



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

BOCC MEETING MINUTES

1:00 PM

MONDAY June 24, 2024

Barnes & Sawyer Room
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Patti Adair, Tony DeBone and Phil Chang. Also present were Deputy County Administrator Erik Kropp; Senior Assistant County Counsel Kim Riley; and BOCC Administrative Assistant Angie Powers.

This meeting was audio and video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal webpage www.deschutes.org/meetings.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Adair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

CITIZEN INPUT:

- None

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **SSD Management Agreement Updates**

At 1:01 p.m., the Board convened as the Governing Body of the Sunriver Service District.

Commissioner DeBone shared that along with Jim Fister, Sunriver Service District (SSD) Managing Board Chair, he attended the Sunriver Owner's Association (SROA) Board meeting on May 17, 2024. He expressed support of Document 2024-395 as presented. The Board will return to its original five positions rather

than seven. As stated in the memo from Chair Fister, the County retains its option to hold an ex-officio position on the Board, and a second ex-officio position will be available to an appointee from the Sunriver Owners Association (SROA).

Mindy Holliday, SSD Managing Board Administrator, shared that at its meeting last week the SSD Board approved a Resolution approving these changes to the management agreement. Historically, two of the seats were joint Sunriver Owners Association Board members and Sunriver Service District Board members. With the proposed changes, all five voting positions on the SSD Managing Board will be open positions, available to district property owners, registered district electors, or business owner representatives within the district bounds.

In response to Commissioner Chang, James Lewis, SROA General Manager, provided the SROA Board's perspective. He provided written comments to the Board on April 22 and to Commissioner DeBone at its May board meeting and reemphasized their comments. The SROA board members wish to maintain their positions on the SSD Board and feel it's important to have a voting voice on the Board. Holliday noted that the ex-officio members may not vote or participate in executive sessions.

DEBONE: Move approval of Document 2024-395, the Restated Management Agreement between the Governing Body of the Sunriver Service District and the Sunriver Service District Managing Board.

CHANG: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes

CHANG: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner DeBone stated that a clear, business-like relationship between the entities has been established with this restated management agreement, as the District provides public safety (fire and police) services to the community of Sunriver. The timing of the SSD Board member positions that are currently held by SROA Board members was briefly discussed by Holliday, as both expire on August 31, 2024. This will help aid in an easy transition.

2. **Public Hearing and Resolution No. 2024-017 adopting the FY 2024-25 Deschutes County Extension and 4H Service District Budget**

At 1:13 p.m. the Board convened as the Governing Body of the County Extension and 4H Service District.

Dan Emerson, Budget and Financial Planning Manager, presented the resolution for the Board's consideration, noting there have been no changes to this budget since it was presented and approved during budget week.

The public hearing was opened at 1:15 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 1:16 p.m.

CHANG: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-017 adopting the FY 2024-25 Deschutes County Extension and 4H Service District Budget in the sum of \$1,103,560, imposing and categorizing ad valorem property taxes at a rate of \$0.0224 per \$1,000 of assessed value, and appropriating amounts set forth in the resolution

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion carried.

3. **Public Hearing and Resolution No. 2024-018 adopting the FY 2024-25 Deschutes County 9-1-1 Service District Budget**

At 1:17 p.m. the Board convened as the Governing Body of the Deschutes County 9-1-1 Service District.

Emerson noted that there have been no changes to this budget since it was presented and approved during budget week.

The public hearing was opened at 1:18 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 1:18 p.m.

DEBONE: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-018 adopting the FY 2024-25 Deschutes County 9-1-1 Service District Budget in the sum of \$28,408,974, imposing and categorizing ad valorem property taxes at the rate of \$0.3618 per \$1,000 of assessed value, and appropriating amounts set forth in the resolution

CHANG: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes

CHANG: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion carried.

4. **Public Hearing and Resolution No. 2024-019 adopting the FY 2024-25 Black Butte Ranch Service District Budget**

At 1:19 p.m. the Board convened as the Governing Body of the Black Butte Ranch Service District.

Emerson stated there have been no changes to this budget since it was presented and approved during budget week.

The public hearing was opened at 1:20 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 1:20 p.m.

CHANG: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-019 adopting the FY 2024-25 Black Butte Ranch Service District Budget in the sum of \$2,647,431, imposing and categorizing ad valorem property taxes at the rate of \$1.0499 per \$1,000 of assessed value for operations and \$0.6500 per \$1,000 of assessed value for local option tax, and appropriating amounts set forth in the resolution

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion carried.

5. **Public Hearing and Resolution No. 2024-020 adopting the FY 2024-25 Countywide Law Enforcement District (District #1) Budget**

At 1:21 p.m. the Board convened as the Governing Body of the Countywide Law Enforcement District.

Emerson stated there have been no changes to this budget since it was presented and approved during budget week.

Commissioner DeBone acknowledged that both law enforcement districts have been a stable source of revenue for jail operations and the Sheriff's Office and thanked the citizens for their investing in public safety.

The public hearing was opened at 1:22 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 1:22 p.m.

DEBONE: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-020 adopting the FY 2024-25 Countywide Law Enforcement District (District #1) Budget in the sum of \$51,483,921 imposing and categorizing ad valorem property taxes

at the rate of \$1.2500 per \$1,000 of assessed value, and appropriating amounts set forth in the resolution

CHANG: Second
VOTE: DEBONE: Yes
CHANG: Yes
ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion carried.

6. **Public Hearing and Resolution No. 2024-021 adopting the FY 2024-25 Rural Law Enforcement District (District #2) Budget**

At 1:23 p.m. the Board convened as the Governing Body of the Rural Law Enforcement District.

Emerson stated there have been no changes to this budget since it was presented and approved during budget week.
Commissioner Chang said there is still work to be done in future budget cycles, to get rural law enforcement district at a stable funding level to provide services to rural Deschutes County.

*The public hearing was opened at 1:24 p.m.
There were no public comments.
The public hearing was closed at 1:24 p.m.*

CHANG: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-021 adopting the FY 2024-25 Rural Law Enforcement District (District #2) Budget in the sum of \$17,891,381, imposing and categorizing ad valorem property taxes at the rate of \$1.5500 per \$1,000 of assessed value, and appropriating amounts set forth in the resolution

DEBONE: Second
VOTE: CHANG: Yes
DEBONE: Yes
ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion carried.

7. **Public Hearing and Resolution No. 2024-022 adopting the FY 2024-25 Sunriver Service District Budget**

At 1:26 p.m. the Board convened as the Governing Body of the Sunriver Service District.

Emerson stated there have been no changes to this budget since it was presented and approved during budget week.

Commissioner DeBone stated that this service district provides important fire and police services to the community of Sunriver.

The public hearing was opened at 1:27 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 1:28 p.m.

DEBONE: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-022 adopting the FY 2024-25 Sunriver Service District Budget in the sum of \$21,362,003, imposing and categorizing ad valorem property taxes at the rate of \$3.4500 per \$1,000 of assessed value for operations and \$0.4700 per \$1,000 of assessed value for local option tax, and appropriating amounts set forth in the resolution

CHANG: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes

CHANG: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion carried.

8. Public Hearing and Resolution No. 2024-023 adopting the FY 2024-25 Deschutes County Road Agency Budget

At 1:28, the Board convened as the Governing Body of the Deschutes County Road Agency.

Commissioner Chang expressed gratitude for the creation of the road agency. Secure Rural Schools federal funds will continue to make their way to the County through this agency.

The public hearing was opened at 1:29 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 1:29 p.m.

CHANG: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-023 adopting the FY 2024-25 Deschutes County Road Agency Budget in the sum of \$672,162 and appropriating amounts set forth in the resolution

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion carried.

9. Public Hearing and Consideration of Resolution No. 2024-016 adopting the FY 2024-25 Deschutes County Budget

At 1:31 p.m., the Board reconvened as the Governing Body of Deschutes County.

Emerson noted there have been changes since the proposed budget was approved. The Board is authorized to make changes to the approved budget by up to 10% of expenditures in each fund. None of the proposed adjustments are more than 10%. He provided a brief overview of some of the larger changes.

The public hearing was opened at 1:33 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 1:33 p.m.

Commissioner DeBone thanked the Budget and Finance team, the public members of the Budget Committee and department heads for their collective efforts. He highlighted the continued inflationary pressures on the economy.

DEBONE: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-016 adopting the FY 2024-25 Deschutes County Budget in the sum of \$628,195,504, imposing and categorizing ad valorem property taxes at the rate of \$1.2783 per \$1,000 of assessed value, and appropriating amounts set forth in the resolution

CHANG: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes

CHANG: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion carried.

10. **Public Hearing and Resolution No. 2024-024 adopting a supplemental budget and adjusting appropriations within the FY 2023-24 Deschutes County Budget**

Emerson noted that at the end of each fiscal year, adjustments must be made to balance each fund to ensure that there are adequate appropriations to meet necessary expenditures. This is a legal requirement. He noted that the largest adjustment is to the Employee Health Benefits Fund. Due to unanticipated claims, it is necessary to recognize Beginning Working Capital of \$365,000, reduce Contingency by \$2,735,000 and increase Materials and Services by \$3,100,000.

Commissioner Adair expressed concerns over the Employee Health Benefits Fund. Emerson said the County may need to consider an increase in premiums or a decrease in benefits.

Responding to Commissioner Adair, Emerson said that employee premiums cannot be raised until January 1, 2025, but increases in departmental premiums can be accomplished via a Board Resolution. Commissioner Adair stated that

EBAC's recent negligible increase to the employee health benefits premium was insufficient to keep ahead of the large increases in claims costs and prescription drug costs.

Commissioner Chang noted that the County's employee health benefits package is one way in which the County can be competitive with the private sector in attracting quality employees.

Commissioner DeBone advocated for partnering with the Employee Benefits Advisory Committee (EBAC).

The public hearing was opened at 1:48 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 1:48 p.m.

CHANG: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-024 adopting a supplemental budget and adjusting appropriations within the FY 2023-24 Deschutes County Budget

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Chang thanked Emerson for completing his final budget cycle for the County, and Commissioners DeBone and Adair wished him well in his future endeavors as he goes to work for Bend-La Pine Schools.

11. Consideration of a Memorandum of Understanding with Health Democracy for a Citizen/Civic Assembly

Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator, spoke about Healthy Democracy. The organization plans to send letters to random property owners in Deschutes County and 30 respondents will be invited to participate in the Citizens/Civic Assembly. The assembly will be tasked with coming up with solutions towards ending youth homelessness in the form of recommendations for policy makers and the community.

Josh Burgess (he/him), Central Oregon Civic Action Project Director, was also in attendance to speak about the Citizen Assembly. Healthy Democracy's goal is to bring more deliberative democracy to Central Oregon. OSU-Cascades' Laboratory for the American Conversation is a third partner. A Citizen's Assembly is a small group of residents who broadly represent the County. Should the MOU be approved by the Board, 30 citizens will be brought together over a four-day

period to learn about youth homelessness and come up with regional solutions. They will deliberate in small and large groups on appropriate prioritization of efforts to align with goals to end youth homelessness. Following deliberations, supermajority consensus in the form of a short list of priorities will be brought back to the County and other organizations who work on the issue of youth homelessness. The County will determine if/how to proceed with any recommendations.

Responding to Commissioner Chang, Burgess said that the Youth Action Board, which is part of the Youth Housing Development Program are existing entities. This Board determines how \$1 million in funding from a regional federal HUD grant is utilized and is made up of youth with lived experience.

Commissioner DeBone said this will be a trial run for a particular topic (youth homelessness). He said that there will be citizens who will wish to participate and those who will not and is concerned about the scenario in that there's a segment of the population whose input will not be included. A problem is identified, but how to use the money and other resources is a topic for debate. Burgess noted that this will help to capture the broader community's priorities via public engagement and utilizing the wisdom that's in our community. In turn, this may help build awareness and rebuild faith in institutions. Burgess views this as a mending of the social fabric in a divisive climate.

Commissioner Adair questioned why the panelist response form asks which political party the applicant is affiliated with even though the project claims to be nonpartisan. She added that other factors are more relevant, such as asking about the applicant's lived experience. Commissioner Adair asked about the random nature of the mailing. Burgess said that he worked with the County's GIS specialist and 12,500 addresses were selected at random. The questionnaire is aimed towards capturing a representative sample group of the broader demographics. No human will have a deciding factor of who will be involved, nor is there a political party leaning one way or the other.

From a Staff perspective, Kropp noted that the Assembly's recommendations are unlikely to be incorporated into the budget process and will not compete for resources for other areas. Burgess said although this is a pilot project in our region, similar projects have proven to be successful in other countries. It's a new way to bring people together within our communities.

Commissioner Chang said he's excited to see the solutions that come out of this process. Tapping into the wisdom within our community to engage in intensive dialogue can result in valuable information for policymakers. Broad community support and involvement is needed for actions that will make a difference.

Commissioner DeBone said it will be a challenge engaging the segment of the population who doesn't wish to be bothered.

Commissioner Adair added that throwing money at the problem isn't always the solution. She believes the application could incorporate more relevant questions to capture a representative group and has concerns with the partisan/nonpartisan question on the application. Lived experience would be more valuable information to include on the form.

DEBONE: Move approval of County Administrator's signature onto Document 2024-459, a Memorandum of Understanding between Deschutes County and Healthy Democracy for a Citizens/Civic Assembly

CHANG: Second

VOTE: DEBONE: Yes

CHANG: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes no. Motion carried.

12. **Treasury Report for May 2024**

Bill Kuhn, County Treasurer, presented the Treasury Report for May 2024.

13. **Finance Report for May 2024**

Robert Tintle, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Finance Report for May 2024. He thanked Emerson for filling in for him at the April meeting, in which Emerson presented the Financial Report for April 2024 to the Board.

Tintle shared that Finance is meeting with County Administrator Nick Lelack and Human Resources Director Kathleen Hinman to discuss health benefits premiums and benefits levels. They will work with EBAC on finding solutions to get this fund structurally balanced. \$2.5 million is the projected ending total fund balance for FY24 and is much lower than anticipated due to unanticipated claims.

OTHER ITEMS:

- Commissioner DeBone attended the Redmond Airport Commission meeting last week. Arrivals and departures are up and they have a large construction project coming up.
- Commissioner DeBone said the Gambler 500 road rally recently took place at the Fair & Expo Center. He visited with the group on Friday. He thanked them for their efforts, as they pick up trash on public lands using the Sons of Smokey app.

- Commissioner Chang virtually participated in a press conference with the Regional Forester and the EPA Regional Administrator to speak about the West Bend prescribed burn pilot project. 1,846 acres were treated. Prior years averaged 240 acres per year. Flexibility on smoke restrictions from DEQ and EPA allowed this to occur. The County's Community Response Plan proved to be an important component in allowing this to occur, and he credited the County's Natural Resources and Health Services departments for their efforts in drafting this important document.
- Commissioner Adair attended a Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting last Friday. A student will be brought onto the group.
- The Coordinated Houseless Response Office hosted a well-attended roundtable with Federal Partners. Based on 9-1-1 calls for service, she reported that 546 homes or properties around the China Hat homeless encampment have been impacted by activities in the area.
- Commissioner Adair also attended the Sisters EDCO meeting on Thursday and their upcoming Pub Talk will take place in Sisters.
- Commissioner Adair attended a Connect Oregon meeting, and she was selected to represent the region at the statewide level. She'll be advocating for the Redmond Airport expansion among other projects.
- Kim Katchur, Public Information Officer, shared with the Board a draft letter to Chief Johnson with Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District, congratulating him on his retirement following 43 years of service. All three commissioners expressed their desire to sign the letter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 3:00 p.m. the Board entered Executive Session under ORS 192.660(2)(h) Litigation and ORS 192.660(2)(e). Prior to leaving regular session and convening in Executive Session, County Legal read aloud the Executive Session announcement.

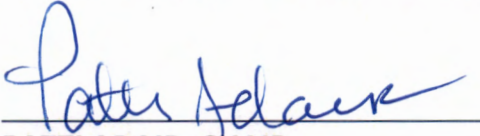
At 3:28 p.m., the Executive Session concluded, and the public was invited to return to the room. The meeting's livestream feed was reactivated, and the final part of the meeting recorded for the record.

The Board directed staff to proceed as discussed during the executive session.


ADJOURN:

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

DATED this 10th day of July 2024 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.


PATTI ADAIR, CHAIR

ATTEST:


ANTHONY DEBONE, VICE CHAIR


RECORDING SECRETARY


PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER