



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

BOCC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 AM

WEDNESDAY February 18, 2026

Barnes Sawyer Rooms
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Phil Chang and Anthony DeBone. 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:

- Ron Boozell encouraged the Commissioners and others to question authority, especially in view of discussions by some in power to plan for war and what could be the resulting economic and other effects.

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Commissioner Chang announced that he and Commissioner Adair are attending the National Association of Counties (NACo) legislative conference in Washington DC later this week.

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

1. Approval of a lease with the City of Bend for use of rooftop space at 1164 NW Bond Street in Bend, for drone operations through its police department
2. Approval of an intergovernmental agreement accepting funding from the Oregon Health Authority for a Veteran Behavioral Health Peer Support Specialist position; and approval of Resolution 2026-002 increasing appropriations and FTE within the Health Services Fund
3. Approval of Resolution No. 2026-005, increasing appropriations and FTE in association with the receipt of an Organized Retail Theft Grant
4. Approval of an amendment to an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Human Services for the provision of Functional Family Therapy
5. Approval of Resolution No. 2026-006 adding 1.0 FTE Custodian position in the Facilities Department
6. Authorization to extend the contract with Business Oregon for Community Development Block Grant funding by six months
7. Approval of Resolution No. 2026-007 Declaring a Countywide State of Emergency and Requesting State Declaration of Drought Emergency within all of Deschutes County (read into the record—see discussion next page)
8. Consideration of Board Signature on letter appointing Scott Salvage for service on the Pinewood Country Estates Special Road District
9. Approval of the minutes of the Mid-Year Budget Committee meeting on January 16, 2026
10. Approval of the BOCC meeting minutes of January 20, 21 and 26, 2026
11. Approval of the minutes of the February 5, 2026 BOCC Legislative Update meeting

DEBONE: Move Board approval of the Consent Agenda as presented

CHANG: Second

VOTE:	DEBONE:	Yes
	ADAIR:	(<i>absent</i>)
	CHANG:	Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 – 0

Commissioner Chang referred to concerns about the County's lease of space to the City of Bend to conduct drone operations from the roof of the Courthouse. He explained that the County would only be serving as a landlord, and anyone wanting information on how the drones will be used can contact Bend's Police Department.

With regard to Resolution No. 2026-007, Commissioner Chang explained that the Deschutes Basin Board of Control asked the County to declare a drought. After Commissioners Chang and DeBone read the resolution into the record, Commissioner DeBone said the limited amount of snow received this year will affect river flow levels in May, June and July.

ACTION ITEMS:

12. Second Reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 2026-003 amending Deschutes County Code section 4.20

Kim Riley, Senior Assistant Legal Counsel, explained that the proposed amendment will remove a statutory limit previously set by ORS 203.148 regarding the fee to record land corner preservation instruments as that limit is no longer in effect.

DEBONE: Move approval of second reading of Ordinance No. 2026-003 by title only

CHANG: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
 ADAIR: *(absent)*
 CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 – 0

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

DEBONE: Move to adopt Ordinance No. 2026-003, amending Chapter 4.20, Public Land Corner Preservation Fund, of the Deschutes County Code

CHANG: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
 ADAIR: *(absent)*
 CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 – 0

13. Department Performance Measures Updates

Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager, explained that departments set performance measures aligned with the Board-adopted County goals and objectives each fiscal year, and updates on efforts to meet those are provided quarterly. Four departments were selected to provide updates today on measures relating to the goal of "Safe Communities."

Chris Perry, Operations Manager for the Deschutes County 9-1-1 Service District, reported that the District's target for answering 9-1-1 calls in ten seconds or less is 90% and the FY 26 Q2 result was 99.24%. He added that in 2025, dispatchers answered more than 68,000 9-1-1 calls as well as nearly 22,000 non-emergency calls.

Perry also reported on the District's coordination with the Community Crisis Response Team to support mental health crisis response. Collaborative efforts include sharing dispatch software, establishing radio communications on the public safety radio system, and holding quarterly meetings with crisis team leadership and public safety partners. In 2025, the District answered 2,740 crisis calls which involved behavioral health crisis specialists to some extent.

For Deschutes Alerts, Perry reported the target for FY 26 was 53,744 subscribers, with the current number of sign-ups being 71,659. Of these, the District tracks 2,755 subscribers for evacuation-related information who report having access or other special needs. The District will conduct an annual test of all accounts on May 6th to ensure accuracy of all provided contact details.

Trevor Stephens, Community Justice Business Manager, reported a target to reduce the number of adults in the prison population. Stephens explained that the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission has established a baseline figure for Deschutes County, and the goal is to be 15% or more below that figure with a larger (-25%) reduction actually achieved.

Commissioner Chang commented on statewide policy direction regarding reduced prison bed utilization and the importance of state support for local supervision practices.

For juvenile supervision, Stephens reported a target that 75% of young people on supervision successfully complete their term of supervision, with a Q2 result of 80% of youth achieving this goal. He also provided additional context using a criminogenic risk assessment score, stating the average risk score for the group decreased from approximately 12 at the beginning of supervision to approximately six at the end.

Commissioner DeBone stated he would be co-chairing the Public Safety and Veterans Committee at the Association of Oregon Counties and asked that Community Justice consider future advocacy priorities for the 2027 legislative session.

Deputy District Attorney Matthew Nelson reported on the Veterans Intervention Strategy (VIS) program which is intended to reduce recidivism rates of veterans and connect them with treatment and stability supports. The performance measure goal is that no more than 20% of program participants commit another crime, with the current rate achieved of just 3% recidivism.

Nelson provided additional information about the program, which was launched in November 2020 with the first veteran enrolled in February 2021. Thus far, 36 veterans have been enrolled with 22 of them graduating from the program. Ten continue as active participants, and three were revoked for noncompliance.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Nelson described veteran-specific treatment services and said stable housing is a major issue. He referenced Veterans Village and Veterans Ranch as partners for housing support and described program work to help participants rebuild community connections and access veteran resources.

Deputy District Attorney Sarah Trautman presented on the Emerging Adult Program (EAP), describing it as a restorative justice-based diversion program for young adults ages 18 to 25 with minimal or no criminal history. The performance measure target is an arrest recidivism rate of 25% or less measured over three years; the current recidivism rate is 17.6%. Trautman added that funds received for this program from the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission have been suspended, with the result that the DA's Office will continue to serve current participants but not enroll new participants until funding resumes.

In response to questions about wraparound services for EAP participants, Trautman stated the program works closely with Thrive Central Oregon to provide connections to treatment and housing along with limited financial support for basic needs such as transportation and groceries.

Sheriff's Office Business Manager Jeff Price and DCSO Captain Mike Sundberg reported for the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office. Price described the performance measure to maintain current service levels through patrol community contacts and referenced an annual target of 80,000 contacts. Captain Sundberg reported that quarterly totals have consistently exceeded 20,000 contacts; contact categories including dispatched calls, self-initiated contacts, traffic stops, and community policing contacts.

Captain Sundberg referred to community concerns about speeding vehicles and distracted and impaired driving and said the Sheriff's Office is developing a hybrid traffic safety team to address these concerns in a community-focused way.

Responding to Commissioner Chang, Sundberg said efforts to enhance traffic safety include education, visibility, and enforcement presence, with DUI enforcement a priority.

14. Draft letter of support for the Terrebonne Sanitary District's Community Initiated Project (CIP) funding request

Strategic Initiatives Manager Patterson presented a draft letter of support for the Terrebonne Sanitary District's Community Initiated Project funding request of \$2.4 million.

Commissioner Chang said a system to collect and treat wastewater is important to support development and protect groundwater in Terrebonne.

DEBONE: Move approval of a letter to Senators Wyden and Merkley supporting the request from the Terrebonne Sanitary District for Community Initiated Project funding of \$2,400,000

CHANG: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
 ADAIR: *(absent)*
 CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 0

15. Request for letter of support from NeighborImpact for CDS grant funding

Patterson next presented a request from NeighborImpact for a letter supporting its request for \$2 million to fund workforce-ready childcare.

Commissioner Chang noted that NeighborImpact has played a central role in the provision of early learning and childcare in Deschutes County.

DEBONE: Move approval of a letter supporting FY27 Community Initiated Project funding for the NeighborImpact Work Ready Child Care project

CHANG: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
 ADAIR: *(absent)*

CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 – 0

Patterson stated for the record that Commissioner Adair had earlier indicated her support for this letter.

Added Item: DCSO Request for letter of support for funding for body-worn cameras

Commissioner DeBone shared that he had provided a letter supporting the request of the Sheriff's Office for funding to purchase body-worn cameras and asked whether the Board as a whole wished to support this request.

DEBONE: Move approval of a letter supporting the DCSO's request for funding to purchase body-worn cameras

CHANG: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
ADAIR: *(absent)*
CHANG: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 – 0

OTHER ITEMS:

- The Board discussed a topic raised during a joint meeting held the prior evening with the City of Redmond. Commissioner Chang spoke to Redmond's urban growth boundary and future growth planning and suggested considering whether land exchanges could be used to help align future growth patterns.

County Administrator Nick Lelack shared that he had followed up by email with the County's Community Development Director and Redmond's City Manager regarding questions which had been raised, including the amount of vacant land within Redmond's current urban growth boundary. Lelack added that Redmond's eastern urban reserve area is zoned either Exclusive Farm Use or Surface Mining (i.e., as resource land).

- Commissioner DeBone referred to his efforts to determine if an opportunity exists for a public/private partnership with regard to the CORE3 project.

Commissioner Chang was interested to hear the proposal from the potential partner, even if broadly outlined. He noted possible concerns about preserving the CORE3 property for public use and said if a private partner is brought in, the County would need to ensure that the public uses are not made subordinate to any private use.

- Commissioner DeBone reported on a Special Road District #8 meeting he attended, noting this district serves about 500 properties with road plowing and grading.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURN:

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:23 am.

DATED this 18th day of March 2026 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.



PHIL CHANG, CHAIR

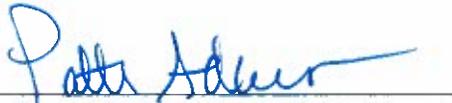
ATTEST:



RECORDING SECRETARY



ANTHONY DEBONE, VICE CHAIR



PATTI ADAIR, COMMISSIONER