



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1300 NW Wall Street, Bend, Oregon  
(541) 388-6570

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

# BOCC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 AM

**WEDNESDAY August 7, 2024**

Barnes Sawyer Rooms  
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Tony DeBone and Phil Chang. Also present were Acting County Administrator Whitney Hale, Senior Assistant Legal Counsel Kim Riley and BOCC Executive Assistant Brenda Fritsvold.

This meeting was audio and video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal webpage [www.deschutes.org/meetings](http://www.deschutes.org/meetings).

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chair DeBone called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and noted the excused absence of Commissioner Adair.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CITIZEN INPUT:** None

### **CONSENT AGENDA: Before the Board was consideration of the Consent Agenda.**

1. Approval of an amendment to the contract with Bar-7-A Companies for yard debris and wood waste management services
2. Consideration of Board Signature on letter thanking John Roberts for service on the Housing Works Board
3. Approval of the minutes of the BOCC June 12, 2024 meeting

CHANG: Move approval of the Consent Agenda as presented  
DEBONE: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes  
DEBONE: Acting Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 0

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**ACTION ITEMS:**

**4. Final Public Hearing on the formation of the Tumalo Basin Sewer District**

Dave Doyle, County Counsel, said no objections have been filed on this matter. He reminded that the Board's role is to approve, reduce, or expand the bounds of the district as it determines appropriate, adding that any changes to the proposed boundary would necessitate another public hearing and open another opportunity for persons to submit objections.

*The public hearing was opened at 9:04 am.*

Noting the first public hearing was held on July 17<sup>th</sup>, Commissioner DeBone acknowledged an email received from Nunzie Gould which referred to the original platted map of the Tumalo unincorporated community.

*There being no one who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed at 9:06 am.*

Commissioner Chang appreciated the methodology by which the district boundary was developed, noting the proponents of district formation tailored the proposed boundary according to those who want to be in the district, such that those who do not want to be included are left out. He expressed 100% support for the district boundary as proposed.

CHANG: Move to direct staff to prepare Order No. 2024-025 approving the formation of the Tumalo Basin Sewer District  
DEBONE: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes  
DEBONE: Acting Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 0

Nancy Blankenship said candidates for the District's board can file with the County Clerk before 5 pm on August 27<sup>th</sup>.

**5. Resolution No. 2024-039, authorizing an increase in change funds maintained by the Solid Waste Department**

Tim Brownell, Director of the Solid Waste Department, explained the request to increase the department's amount of on-hand change funds from \$4,200 to \$5,000, saying that with the expansion at Negus Transfer Station and increases in customer traffic, it has been challenging to maintain sufficient change tills with the current amount.

CHANG: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-039 amending the authorized balance of the change funds at the Solid Waste Department's Knott Landfill and transfer stations

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes  
DEBONE: Acting Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 0

**6. Intergovernmental Agreement with Bend La Pine Schools to continue the Healthy Schools program collaboration**

Jessica Jacks, Health Services Program Manager, reminded that the School District and the County embarked on a partnership in 2021 to establish a Healthy Schools program with the goal of improving adolescent health and reducing risk-taking behaviors. For fiscal year 2025, the School District will contribute \$474,026 towards the cost of having Public Health Specialists placed in high schools and associated feeder schools.

Saying that he supported this effort, Commissioner DeBone pointed out that this collaboration is only with the Bend-La Pine School District and does not benefit students in other districts such as Redmond and Sisters, or homeschooled youth and those who attend private schools.

Commissioner Chang stated his appreciation for the work done to reduce suicidal ideation and stress, depression and anxiety in students.

CHANG: Move approval of f Document No. 2024-467, an intergovernmental agreement with Bend La Pine Schools for the Healthy Schools program

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes  
DEBONE: Acting Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 0

**7. Acceptance of Oregon Health grant agreement PO-44300-00026008-4**

Holly Harris, Behavioral Health Director, explained the additional allocation of State funding for diversion programs as outlined in HB 4002, saying the Legislature came to recognize that these efforts were underfunded. Harris listed allowable uses of the funds, including helping individuals to access housing and vocational and educational services, and providing support services to prevent or curtail relapses of criminal activity.

Nicole Von Laven, Behavioral Health Program Manager, added that these funds will be used to support people being arrested for the first time in an effort to steer them away from future arrests and incarceration.

Noting that intensive case management along with peer support models have been proven to reduce recidivism rates, Harris said diversion in the behavioral health system and deflection in the law enforcement system are very similar.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Harris confirmed that the County had initially received more than \$700,000 for this work; this \$401,779 allocation is in addition to the previously accepted funds.

CHANG: Move approval of Board signature of Document No. 2024-607, amending a grant agreement with the Oregon Health Authority to accept jail diversion funding

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Acting Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 0

**8. Acceptance of State of Oregon DAS HB 5204 Grant**

Behavioral Health Director Holly Harris requested Board approval to accept a \$1,500,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to support the County's Stabilization Center. Harris said these one-time funds would be used for clinical and administrative operations of the Stabilization Center, with up to \$150,000 appropriated for indirect costs.

Commissioner Chang expressed appreciation to the State for recognizing the value and importance of the County's Stabilization Center. He encouraged efforts to establish sufficient stable, long-term local funding to ensure that the Stabilization Center continues to operate.

Agreeing that the Stabilization Center has been successful, Commissioner DeBone noted that the cost of doing business is rising.

CHANG: Move approval of Board signature of Document No. 2024-622, accepting a grant from Oregon Department of Administrative Services to support the Stabilization Center

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes  
DEBONE: Acting Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 0

### **9. Application for a COHC Community Health Projects grant**

Emily Horton, Public Health Program Manager, described the proposal to apply for a COHC Community Health Projects grant to expand the pilot program initiated earlier this year to create summer hazards health safety kits. These kits assist persons who are unsheltered or do not have access to places they can go to get out of higher temperatures and reduce their exposure to wildfire smoke.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Carissa Heinige, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, said Health Services solicits feedback on the use of the kits from the providers which distribute these. She added that Health Services monitors heat- and smoke-related cases reported by area emergency rooms to track correlation with the target populations.

Commissioner DeBone spoke to the County's opportunity and social requirement to help reduce suffering and said some tough decisions may be needed to address unsanctioned camping.

Horton said negative health effects can result from high heat or smoke exposure, particularly for those who do not have air conditioning or ventilated air. She explained efforts to raise awareness of the impacts from heat and smoke and share what people can do to reduce illnesses.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Horton said it can be hard to know who is using the clean air and cooling centers, as some of these places such as the library are open on a regular basis.

CHANG: Move approval of an application for a COHC Community Health Projects grant to create Summer Hazard Health and Safety Kits

DEBONE: Second

VOTE:           CHANG:       Yes  
                  DEBONE:      Acting Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 0

**10. Accept OHA Reproductive Health Services Modernization Grant**

Anne Kilty, Public Health Program Manager, explained that the County was awarded a Reproductive Health Services Modernization grant of \$125,000, \$25,000 more than was applied for. If accepted, the funds would be used to pay for salaries and indirect expenses associated with providing high quality, culturally-responsive reproductive health services.

Commissioner DeBone summarized that this program has been underutilized and is being phased out as clients are accessing these services through alternate means.

Kilty agreed that changes have resulted in increased access and decreased needs. Speaking to DCHS’s role as a public health authority to ensure access, she said Health Services will work with community partners to ensure that the community’s needs are met.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Kilty confirmed that if the County stops applying for these funds, community partners be eligible to apply for them.

CHANG:        Move approval to accept a Reproductive Health Services Modernization Grant from the Oregon Health Authority and authorize the County Administrator to sign Document No. 2024-694, an intergovernmental agreement accepting the grant

DEBONE:      Second

VOTE:           CHANG:       Yes  
                  DEBONE:      Acting Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 0

**OTHER ITEMS:**

- Commissioner DeBone shared that he will be in Salem next Tuesday for the State Interoperability Executive Council meeting.
- Commissioner Chang commented on the good fortune experienced by the Fair this year when it once again managed to avoid the worst heat and smoke days of the summer.
- Commissioner DeBone remarked on the well-attended County employee appreciation breakfast at the Fair as well as the Buckaroo breakfast the next day. He expressed appreciation to Fair & Expo Director Geoff Hinds and his staff.

- Commissioner DeBone acknowledged the recent passing of Mike Shields who served on the Fair Board.
- Commissioner Chang shared that when he visited the offices of the Sisters Folk Festival recently, SFF staff offered him event posters from previous festivals to replace the older ones long on display in the Deschutes Services Building.
- Referring to the letter sent to the Board by Craig Letz regarding the State's wildfire hazard map, Deputy County Administrator Whitney Hale said Strategic Initiatives Manager Jen Patterson will draft a comment letter for the Board's consideration.

Commissioner Chang agreed with the suggestion to use the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) map instead of the wildfire hazard map to guide policies and determine where defensible space must be created and fire-hardening building regulations enacted, saying the problem with the hazard map is that it recognizes vegetation as fuel, but not houses. He found the framing in Letz's letter very good.

- Commissioner DeBone reported that the study conducted on Oregon's medical examiner system was just completed. Saying this will be discussed during upcoming legislative discussions, he advocated for the establishment of regional facilities to conduct autopsies, acknowledging this would require resources.
- Commissioner DeBone announced the Antique Fair hosted by the Deschutes Historical Society will be this coming Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**ADJOURN:**

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:57 am.

DATED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of Sept. 2024 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.



**PATTI ADAIR, CHAIR**

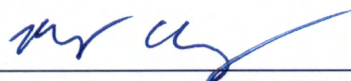
**ATTEST:**



**RECORDING SECRETARY**



**ANTHONY DEBONE, VICE CHAIR**



**PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER**