



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

BOCC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 AM

WEDNESDAY July 23, 2025

Barnes Sawyer Rooms
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Anthony DeBone, Patti Adair and Phil Chang.
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 DeBone called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZEN INPUT:

- Ron Boozell encouraged people to donate blood, saying that blood donations save lives and the need for donations is tremendous.
- Dorinne Tye asked that the Board address the abusive behavior of the flight schools at Bend Municipal Airport. Saying that some pilots divebomb her house in a criminally harassing manner, she added that lead pollution from airplanes causes cancer as well as other physical ailments, and negatively impacts people's cognitive abilities.

Commissioner DeBone acknowledged that pilots operating out of the airport utilize a U-turn in the area of Tye's home.

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

1. Approval of an amendment to an agreement with the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission for an IMPACTS Grant for Stabilization Center services
2. Approval of an intergovernmental agreement accepting funding from the Oregon Health Authority for Public Health services #185808
3. Approval of a Notice of Intent to Award a contract for Yard Debris and Wood Waste Management Services
4. Approval of an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of La Pine for law enforcement services
5. Approval of Resolution No. 2025-033 to extend a 0.20 limited duration FTE for three months to allow the District Attorney's Office to continue the Organized Retail Theft prevention program
6. Approval of an intergovernmental agreement with the Oregon Health Authority for the funding of Problem Gambling Services
7. Approval of an intergovernmental agreement with the Oregon Health Authority for the funding of PATH services #PO-44300-00043924
8. Authorization to apply for an Oregon Cold Case Investigation Association Grant
9. Approval of a Notice of Intent to Award a contract to LRS Architects for design of the Deschutes County Downtown Campus Plan Project
10. Approval of agreement extending the Emerging Adult Program Contract with Thrive Central Oregon
11. Approval of a Notice of Intent to Award a contract for Hazardous Waste Transportation and Management Services to Clean Earth Environmental Solutions
12. Consideration of Board Signature on letter thanking Tim Whitehall, for service on the Forest View Special Road District
13. Consideration of Board Signature on letter appointing Lindsey Hardy, for service on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee as an alternate member
14. Consideration of Board Signature on letters thanking Bill Hepburn and appointing Kent Zook, Jill Stephens, John Shoemaker, and Jim Fister for service on the Sunriver Service District Managing Board

15. Approval of the Budget Committee meeting minutes for May 12 and May 14, 2025
16. Approval of the minutes of the May 21 and 28 and June 4, 11, and 16, 2025 BOCC meetings
17. Approval of the minutes of the June 27, 2025 Legislative Update meeting

Commissioner DeBone commented on the acceptance of funding from the Oregon Health Authority for Public Health programs and services. Commissioner Adair noted that the amount of funding received this year is just \$60,000 more than the amount received in prior years.

Commissioner Adair said the agreement with the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission for an IMPACTS Grant concerns funding for the County's Stabilization Center. She reviewed current and past funding amounts and said the Center has served more than 4,800 people and been incredibly beneficial for law enforcement officers in Crook and Jefferson Counties as well as those in Deschutes County.

Commissioner Chang requested a follow-up on items #1 and #2 to discuss final decisions of the 2025 Oregon Legislature with regard to IMPACTS grant funding and Public Health funding. Commissioner DeBone noted that Northwest Policy Advocates, which serves as the County's lobbyist, will soon come to the Board with a 2025 legislative session debrief.

ADAIR: Move Board approval of the Consent Agenda as presented

CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 - 0

Referring to the presentation at the Board's June 4th meeting during which Dick Tobias announced that the Medal of Honor highway system which originated in Deschutes County had been established across the entire country by Congress, Commissioner DeBone shared that on his recent summer road trip, he drove past Medal of Honor highway signs in other states.

ACTION ITEMS:

- 18. 30-year service award—Kelli Candella, Administrative Supervisor for the Road Department**

Chris Doty, Road Director, introduced Kelli Candella, Administrative Supervisor for the Road Department. Doty praised Candella for her professionalism and people skills which are invaluable to the department.

The Commissioners expressed their appreciation of Candella's service to the County.

19. Confirm appointments to the District Mapping Advisory Committee

Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager, reviewed the discussion from Monday's meeting where the Commissioners shared names of who each might appoint to the District Mapping Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Chang appointed Carol Loesche, Andrew Kaza and Melanie Kebler. Commissioner DeBone appointed Bernie Brader and Ned Dempsey. Commissioner Adair appointed Matt Cyrus and Phil Henderson.

Commissioner Adair asked if alternates should also be appointed. Commissioner DeBone did not see a reason to name alternates at this point.

20. Review draft guidelines for the District Mapping Advisory Committee

Strategic Initiatives Manager Jen Patterson introduced the discussion of the draft guidelines for the District Mapping Advisory Committee (DMAC).

Steve Dennison, County Clerk, strongly advised that the DMAC draw the draft map using existing precinct boundaries.

With regard to the possible criteria to be used for drawing the map, Commissioner DeBone said Portland State University distributes population estimate updates on a regular basis. Dennison said the available population data does not drill down to each Census block. Adding that the most recent Census figures are from 2020, he expected that the finalized District lines would be re-evaluated at the time of the next Census.

Commissioner DeBone said while voter registration records are very up-to-date, Census figures represent all who live here.

Commissioner Chang asked if past and present voter registration numbers could be used to project how Census data has changed from 2020 to 2025. He supported providing three data sets—2020 voter registrations, 2025 voter registrations, and 2020 Census figures—and allowing the committee to decide which basis to use for

drafting the district map. Commissioner DeBone was in agreement with this approach.

Commissioner Adair noted that persons who live in unincorporated areas do not have governmental representatives outside of the BOCC, while those who live in cities have other elected representatives.

Former County Clerk Nancy Blankenship spoke to how precinct boundaries are designed, saying that the City of La Pine is one precinct unto itself while Redmond has four, Sunriver has one, Black Butte Ranch has one, and Bend has more than 20.

The Board was in consensus to have the committee determine, by lot, each district number. A majority of the Board was in consensus to direct the committee to draft one map based on five separate districts.

Neil Bryant, DMAC facilitator, said although the State requires that districts be within 10% of each other's population numbers, the goal is to get within 5%.

In response to discussion, Patterson said the terms "minority" and "ethnic" are standard terms used in the State of Oregon's regulations pertaining to redistricting.

Noting that the BOCC positions are now non-partisan, Dennison hoped that the DMAC would also be non-partisan and that partisan perspectives will not be taken into consideration. The Board was in agreement to add this as a goal or vision language to further guide the DMAC.

21. Consideration of request to amend the ARPA grant agreement with Sisters Habitat for Humanity to revise the project's AMI threshold

Laura Skundrick, Management Analyst, reviewed the background of the ARPA funding granted to Sisters Habitat for Humanity and the request to increase the Area Median Income (AMI) threshold requirement from 60% to 80% for affordable housing constructed using these ARPA funds. Skundrick described the difficulty which Habitat is having in securing qualified buyers for the homes.

Peter Hoover, executive director of Sisters Habitat for Humanity, said conditions have changed and people cannot secure pre-qualification letters at the 60% AMI rate. He shared how the FLEX program requirements consider FICO scores as well as minimum debt to income ratios.

ADAIR: Move approval of Document No. 2025-778 amending the grant agreement with Sisters Habitat for Humanity (Document No. 2022-154) to increase the AMI threshold to 80%

CHANG: Second

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

22. Final Decision: Remand of a Thornburgh Destination Resort Modification

Jacob Ripper, Principal Planner, reminded that the Board conducted deliberations on this matter on June 18th, and a final decision is due August 5th.

Commissioner Chang said the revised Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Plan remains inadequate to address the no net loss rule and ensure the protection of fish habitat in accordance with the Treaty entered into with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

ADAIR: Move approval of f Document No. 2025-764, an approval on remand for a
 Thornburgh Destination Resort Modification File No. 247-25-000229-A
DEBONE: Second

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

23. License Agreement – Redmond School District (Tumalo Community School) for use of right-of-way on Wharton Avenue

Chris Doty, Road Director, explained that the Redmond School District seeks the use of right-of-way for a movable storage shed and portable restroom. The shed would be used to store equipment for outdoor learning activities. Doty said no substantial investment is being made on the part of the school district for these structures, and the license would be revokable.

In response to Commissioner DeBone, Doty said the restroom would be locked and not available for general public use. Signage would explain what the structure is and that it is not accessible to others.

Saying this land receives a large amount of recreational use, Commissioner Chang noted possible liability issues associated with the public use of this property.

CHANG: Move approval of Document No. 2025-530, a License Agreement with the
 Redmond School District for use of Wharton Avenue right-of-way to locate a
 storage shed and portable restroom

ADAIR: Second

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

24. Solid Waste Disposal Fee Waivers for Fiscal Year 2026

Tim Brownell, Director of the Solid Waste Department, said every year, Solid Waste recommends Board approval of disposal fee waivers to non-profit organizations such as thrift stores which reuse or resell used goods. In addition, he recommended the issuance of fee credits for clean-ups on public land or those related to code enforcement cases, and for free yard waste debris disposal conducted in association with the FireWise and Firefree programs.

ADAIR: Move approval of Resolution No. 2025-026 approving solid waste disposal fee waivers for Fiscal Year 2026
CHANG: Second

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

**see minutes of August 6, 2025 for Board adoption of replacement resolution*

25. Consideration of Resolution 2025-031 adding 1.00 limited duration FTE within the Information Technology department

Tania Mahood, IT Director, explained the proposal to add a limited duration developer for a two-year period to aid in transitioning to off-the-shelf software solutions whenever feasible for the purpose of enhancing the reliability of the County's IT systems and minimizing future operational risks associated with outdated platforms.

In response to Commissioner Adair, Mahood said an estimated start date for the new position is September or October.

CHANG: Move approval of Resolution 2025-031 adding 1.00 limited duration Application Systems Analyst III FTE within the fiscal year 2026 Deschutes County Budget
ADAIR: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

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

26. Central Oregon Health Council's Community Health Project grant application

Shannon Brister-Rogas sought authorization to apply for COHC's Community Health Projects grant to ensure shelter beds are available for clients aged 18-29 who are enrolled in Intensive Youth Services. Brister-Rogas relayed a success story of someone who was referred to intensive youth services and subsequently offered support through the drop-in center and provided with food and a place to stay until additional resources could be found. Brister-Rogas said this person could have easily ended up in the hospital or arrested without these critical intervention services.

In response to Commissioner Adair, Brister-Rogas confirmed that Bethlehem Inn has accepted more than three County-referred clients at one time.

ADAIR: Move to authorize Health Services to apply for a Central Oregon Health Council's Community Health Projects grant

CHANG: Second

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

27. Notice of Intent to Award a contract for the Behavioral Health Deflection Program

Jeff Price, Business Manager for the Sheriff's Office (DCSO), said the department looks forward to continuing the momentum generated from this program during its inaugural year.

Responding to Commissioner DeBone, Corrections Deputy Neil Marchington said because deflection ideally happens in the field before someone is taken into custody on suspicion of committing a crime, DCSO works with the homeless outreach community and different medical providers. DCSO additionally reviews the jail roster for candidates eligible for deflection. So far, the program has returned 29 successful completions, 19 failures, and 22 active clients, resulting in a 72% combined rate of active engagement and successful completion.

Continuing, Marchington explained that the jail's deflection program is modeled after the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program in Seattle. Peer support and follow-up is provided without end.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Marchington said the program started on September 1, 2024, and the first deflection was on September 4, 2024. Marchington added that District Attorney Steve Gunnels advised that this program be a medically-indicated program in the interest of determining and providing the best medical course of treatment for each participant.

Discussion ensued of the funding available to the program and ways in which that might be expanded.

DCSO Management Analyst Jessica Vanderpool said more than 91% of the adult jail population has mental health and/or substance abuse issues.

CHANG: Move approval of Document No. 2025-606, a Notice of Intent to Award a contract for the Behavioral Health Deflection Program

ADAIR: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

28. Notice of Intent to Award a Contract for the County's Purchasing Card Program via Participating Addendum

Heather Herauf, Purchasing Manager, presented a proposal to change the vendor for the County's purchasing card program from First Interstate to US Bank, explaining that she had reached out to five different vendors for information. The proposal is to utilize the City of Portland's consortium agreement via a participating addendum.

In response to Commissioner DeBone, Herauf said the switch from one bank to another would return a higher rebate amount for purchasing card services and result in the County receiving about \$18,000 per year more than it does now.

ADAIR: Move approval of Document No. 2025-780, a Notice of Intent to Award a contract for the County's purchasing card program via participating addendum

CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

A break was announced at 11:00 am. The meeting resumed at 11:05 am.

29. Planning Division Work Plan Update & Direction

Will Groves, Planning Manager, reminded that every year, the Community Development Department (CDD) prepares an annual work plan describing projects for the coming fiscal year. The work plan outlines long range planning projects which vary in complexity for the Board's prioritization. Groves reviewed tables showing initiated long range planning projects (Table 1), emerging projects for consideration (Table 2), and non-initiated long range planning projects (Table 3).

Groves then referred to a previous Board decision to prioritize the Newberry Country Community Plan over the Terrebonne Community Plan and relayed reasons why the Board might now choose to defer work on the Newberry plan at this time.

Discussion ensued of the planned sanitary sewer system for Terrebonne and how that community stands to benefit from such a system.

Commissioner Chang spoke to SB 1154, groundwater concerns in South Deschutes County, and possible future opportunities for automatic Goal 11 exceptions. Groves responded that staff has reached out to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and will closely track inter-agency coordination with regard to these issues.

The Commissioners discussed the possibility of elevating work on wildfire mitigation, mapping, and fire hardening. Commissioner Chang said the insurance industry needs to recognize and account for work done to create defensible space and reduce fuels on any specific property. Commissioner DeBone added that most areas of Deschutes County are highly susceptible to wildfire.

Commissioner Adair supported as a secondary priority the needed work on the Terrebonne Community Plan, saying that this would aid in approaching the Legislature for more funding for the sanitary sewer system.

Kyle Collins, Senior Planner, suggested that work undertaken to create local wildfire hazard mapping, reassess construction standards for new development, and draft amendments to Deschutes County's Comprehensive Plan and County Code could be done in a manner which steers away from a focus on geographic areas and instead towards what can be done to reduce the risk of fires starting and spreading.

Commissioner DeBone agreed that people want to be resilient to fires and said that goal is helped by education, Project Wildfire best practices, and building techniques.

The Commissioners were in consensus to prioritize this work and put the Terrebonne Community Plan next in line while keeping a close watch on SB 1154 which streamlines Ground Water Concern Area declarations once contaminants such as nitrates are found in groundwater and enables counties to bypass Goal 11 exceptions to facilitate the provision of water and/or wastewater services for residential dwellings by a district.

Commissioner Chang asked that the item relating to urbanization coordination for land divisions near UGBs be added to the agenda of the next joint meeting with the City of Bend.

30. Summer Audit Update

Elizabeth Pape, Internal Auditor, presented an update on the work of the Internal Audit section, saying that seven reports were issued in FY 2025, including on the preconstruction work of the Courthouse expansion project and alcohol sales at the Fair & Expo. Pape said the audits brought to light various risks involving cash handling procedures and documentation of departmental procedures as well as risks related to information technology systems, in particular risks associated with third-party vendors and systems.

After reviewing various recommendations which were issued on governance and operations, performance measures and other best practices, Pape said three audits are in process and listed the planned audits for the upcoming year.

OTHER ITEMS:

- County Administrator Nick Lelack spoke to the Board's recent action to re-open the record for the 2040 Comprehensive Plan update. Planning Manager Will Groves said persons who want to submit written testimony must have participated in the process previously to submit testimony during the limited reopening of the record.
- Commissioner DeBone announced a meeting of the Eastern Oregon Counties Association at 2:00 this afternoon.
- Commissioner DeBone said the Board will meet on Monday and Tuesday next week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 12:23 pm, the Board entered Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2) (e) Real Property Negotiations.

The Executive Session concluded at 12:37 pm, and the public was invited to return to the room.

ADJOURN:

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:37 pm.

DATED this 20th Day of August 2025 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.



ANTHONY DEBONE, CHAIR

ATTEST:



RECORDING SECRETARY



PATTI ADAIR, VICE CHAIR



PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER