

Authority Meeting Highlights
a brief recap of the January 19, 2022, Authority Meeting

The meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act guidelines in the Governor's Proclamation [20.28.14](#).

Wednesday night, the Authority:

- Authorized the General Manager to execute a purchase order with Diversified for AV equipment in an amount of \$290,000, which includes estimated sales tax and an approximate 5% contingency.
- Authorized the General Manager to purchase furniture for the new ADOPS and FWF buildings from OpenSquare in an amount of \$1,870,000, which includes sales tax and an approximate 1% contingency.

Other Items of Interest:

- Sara Bradley introduced **Megan Melton, HR Analyst** and **Nicholas Orf, Administrative Assistant**.

General Manager's Report:

Due to the Omicron virus and the recent flooding, it has been very eventful around Thurston County, and Thurston County Emergency Management was partially activated earlier in the month. Although the majority of flooding occurred in Lewis County, Intercity Transit was asked to be ready and set to help evacuate areas. In the end they were able to find a closer emergency unit. IT navigated well around the trouble spots in our area.

The Omicron virus is hitting IT very hard. Due to staffing shortages, we have reduced some service temporarily until we have adequate resources. We are continuing to proceed with contingency planning just in case this situation gets worse.

There are ten 40' coaches in production at the Gillig plant in Northern California and some staff members are there now going through the inspection process for those vehicles. And not surprising, there are a few potential supplier issues. We will likely have those vehicles out on the street in a March/April timeframe. This is the last set of vehicles ordered right after the successful November 2018 ballot measure. With these vehicles, we will have 63 coaches that are three years old or newer.

TRPC notified us that Intercity Transit received \$500,500 for the Pattison Rehabilitation and Expansion project.

Freeman-Manzanares shared a customer comment entitled, "Bus driver saves woman from jumping off a bridge." A citizen called to let us know she witnessed a woman standing on the bridge at the Sleater-Kinney freeway overpass whom the caller believes was going to jump. She then saw an Intercity Transit bus driver pull over and get off the bus and prevented the woman from jumping. The caller appreciates the driver for stopping this from happening and is amazed that an Intercity Transit employee did not hesitate to take the initiative to do something. The bus driver is Leata Roberts, and IT will recognize Leata for her initiative and compassion.

Prepared January 20, 2022
Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board