



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

BOCC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 AM

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

BARNES & SAWYER ROOMS
VIRTUAL MEETING PLATFORM

Present were Commissioners Patti Adair, Anthony DeBone, and Phil Chang. Also present were Tom Anderson, County Administrator; Nick Lelack, County Administrator in Training; David Doyle, County Counsel; and Sharon Keith, Board Executive Assistant (via Zoom conference call) and Carol Martin, Administrative Assistant temp staff.

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 9:02 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CITIZEN INPUT:

Commissioner DeBone acknowledged the various emails received through Citizen Input email to support vaccine incentives and one comment on redistricting.

Commissioner DeBone stated Citizen Input may be given in person at the meeting or through the Citizen Input email line. Commissioner Chang feels the offer should

still be given for Citizen Input through Zoom in light of the heightened COVID pandemic. Commissioner Adair also supports citizen input given via Zoom.

Ed Fitch, Redmond City Council commented, via Zoom conference call, on the homelessness issue in the City of Redmond and inquired if the County would be interested in contributing further ARPA funds to support Bethlehem Inn. Commissioner DeBone noted he was going to comment on this topic under Other Items today. Commissioner Chang supports an investment in the Oasis Village project but would support co-investing. The original request of Bethlehem Inn was \$900,000 asking the amount to be split between the City of Redmond and Deschutes County. Gwenn Wysling of Bethlehem Inn was present via Zoom to explain the request of \$450,000 remaining through assistance of Deschutes County. The City of Redmond has not agreed to the \$450,000 support. Commissioner DeBone stated further discussions can be held and the item could be included on the meeting agenda of September.27. Commissioner Chang would hope the City of Redmond would consider co-investing with Deschutes County.

Commissioner Adair commented on the needs for mental health hospitals in the state of Oregon.

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

ADAIR: Move approval of Consent Agenda, minus Item #2 as pulled for discussion.

CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

1. Consideration of Chair Signature of Document No. 2021-662, IGA #14702 Oregon Youth Authority Basic and Diversion
2. Consideration of Board Signature of a Lease with Cascade Peer and Self Help Center, Document No. 2021-692
3. Consideration of Signature of Document No. 2021-718, IGA #15668 with

- Department of Education for Juvenile Crime Prevention
4. Consideration of Board Signature of Resolution No. 2021-064, Transferring Appropriations within the Adult Parole and Probation Fund and Increasing Appropriations in the Vehicle Replacement Fund within the 2021-2022 Deschutes County Budget
 5. Approval of Minutes of the August 23, 2021 BOCC Meeting
 6. Approval of Minutes of the August 25, 2021 BOCC Meeting
 7. Approval of Minutes of the September 2, 2021 Joint Meeting with the City of Bend and Deschutes County Board of Commissioners
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ACTION ITEMS:

Consent Agenda Item 2 as pulled for discussion: **Consideration of Board Signature of a Lease with Cascade Peer and Self Help Center, Document No. 2021-692**

Commissioner Adair pulled this item for discussion noting the insurance certificate is not attached; she asks that Legal confirm with Property.

ADAIR: Move approval of Document No. 2021-692 and ensuring the insurance has been confirmed to be the proper limits.

CHANG: Second

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

8. PRESENTATION: National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

Health Services staff Jessica Jacks and Caroline Suiter presented via Zoom conference call. Ms. Jacks recognized suicide prevention and resources within our community. Ms. Suiter presented statistics of suicide cases.

9. Discussion of Increased Staffing Needs for the Health Services Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Program

Health Services staff (via Zoom conference call) Paul Partidge and Cheryl Smallman presented the need of increased staffing. Presentation is attached to the record. A resolution will be presented on the Consent Agenda of September 29 relative to the increase in staffing.

10. COVID19 Update

Health Services staff, Emily Freeland, Rita Bacho, and Nahad Sadr-Azodi presented the County COVID19 update via Zoom conference call. Presentation attached to the record. Dr. Michael Johnson, St. Charles Health System, presented via Zoom conference call. Presentation attached to the record.

11. Discussion and Consideration of Draft Vaccine Requirement for County Employees in Health Services and the Community Justice Juvenile Division

Deputy County Administrator Erik Kropp, Human Resources Director Kathleen Hinman, and Sr. Assistant Legal Counsel Chris Bell (via Zoom conference call) presented the draft policy for consideration. Mr. Kropp reported on the Oregon Administrative Rules through Oregon Health Authority and federal regulations. The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office is drafting their own department policy. Mr. Kropp reported on the process for vaccinated and non-vaccinated staff within the IT department and Facilities Department required to respond to work requests at the impacted departments. Forms exist for employees to claim exemptions (medical or religious) from the vaccination requirement. The deadline is October 18 for employees to be fully vaccinated but Mr. Kropp recommends the October 18 date would be for unvaccinated employees to begin the vaccination process. Mr. Kropp noted there are employees that are concerned about the impact of this policy. Mr. Kropp has sent the draft policy to the AFSCME union for review. On a related point, federal OSHA is drafting regulations for vaccine mandates for employers with more than 100 employees. Once the federal

regulations are announced state OSHA regulations will be drafted. Mr. Kropp noted that the pending OHA rules (through the OARs) do not allow for weekly testing in lieu of vaccination.

Mr. Kropp noted all county employees are not vaccinated. Discussion held on COVID positive cases. Mr. Kropp noted there have been reports of COVID cases but does not know the number of positive cases of Deschutes County employees. Commissioner Chang commented on his suggestion to incentivize vaccines which may have lessened the need for mandating vaccines. Commissioner Chang supports this policy as an appropriate measure. Commissioner DeBone commented on the statistics reported during today's COVID update. Commissioner Adair commented on a study outside of the US, and the need for herd immunity. Commissioner DeBone commented on the possibility of losing staff and the possibility of decreasing services. Commissioner Chang commented on the misinterpretation of vaccination information that shouldn't be out there making the need for this decision.

Mr. Kropp will contact AFSCME for input on the policy. Commissioner Adair commented on antibody tests. Commissioner Chang commented if the Board is seriously interested in learning about COVID, he would support investments to buy antibody tests to acquire data. Legal Counsel Doyle noted the rules will be what they are, and that at this point antibody data would not exempt Deschutes County from application of those rules. To meet requirements, an employee would need to have adequate time to take action. Commissioner Chang would like to have communications to staff now of the Board's direction. Legal Counsel Doyle pointed out while there is an obligation to negotiate with the union, there is no option to not follow the federal and state laws. Commissioner DeBone supports the concept of following the law but is disappointed in the impacts to our employees who provide such great service. Commissioner Adair stated that as an employer, the County has few if any options and noted that some employees will be able to secure a religious or medical exemption. Commissioner Chang noted we have had the opportunity to incentivize vaccines and Deschutes County did not do more and now we are seeing hard driving mandates.

CHANG: Move approval of County Administrator signature of vaccine requirement policy for County Employees in Health Services and the Community Justice Juvenile Division

Commissioner DeBone asked if we need a motion today.

Commissioner Chang amended his motion to include the recommended changes and also to address any concerns that come up in negotiations with AFSCME.

Commissioner DeBone would rather vote on the policy on September 27. Mr. Kropp recommends sending out communications to employees today. Commissioner Adair recommended waiting for the vote until further discussion on September 27.

Commissioner Chang's motion failed for lack of a second.

12. Consideration of Deschutes County's Support of the Vietnam War Memorial on the Oregon State Capitol Grounds

Commissioner DeBone introduced this request for support. Carl Bass, President of Vietnam Veterans Chapter in La Pine presented the design concept of the war memorial.

Commissioner DeBone noted a letter received requesting support from Deschutes County acknowledging other Oregon counties have also provided financial support. Commissioner DeBone offered support in the amount of \$5,000. Commissioner Chang would support. Discussion held on the war. Commissioner Adair would support \$10,000. Commissioner DeBone and Chang support.

ADAIR: Move financial support of the Vietnam War Memorial in the amount of \$10,000

CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

RECESS: At the time of 11:59 a.m. the Board went into recess and reconvened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

13. Consideration of Board Approval of ORMAP Grant Application by the Information Technology Department, Deschutes County GIS Mapping Software

IT Director Joe Sadony was present via Zoom conference call to present the item explaining the \$1,560 grant for the development of statewide base map of tax lots through software.

ADAIR: Move approval of the grant application
CHANG: Second

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

14. Consideration of 2021 EOCA Membership Dues

Commissioner DeBone presented the invoice received. Commissioner Chang inquired what the investment provides to Deschutes County. Commissioner Adair appreciates participation in the organization. Commissioner Chang asked what the Eastern Oregon Counties Association can do that the Association of Oregon Counties can not. Commissioner DeBone commented on the Blue Mountain Forest Plan effort that hasn't accomplished anything yet. Commissioner Chang commented on the benefits of forest plans if they are achieved.

ADAIR: Move approval of \$12,500 for the annual membership dues for EOCA
DEBONE: Second

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

Commissioner Chang stated his opinion is based on prior discussions on how all three commissioners could be engaged in groups such as this by having one commissioner participating and then reporting back to the full Board to show the benefit of membership. He noted that he has not received any updates in the past 5 – 6 months.

OTHER ITEMS:

- Commissioner DeBone acknowledged an invitation for an Adult Treatment Court Ceremony on September 27 but there is a BOCC meeting that day.
- Commissioner Chang shared Welcoming Week celebrating immigrants to emphasize our community is welcoming toward the immigrant population.
- Commissioner Adair commented on a program by Summit Health that will be scheduled regarding COVID treatments.
- Commissioner DeBone attended the virtual meeting of Sunriver La Pine Economic Development yesterday as well as a physical attendance at the Redmond Economic Development meeting.
- Commissioner Chang reported he was asked by Higher Education Coordinating Council regarding his possible interest in participating in the newly formed advisory board for Oregon Conservation Corps.
- Deputy County Administrator presented a draft letter to the owners of RV parks to support expansion or upgrades to allow for additional sites for emergency shelters. Discussion held on the language of the draft. Commissioner DeBone supports getting engaged with the owners of RV parks. Commissioner Chang would include mobile home owners and campground owners as well based on the intent to seek legislative change.

Revisions were recommended to create two separate letters. Commissioner DeBone suggested an announcement asking residents that own rural residential land that want to get involved please contact us. Planning Manager Peter Gutowsky spoke on the expansion of the letter and engagement of legislative delegation. The letter will be revised and an informational meeting could be held by the Community Development Department. A separate letter will be drafted regarding House Bill 2006 to be signed by Commissioners Chang and Adair.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At the time of 1:56 p.m., the Board went into Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2) (h) Litigation. The Board came out of Executive Session at 2:21 p.m.

ADJOURN

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

DATED this 29 Day of September 2021 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.



ANTHONY DEBONE, CHAIR



PHIL CHANG, VICE CHAIR

ATTEST:



RECORDING SECRETARY



PATTI ADAIR, COMMISSIONER