



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

BOCC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 AM

WEDNESDAY March 18, 2026

Barnes Sawyer Rooms
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Phil Chang, Anthony DeBone and Patti Adair. Also present were County Administrator Nick LeLack; 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 website www.deschutes.org/meetings.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Chang called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZEN INPUT: None

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner DeBone and Commissioner Chang, who had attended the Family Access Network (FAN) luncheon earlier today, spoke to FAN's role in supporting students and their families by connecting them with needed resources such as food, shelter, health care and clothing.

Commissioner Chang reported on a public outreach event related to the proposed piping of approximately 18 to 20 miles of the Pilot Butte Canal between Bend and Redmond, saying that as some attendees expressed concerns about canal piping in

historically designated sections, he anticipated the Board may hear from community members on this issue.

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

1. Approval of Document No. 2026-0188, an agreement accepting a Criminal Justice Commission Restorative Justice Grant
2. Approval of Resolution No. 2026-009 increasing FTE in association with the receipt of a Restorative Justice Grant
3. Approval of Resolution No. 2026-010 extending 0.80 limited duration FTE Community Health Specialist position
4. Approval of two change orders for the Courthouse expansion project relating to parking lot improvements at 221 Lafayette
5. ~~Fourth Amendment to Ground Lease with Mountain View Community Development for Redmond Safe Parking program~~ (removed for separate consideration—see below)
6. Approval of the minutes of the BOCC meetings of February 18 and 25, 2026
7. Approval of the minutes of the March 5, 2026 BOCC Legislative Update

DEBONE: Move Board approval of the Consent Agenda as amended to remove item #5 for separate consideration and to note a correction to the minutes of February 25, 2026

ADAIR: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
 ADAIR: Yes
 CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 - 0

5. **Fourth Amendment to Ground Lease with Mountain View Community Development for Redmond Safe Parking program**

Saying he would not be voting in support of the amendment, Commissioner DeBone stated concerns about the location of this shelter site and also with regard to proposed language that would provide for administrative approval of future lease extensions.

Commissioner Adair supported approving a one-year extension. Adding that it might be important for the Board to remain engaged, she said future extensions should return to the Board for consideration rather than being handled administratively.

The Board was in consensus to modify the proposed amendment to remove the renewal option language that would allow future administrative approvals for additional lease extensions, while proceeding with a one-year extension at this time.

CHANG: Move approval of a fourth amendment to the ground lease with Mountain View Community Development for one year, striking the proposed language allowing for future administrative approvals of additional lease extensions

ADAIR: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: No
 ADAIR: Yes
 CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 – 1

ACTION ITEMS:

8. Public Hearing: Ordinance No. 2026-008, adopting Chapter 2.35 to Title 2 of the Deschutes County Code regarding contested case procedures

Dave Doyle, County Counsel, explained the need for a contested case hearing process applicable to public and environmental health matters, saying that the County had been relying on provisions in the contracting code that were not a good fit for those purposes.

The public hearing was opened at 1:46 pm. There being no one who wished to speak, the hearing was closed at 1:46 pm.

Commissioner DeBone said this new section would establish a clearer process in County Code for contested case procedures associated with escalated noncompliance or violations.

DEBONE: Move approval of first and second reading of Ordinance No. 2026-008 by title only

ADAIR: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
 ADAIR: Yes
 CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

Chair Chang read the title of the ordinance into the record two times.

ADAIR: Move approval of emergency adoption of Ordinance No. 2026-008, adopting Chapter 2.35, Contested Case Procedures, to Title 2 of the Deschutes County Code, to take effect immediately

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
 ADAIR: Yes
 CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

9. Consideration of first reading of Ordinance 2026-007 – Tumalo RV Park Text Amendment

Audrey Stuart, Associate Planner, presented Ordinance No. 2026-007 for consideration of first reading, reminding that it relates to an applicant-initiated text amendment regarding recreational vehicle parks as a conditional use within the Tumalo Commercial District. Following a continued public hearing on February 11th, the Board had voted 2 – 1 to approve the application.

Commissioner DeBone said RV parks are already allowed as a conditional use in the Tumalo Commercial District. Commissioner Chang stressed that approving the text amendment would not itself approve an RV park in Tumalo, as any specific proposal would remain subject to the conditional use process.

DEBONE: Move approval of first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-007 by title only
CHANGR: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
 ADAIR: No
 CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 – 1

Chair Chang read the title of the ordinance into the record.

10. Consideration of Resolution No. 2026-011, adopting the Deschutes County Transportation Safety Action Plan

Chris Doty, Road Director, said the County used a federal grant awarded through the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program to update its Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP).

Blaine Wruck, Senior Transportation Engineer, said the TSAP is a data-driven plan intended to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes on County roads. He explained the analysis of available data for the five-year period from 2018 through 2022, during which time there were more than 2,000 crashes on County roads with 22 of those resulting in a fatality and 150 resulting in serious, life-altering injuries. A total of 24 lives were lost in those crashes.

In response to Commissioner Chang, County Engineer Cody Smith said the TSAP was first adopted in 2019 and originally included data on roadways in La Pine, Sisters and Redmond as well as in unincorporated areas. The update, however, does not reflect data from roads in any incorporated city.

Continuing, Wruck said most crashes involve intersections, or roadway or lane departures. After highlighting risky behavior on the part of drivers, including speeding, impairment and improper use of protective equipment, he reviewed a list of selected top 10 sites for identified safety improvements, saying that the list is intended to guide project prioritization and pursuit of funding opportunities.

Smith added that this list does not include projects that have already been scoped for safety improvements.

Wruck also described how school area safety audits are used to identify short- and long-term improvements to enhance safe routes to school in rural areas.

Responding to Commissioner Chang, Smith said the County did not conduct school area safety audits in the 2019 TSAP.

Commissioner Chang asked about the relationship between the TSAP and the County's Transportation System Plan and Capital Improvement Plan. Staff explained how projects from different planning efforts align and are considered within the County's five-year capital planning and budgeting.

Wruck asked that the County commit to a goal of reducing fatal and serious injury crashes by 50% by 2050, and also commit to partnering with community stakeholders to coordinate regional enforcement and education strategies.

ADAIR: Move approval of Resolution No. 2026-011, adopting the Transportation Safety Action Plan

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
ADAIR: Yes
CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

11. Update on the S Century Drive: Sunriver Corridor Intersections Improvement Project

Saying that the S Century Drive corridor is complex, Road Director Chris Doty shared that staff had conducted a robust public involvement and outreach process for this multi-phase project which involved concept development, collection of public input, and refinement of concepts.

County Engineer Cody Smith presented an update on improvements at intersections along S Century Drive which will promote safety and more efficient traffic operations. The project is being done in two phases, with the first phase including construction of a roundabout at the intersection of S Century Drive and Huntington Road. Construction on this phase is underway.

Phase two of the project involves the S Century Drive intersections at Spring River Road and Venture Lane as well as the intersection of Venture Lane with Venture Loop. This phase is currently undergoing preliminary design work and is anticipated to start construction in early 2027.

Smith described the public engagement efforts and results, including feedback which favored a centered roundabout at the Spring River Road intersection. The Sunriver Owners Association shared input regarding impacts to common area property and traffic proximity to nearby private properties.

Saying that multiple concepts were presented for the Venture Lane intersection, with a majority of the public stating a preference for the "barbell" design, Smith noted that requests for grade-separated pedestrian and bicycle crossings were unfortunately determined to not be feasible.

12. Appointments to the Fair Board

Deputy County Administrator Erik Kropp presented an update on the recruitment process for Fair Board appointments. Explaining that Commissioners had been asked to review and rank applications, with staff using those rankings to invite candidates to interview, he said although Commissioner Adair had submitted her rankings via text message, that message failed to deliver to its intended recipient.

The Commissioners were supportive of conducting additional interviews if warranted based on revised rankings which incorporated Commissioner Adair's selections. Kropp said staff will review the revised rankings, determine whether additional candidates should be interviewed, and schedule additional interviews as warranted.

13. Review draft letter to City of Redmond concerning closure and removal of encampments on City-owned property known as Desert Rise

Kristie Bollinger, Property Manager, presented a draft letter for Board consideration regarding the City of Redmond's decision to remove encampments from the City-owned Desert Rise property in East Redmond. The Board discussed recent conversations with City leadership and concerns about displacement of individuals currently on the site, including the likelihood that displaced individuals would relocate to adjacent County-owned property.

Sharing that she was told there are probably 90 people currently living at Desert Rise, Commissioner Adair supported cleanup activity but wanted the City to wait to close Desert Rise until the joint managed camp is operational.

Commissioner Chang relayed that Redmond is concerned regarding safety and the potential for fires at Desert Rise.

In response to Commissioner DeBone, Bollinger said County staff is working to draft a notice regarding enforcement efforts on the dismantling and scrapping of vehicles for parts and materials.

The Board discussed revisions to the final paragraph of the letter and directed that the words "and clearing" be removed from the last paragraph.

ADAIR: Move approval of the letter to City of Redmond concerning closure and removal of encampments on City-owned property known as Desert Rise, with one change as described

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
 ADAIR: Yes
 CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

14. Review draft letter to Department of State Lands concerning land exchange in Redmond

Bollinger presented a draft letter to the Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) concerning the East Redmond land exchange initiated in 2015.

Commissioners discussed the history of the land exchange and the need for a clear commitment and timeline from DSL. It was noted that one or more Commissioners would call the DSL director about this plan.

DEBONE: Move approval of a letter to Department of State Lands concerning land exchange in Redmond as drafted

ADAIR: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
ADAIR: Yes
CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 - 0

OTHER ITEMS:

- Commissioner DeBone referenced a conversation with Secretary of State Tobias Read regarding the State's ownership of approximately 80 acres of developable land in La Pine, saying he wanted to be attentive to potential dynamics if the State were to pursue housing development where water and sewer are available while local planning work is underway.
- Commissioner DeBone wished a happy birthday to his brother.
- County Administrator Lelack reported he and Commissioner DeBone spoke with officials at Baker County who sought information on Deschutes County's experience with a county administrator form of government, which Baker County is considering.
- Commissioner Chang announced that Strategic Initiatives Manager Jen Patterson would serve on the panel at tomorrow's forum sponsored by City Club regarding County Commissioner elections. Commissioners Chang and Adair will attend along with other staff and elected officials.
- Commissioner Chang will attend a managed camp meeting tomorrow in Redmond.
- Commissioner Chang said the BOCC will present at tomorrow morning's Leadership Redmond session in Bend.
- Lelack announced a joint BOCC meeting with the Sunriver Owners Association in Sunriver on Friday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURN:

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:38 pm.

DATED this 15th day of April 2026 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.



PHIL CHANG, CHAIR

ATTEST:


RECORDING SECRETARY


ANTHONY DEBONE, VICE CHAIR


PATTI ADAIR, COMMISSIONER