

## Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 24, 2019  
2:00 pm (Mountain Time)  
Baker and Murakami Produce  
1431 Se 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Ontario, OR 97914  
Conference Call Number: 541-896-1824

### Members Present:

- Grant Kitamura, Board President
- Greg Smith, Officer of the Board (via phone)
- Lynn Findley, Board Vice President (via phone)
- Toni Parish
- Jason Pearson
- Kay Riley (via phone)

### Staff:

- John L. Braese
- Julie Hicks (via phone)

### Regular Board Meeting Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 pm with special guests present:

- Brian DiFonzo, attorney
- Larry Meyer, Argus Observer
- Scott Fairley, Business Oregon

### Discussion and Action: Review and approval of September 19, 2019 meeting minutes.

Board Member Jason Pearson made a motion to approve the minutes of September 10, 2019. The motion was seconded by Board Member Toni Parish. By unanimous vote, the minutes were approved.

### Discussion and Action: Update

Board President Grant Kitamura handed the meeting over to Officer of the Board Greg Smith to discuss updates on the project.

Smith started the update with the news the Oregon Transportation Commission approved Stage I of funding. This will allow 30 percent of rail and civil design to occur as well as to order an appraisal. Cost of the appraisal will be \$5,500 with a completion date of November 15, 2019 set.

Smith recommended the contract with the Oregon Department of Transportation be forwarded to Attorney Brian DeFonzo for his recommendations. Both Kitamura and Board Vice President Lynn Findley endorsed this action.

Smith stated numerous avenues of financing are being investigated regarding the purchase of land. No action will occur until board approval.

Smith announced he would be making a trip to Washington, D.C. on other business, but planned on meeting with personnel associated with the BUILD grant while present.

Smith stated the need of a line of credit for the project. In addition, an RFP will be distributed regarding the need for insurance policies as demanded by the state contract.

Smith announced a weekly conference call with Anderson Perry, Rail Pros and the City of Nyssa will take place each Monday morning. Kitamura will join this call.

Smith requested a subcommittee be assigned to answer a series of questions from the Tioga Group regarding shipping. Pearson will chair the committee with assistance from Tiffany Cruikshank.

**Executive Session:**

The board met in executive session starting at 2:22 pm. Executive session was completed at 2:34 pm. Kitamura made the announcement Parish will chair a subcommittee regarding the land purchase and needed appraisal.

**Adjournment:**

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:36 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Greg Smith, Officer to the Board