



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1300 NW Wall Street, Bend, Oregon
(541) 388-6571

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

DESCHUTES COUNTY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

8:00 AM

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2023

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

A virtual legislative update meeting was held on Friday, March 17, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform, for a weekly scheduled event during this 2023 Legislative Session.

Deschutes County Attendance:			
X	Commissioner Anthony DeBone		Nick Lelack, County Administrator
X	Commissioner Patti Adair	X	Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator
X	Commissioner Phil Chang		Whitney Hale, Deputy County Administrator
X	Dave Doyle, Legal Counsel	X	Kim Riley, Assistant Legal Counsel
	David Givans, Internal Auditor	X	Robert Tintle, Chief Financial Officer
	Chris Doty, Road Department Director	X	Janice Garceau, Health Services Director
	Kristie Bollinger, Property Manager		Stephen Gunnels, District Attorney
X	Peter Gutowsky, Community Development Director	X	Kathleen Hinman, Human Resources Director
	Keith MacNamara, Veterans' Services Manager		Deevy Holcomb, Community Justice Director
X	Lee Randall, Facilities Director	X	Kevin Moriarty, Forester
	Chad Centola, Solid Waste Director	X	Tim Brownell, Incoming Solid Waste Director
	Shane Nelson, Sheriff	X	Sara Crosswhite, 9-1-1 Director
	Steve Dennison, Clerk	X	Cheyenne Purrington, Houseless Strategies and Solutions Director
X	Geoff Hinds, Fair & Expo Director		Scot Langton, Assessor
	Charles Fadeley, Justice of the Peace		Will Groves, Planning Manager
X	Holly Harris, Behavioral Health Director	X	Tania Mahood, IT Director

	Tom Kuhn, Public Health Program Manager	X	Brenda Fritsvold, BOCC Executive Assistant
X	Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager		Sarah Key, Loss Prevention Coordinator
X	Heather Kaisner, Public Health Director		
Others Present:			
X	Doug Riggs, NW Policy Advocates President		Gabriel Velásquez, NW Policy Advocates Legislative Coordinator

1. Introductions

Commissioner DeBone called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

2. Update from NW Policy Advocates

Doug Riggs reported that next Tuesday is the deadline for almost all bills to be passed out of committee.

Commissioner DeBone stated he will testify this afternoon on **HB 5005** and a potential State contribution to the County's courthouse expansion project.

3. Department Updates on Priority Bills

Peter Gutowsky summarized **HB 3197**, which would limit the requirement that development regulations, standards and processes concerning the construction of housing within urban growth boundaries (UGBs) be clear and objective. Gutowsky explained how this bill relates to SB 1051, described litigation brought by Washington County to clarify that these provisions only apply within UGBs and do not extend beyond them, and said staff recommends support in order to retain discretionary criteria.

Responding to questions, Gutowsky said the building industry is not persuaded that this legislation is needed. Others, including the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC), advocate for the ability to apply subjective standards to housing development outside of UGBs.

The Board was in consensus to take a support position on this bill in alignment with AOC.

Regarding **HB 2544**, which would provide funding for licensed residential facilities to serve individuals in need of treatment for substance use disorders or mental health concerns, the Commissioners agreed to maintain this as a first priority and direct Riggs and staff to draft a letter 1) expressing support for the overall concept and 2) stating how Deschutes County might utilize such funds if they are made available.

With respect to **SB 1051**, which would require a State study of urban reserves, Riggs offered to clarify the City of Bend's position on this proposal and whether it is seeking the County's support. Riggs noted that a possible dash 2 amendment has been opposed by the League of Oregon Cities. The Board concurred to keep this bill on watch status.

Commissioner Adair reported she will testify on **HB 3087**, which would establish a task force to propose compensation amounts for elk and deer property damage. She added that according to Rep. Bobby Levy, this language will be moved to a different bill. The Board was in consensus to support the formation of a committee to develop a proposal for compensating property owners for such damage.

Janice Garceau described **HB 3126**, which would fund four regional psychiatric centers to provide behavioral health services for children in crisis. Riggs offered to work with Garceau and Holly Harris on a letter of support for this continuing high-priority item. Commissioner Chang asked if it would be helpful to invite legislators to tour St Charles. Riggs agreed it could be, if the hospital is amenable. Alternatively, he suggested offering a tour of J Bar J Youth Services.

Gutowsky said **HB 3414**, which relates to variances for housing developments within the UGB, would impact cities and not have a direct impact on rural land use or Deschutes County. Riggs referred to amendments which have not yet been evaluated. The Board was in consensus to assign this item watch status for now.

Discussion ensued regarding **HB 3549**, which would restore criminal penalties for possession of controlled substances in certain cases, and **HB 2513**, which would require OHA to study the implementation of Ballot Measure 110. The Board was in agreement to leave both these bills on watch status at the current time.

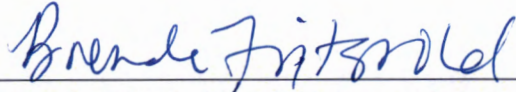
4. Other Items:

- Commissioner DeBone noted the consensus of the Board to cancel next Friday's Legislative Update meeting and instead include any needed updates in the Board's regular meeting of Wednesday, April 5th.

Next Meeting: The next legislative update meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 14, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.

Adjourn: Chair DeBone adjourned the meeting at 9:04 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brenda Fritsvold". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Brenda Fritsvold, BOCC Executive Assistant