



MINUTES OF May 22, 2025

CALL TO ORDER The Board Authority of Pacific Transit System was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by order of Chair Mayor Julie Struck.

PACIFIC TRANSIT STAFF Joe Clark — Interim General Manager
Melissa Popleik — Assistant Operations Manager
Jeanette Tarabochia — HR
Mike Williams — Recording Secretary

ROLL CALL Members present were:

Julie Struck — Mayor of South Bend
Sue Svendsen — Mayor of Long Beach
Dee Roberts — Mayor of Raymond
David Tobin — County Commissioner
Lisa Olsen — County Commissioner (arrived after Review of Claims)
Jerry Doyle — County Commissioner
Mark Neuville — ATU 1765 Representative
Kierstin Price — ATU 1765 Representative
Bruce Weilepp — ATU 1765 Representative
Elmer Metcalf — ATU 1765 Representative

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PUBLIC COMMENT None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Interim GM Joe Clark asked to add discussion of personnel to the scheduled executive session.

Mayor Dee Roberts made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mayor Sue Svendsen seconded. All present in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Dee Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes of April 17, 2025 as presented. Commissioner David Tobin seconded. All present in favor. Motion carried.

REVIEW OF CLAIMS

The Board reviewed the claims.

LEWIS CO. TRANSIT INVOICES

Interim GM Joe Clark reviewed the overages on the March and April invoices.

Mayor Dee Roberts made a motion to approve the Lewis County March and April invoices. Mayor Sue Svendsen seconded. All present in favor. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

Interim GM Joe Clark gave updates on:

- The recent bus accident that injured a driver.
 - The driver is recovering at home;
 - The vehicle is likely totaled;
 - Staff is reviewing how to secure items on the buses; discussion followed;
 - Pacific Transit staff did an excellent job responding to the event.
- There is an all-staff meeting scheduled for 4-6 p.m. June 1; Board members are invited.
- Cintas will be providing new uniforms.
- We have a contract agreement with the union.
- New routes start on June 16.
- With Veterans Connect funding gone, we are considering alternatives to get veterans to medical appointments in Vancouver and American Lake.
- Leased revenue vehicles will be delivered in 30-60 days.
- Driver CDL training is progressing.
- New stops on Sandridge Road are being sought out. Discussion followed.
- The fuel tank project is still under consideration.
- Ridership is increasing.
- We are still seeking to hire more drivers.

**LEGAL
SERVICES**

Interim GM Joe Clark introduced Allen Unzelman, a partner at the law firm of Vander Stoep, Blinks, Jones & Unzelman from Chehalis. Joe recommends contracting with him instead of Summit Law.

Mr. Unzelman reviewed his qualifications and some of his public clients.

Mayor Dee Roberts made a motion to accept the provision of legal services as presented in the agenda packet (General legal counsel, \$2,500 per month). Commissioner Lisa Olsen seconded. All present in favor. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

The Board adjourned into Executive Session at 11:28 a.m. Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(b) to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate and to review personnel issues. The session was expected to last 30 minutes.

The Board returned to open session at 11:58 a.m. No decisions were made.

**OTHER
BUSINESS**

Commissioner David Tobin thanked Interim GM and his team for the professionalism and transparency moving Pacific Transit forward.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Mayor Struck adjourned the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

The next regular monthly Pacific Transit Board Meeting will be held **Thursday, June 19, 2025.**

Pacific Transit Board meetings start at 10:30 a.m.