



March 7, 2011

### **Cherriots Honored for Supporting Military Personnel**

Salem-Keizer Transit is proud to receive the "Above and Beyond" award from the Oregon Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), an agency of the Department of Defense. Representatives from the Oregon ESGR presented the award at the Salem-Keizer Transit Board of Directors meeting on February 24.

Also present at the board meeting was Paul Hudnall, a Cherriots bus operator, who nominated Salem-Keizer Transit for the award. Salem-Keizer Transit was selected to receive the "Above and Beyond Award" based on the company's outstanding support provided to Hudnall and his family while he was deployed. Hudnall returned home to his job as a transit operator after his deployment in service of his country.

ESGR was established by the Department of Defense in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve members and their civilian employers. The Oregon ESGR mission is to gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers for the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve as defined by demonstrated employer commitment to employee military service. ESGR seeks to gain and reinforce the support of America's employers for a strong National Guard and Reserve System.

The "Above and Beyond Award" is given in limited numbers by state and territory ESGR committees. It recognizes employers at the state and local level who have gone above and beyond the legal requirements for granting leave and providing support for military duty performed by their employees.

Salem-Keizer Transit General Manager, Allan Pollock, who is a retired Army Reserve officer, stated, "I am proud to be a part of an organization that takes care of its employees and their family members when they are deployed on military duty."



From left to right: Jerry Thompson - Cherriots Board President, Kandice Newton - Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve representative, and Paul Hudnall - Cherriots transit operator.