



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

BOCC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 AM

WEDNESDAY April 19, 2023

Barnes Sawyer Rooms
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Tony DeBone, Patti Adair and Phil Chang. Also present were Nick Lelack, County Administrator; Kim Riley, Assistant County Counsel; and Brenda Fritsvold, BOCC Executive Assistant.

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 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZEN INPUT:

- Dorinne Tye (via Zoom) complained about a lack of forethought and protection from flight schools at the Bend Airport. She said private aviation businesses pollute the air as well as land that belongs to others, and asked the Board to address this problem.

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

- Consideration of Board Signature on letter removing Joseph Stapleton from the Cannabis Advisory Panel and thanking him for his service

It was noted that Mr. Stapleton very recently resigned from the panel.

ADAIR: Move Board signature of a modified letter to Joseph Stapleton,

acknowledging his resignation from the Cannabis Advisory Panel and thanking him for his service

CHANG: Second

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

ACTION ITEMS:

2. Consideration of Document No.2023-343, an intergovernmental agreement with the City of La Pine for the provision of law enforcement services by the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office

DCSO Patrol Captain William Bailey and DCSO Business Manager Joe Brundage explained that the Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement services to the City of Sisters, and the City of La Pine has requested a similar contract.

In response to questions, Captain Bailey clarified that the IGA would provide for dedicated DCSO personnel—a lieutenant and a deputy—to serve inside La Pine's city limits full-time in addition to the rural patrols that will continue south of Lava Butte.

ADAIR: Move Board approval of Document No.2023-343, an intergovernmental agreement with the City of La Pine for the provision of law enforcement services by the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office

CHANG: Second

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

3. Request for Board Signature of Document No. 2023-327, Amendment #4 to the Community Mental Health Provider (CMHP) agreement with PacificSource

Janice Garceau, Health Services Director, explained that the amendment to the agreement with Pacific Source would add new attachments G and H to reflect changes in the fee-for-service monthly capitation rates (i.e., uniform per capita payments or fees). The fees are for hospital, primary care and other services. The new contract is estimated to total \$16,800,000 for calendar year 2023 which

is an increase from \$12,500,000 in calendar year 2022. Garceau said the increase is in part due to the continuation of the Stabilization Center per member per month rate into the CMHP contract as well as the mandated increased fees for behavioral health services, which average (30%).

CHANG: Move approval of Board Signature of Document No. 2023-327, Amendment #4 to the Community Mental Health Provider agreement with PacificSource

ADAIR: Second

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

4. Acceptance of Oregon Health Authority (OHA) grant #179643 to provide Behavioral Health workforce incentives

Holly Harris, Deputy Director of Health Services, explained the proposal to accept a grant of \$883,216 from OHA to strengthen workforce recruitment and retention. \$625,286 would be used for workforce incentives, as follows: \$275,000 for housing stipends/relocation packages for workers in the south part of Deschutes County; \$28,036 to fund the costs of expanding part-time opportunities; \$125,000 to supplement the County's tuition reimbursement program; \$150,000 to offer stipends to licensed staff who provide internship supervision; and \$47,250 for program administration. The remaining \$257,930 would be used to provide stipends to licensed clinicians who provide licensure supervision for others.

Commissioner Adair asked how long the \$125,000 in tuition reimbursement is expected to last. Harris responded the funds will be available until June of 2024, and DCHS expects them to last until that time.

ADAIR: Move approval of Chair signature of a document accepting a grant from the Oregon Health Authority to provide Behavioral Health workforce incentives

CHANG: Second

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

5. Revision to Homeless Solutions Partnership with the City of Bend

Laura Skundrick, Management Analyst, summarized the background of the County's award of \$1.5 million in ARPA funds to the City of Bend for a homeless solutions partnership.

Amy Fraley, Senior Program Manager - Houselessness Services for the City of Bend, said although the agreement that was entered into in 2022 anticipated that these funds would be used for two outdoor shelters, it allowed funds to be utilized for other sheltering purposes should a second site not come to fruition. At this time, the City requests authorization to allocate \$750,000 of the \$1.5 million to expand operations at the Franklin Avenue Shelter.

Fraley shared that the first half of the grant was appropriated to the Central Oregon Villages project on the corner of Bear Creek and 27th. Phase 1 of this project involved community outreach and planning. In Phase 2, up to 20 pallet structures are being constructed to shelter homeless persons, with women and children being prioritized. Background checks will be conducted and abstinence required of all participants. A mobile shower truck will be offered and food delivered daily.

Fraley then described the proposal for the Franklin Avenue shelter, sited at the former Rainbow Motel. The facility would have 60 or more beds in 50 non-congregate units; 24-hour staffing would be provided in addition to overnight security, case management services and meals. The shelter would be operated by Shepherd's House in conjunction with 26 partner agencies such as Best Care, Family Kitchen and Mosaic Medical.

Commissioner DeBone asked if any modifications or investments are needed to convert the motel to a shelter. Fraley expected that only regular maintenance and other minor items will be needed. Fraley confirmed the shelter will be low barrier, and sobriety will not be required although substance use will not be allowed on the grounds.

Commissioner Chang asked if the new shelter will impose a length of stay limit. Fraley expected the maximum time allowed will be six months.

Russ Grayson, Chief Operations Officer for the City of Bend, said more shelter beds are needed in order to address encampments on public property.

Commissioner DeBone agreed that the County wants to turn the corner on unsanctioned camping but did not support this being done through piecemeal efforts. He questioned why the Coordinated Houseless Response Office (CHRO) is not involved in these endeavors.

Commissioner Chang said the CHRO is working on its strategic plan, which has not yet been adopted. He advocated for places for people to receive the support and services they need to transition out of homelessness and reminded that these shelters are not a long-term housing strategy.

Commissioner Adair said Bethlehem Inn offers a safe situation for families with children. She said the homeless population appears to be growing rather than diminishing and pointed to Veteran's Village and the safe parking site in Redmond as programs which are making a difference. She said money is not the answer and what is needed is more assistance in the way of mental health and drug rehabilitation services.

Commissioner Chang said attention must be paid to performance and accountability. He appreciated that the City of Bend has shared statistics which illustrate the progress being made at the Lighthouse Navigation Center.

Commissioner DeBone noted that the County sent a letter to the State requesting the ability to allow, with restrictions, the siting of managed camps on rural lands outside UGBs.

Fraley reported that the six safe parking sites in Bend have hosted 55 participants in the last 18 months. Of these, 26 persons have moved on to more permanent housing.

Commissioner Chang emphasized that because different programs work for different people, a variety of approaches is needed: indoor, outdoor, congregate, non-congregate, high barrier, low barrier, safe parking.

Commissioner Adair requested a copy of the contract with Shepherd's House when available. Fraley said currently, the anticipated budget for one year of operations is \$847,510.45 for staffing, security, supplies, etc.

Commissioner DeBone asked how Shepherd's House came to be selected as the contractor. Fraley said the City conducted an RFQ process followed by an RFP process for shelter support services which resulted in a list of approved partners for the Navigation Center and Central Oregon Villages. She expected the contract for the Franklin Avenue shelter will be authorized as a sole source.

CHANG: Move approval of the proposed revisions to the Homeless Solutions Partnership with the City of Bend

ADAIR: Second

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

OTHER ITEMS:

- Commissioner Adair reported on efforts to secure the use of Bureau of Land Management property for a landfill. She said while more research is needed, bipartisan support exists for this proposal.

Responding to Commissioner Chang, Deputy County Administrator Whitney Hale confirmed that the County will coordinate with staff from the County's Congressional delegation on this initiative.

- Commissioner Adair shared she will meet with Governor Kotek's Housing and Homelessness Initiative Director Taylor Smiley Wolfe on Friday. Commissioner DeBone offered to attend that day's Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting in her stead.
- Commissioner DeBone shared that Planning Commissioner interviews took place yesterday and another will be conducted on Monday.
- Commissioner DeBone announced a work session this afternoon on SB 644, which would amend requirements relating to wildfire hazard mitigation for development of accessory dwelling units on lands zoned for rural residential use.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 10:17 a.m., the Board recessed into Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations. At 11:21 a.m., the Board came out of Executive Session to direct staff to proceed as discussed.

ADJOURN:

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

DATED this 23rd day of May 2023 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.



ANTHONY DEBONE, CHAIR


PATTI ADAIR, VICE CHAIR

ATTEST:

RECORDING SECRETARY


PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER