kim suggested that districts work with vendors on training opportunities. Teri noted that we could also put out positive stories about what districts are doing right now.

Randy Schetky tribute: Chris posed a question to the board about whether we should do something to honor Randy's legacy. David J. mentioned renaming one of our current awards in his honor. We will discuss this again in the future.

Open Discussion: None

For the Good-of-the-Order

Future Meetings:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 19, 2020	Virtual Meeting

Meeting Adjourned: 12:30 PM

Next Meeting Date: June 19, 2020

Next Meeting Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom)