



Minutes

Deschutes County Cannabis Advisory Panel

Meeting #14: Monday, January 27, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

Deschutes Services Building, Allen Room, 1300 NW Wall Street, Bend

This meeting was conducted in person and by video. It was video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal website www.deschutes.org/meetings.

I. Introductions / Call to Order

This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Cannabis Advisory Panel Chair Liz Lotochinski. Present in person: Jen Patterson, Deschutes County Strategic Initiatives Manager; Liz Lotochinski; Mary Fleischmann; Andrew Assan; Jeremy Giffin, Watermaster; Carolyn Sufit, Oregon Water Resources Department; Hunter Neubauer; Detective Dustin Miller, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office; Detective Tony Ramos, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office; Jess Neuwirth, Deschutes County Public Health; Angela Havniear, Deschutes County Community Development; Jeff Williams, Deschutes County Community Development; Trevor Stephens, Deschutes County Community Justice; Sonya Littledeer-Evans, Deschutes County Community Justice; Amy Nortrom, Deschutes County Community Justice; Captain Ty Rupert, Sheriff's Office; and Kevin Riding, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office. Present online: Gary Bracelin

II. Approval of October 28, 2024, Minutes

Mary Fleishman moved to approve the minutes. Andrew Aasen seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

III. Presentation on Cannabis Tax Revenue: Mid-Year updates from Departments who received funds in FY '25 and proposals from County Departments requesting funds for FY '26

Angie Havniear provided an update on the use of \$20,000 funds from Cannabis Tax Revenue received by CDD. Code enforcement used the investment to prioritize illegal marijuana related complaints, including moving ahead with about 736 code enforcement cases. For FY 24-25 there were 7 properties referred to CDD by DCSSO and processed by code enforcement. 19 County Code violations were found. Of the 7 referrals 1 is pending and in Circuit Court for forfeiture, 1 is pending a civil hearing, 3 are working on a compliance plan and 2 have been brought into compliance. To date for FY 25-26 there are 3 new properties with 5 violations of County Code. CDD is requesting \$20,000 for the next FY to continue the enforcement work in Code Compliance.

Sonya Littledeer-Evans provided an update on the use of the Cannabis Tax Revenue received

by Community Justice (CJ). Community Justice's mission is to reduce risk, repair harm, and create opportunity.

CJ had a total of 635 referrals from 2024 of which 146 were substance abuse related referrals with 84 specifically pertaining to cannabis. Youth referrals come to CJ from law enforcement for law violations. CJ uses principles of effective intervention to determine who/what/how they engage with youth and their families. They use a holistic approach including serving the youths family and surrounding communities.

CJ is requesting \$50,000 to support family functional therapy and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) assessment and outpatient team. Funds would support .33 of a FTE to provide these services. CJ shared an audio file of an interview with J.P., a 17-year old who worked with Functional Family Therapy (FFT). J.P. and his went through the FFT team program 3 times and J.P. graduated from the program and is doing very well. CJ will provide the link to the entire interview and Jen will share it with the CAP.

FFT is an evidence-based model that is proven very successful, it is very family focused rather than individual based therapy. On average over the last two decades, CJ has served 77 youth and families each year providing FFT. FFT has been proven to overcome behavior problems, conduct disorder, substance abuse, and delinquency.

CJ has a great history of return on investment. 74% of youth who work with CJ do not receive another referral within a year and 66% of youth do not receive another referral within three years. 85% of closures in 2024 had JCP risk score reduction.

Jess Neuwirth from Health Services (HS), Public Health requested \$60,000 to prevent substance abuse in youth before it starts by continuing to implement and promote PSAs for the "start the conversation campaign". From June-December 2024 132,200 households were reached, 99% of priority audience reached, on average individuals viewed the ad 9 times, and ads had a 95% video completion rate.

\$30,000 would be spent for parent engagement PSAs which would place current English and Spanish PSAs with county-wide reach and \$30,000 would go toward parent resource improvement. Parent resources should build protective factors of positive parenting practices including monitoring & appropriate parent-child communication. The funding would also support personnel time to find, evaluate, improve, and disseminate research supported parent resources that build protective factors.

Dustin Miller is requesting \$100,000 for the Sheriff's Office. As an update –overall illegal outdoor growth has really reduced however some areas are having higher illegal growing operations like Millican and Alfalfa. Indoor grows have gone up, they are harder to investigate and harder to come across. Illegal Psilocybin has increased but they are much harder to find. Psilocybin doesn't use a lot of power sources and there is no odor related to the grows. Court cases have increased – and the DCSO are experiencing good rulings and case law. Court cases consume a lot of the detective's time.

Captain Ty Rupert provided an update on the new leadership for the DCSO including a priority on fiscal responsibility. The DCSO is looking to cut back on wasteful spending and be more budget mindful. If the DCSO does receive funds they will set up a spreadsheet to track and be accountable for how the funds were spent.

IV. CAP discussion and determination for budget recommendations

Liz recapped that the CAP has about \$189,000 for recommended allocations. Jen mentioned that the number may change when the County gets more accurate funding numbers from the state. The CAP

agreed that they will make allocation recommendations and Jen can adjust based off of funding percentages once the more accurate revenue numbers are forecasted. There was \$235,000 total in request for FY 26 funding. Liz refreshed the CAP on FY 25 allocations:

- DCSO - \$100,000
- CDD - \$20,000
- Health Services - \$60,000
- Community Justice - \$5,811

Hunter brought up the issue that sales have been noticeably down this year and that the CAP should allocate funds at a lower amount than recommended. The CAP settled on using a total estimated tax revenue of \$175,000.

The DCSO started off the budget discussion by requesting to decrease their ask down to \$90,000. Hunter asked what the most effective funding would be. Andrew proposed the following:

- DCSO - \$90,000
- CDD - \$20,000
- Health Services - \$40,000
- Community Justice - \$15,000

Hunter said CDD has the biggest impact on the goals of the CAP. Liz brought up HS's request, stating that the funding for last year went towards PSAs and she liked their proposal to update the materials. Liz supports the \$30,000 for the materials but feels like the \$30,000 to update the PSAs seems like a lot of money to put toward updating existing ads. Mary proposes \$40,000 for HS in total.

Hunter asks the group what is the purpose of the CAP? Hunter states the most effective use of the funds is to support water resources and code enforcement.

Gary thinks Measure 110 money should be paying for Health Services and Community Justice programs but they are not. Hunter agrees and thinks more money should be going toward CDD.

Liz suggests offered to send an email (with Jen's review & approval) to the County Commissioners requesting Oregon's legislature to consider directing some of the funds from Measure 110 to prevention of youth substance use.

Hunter talked about the history of the tax funding intended to be put toward schools and rehabilitation funds and that has never happened.

Liz made a motion proposing the following in recommended allocations:

- DCSO - \$95,000
- CDD - \$20,000
- Health Services - \$45,000
- Community Justice - \$15,000

Mary Fleischman seconded the motion; the motion was passed unanimously. Dustin Miller abstained from voting.

V. Public Comments

No public comments

VI. Next Steps

Next meeting topics will include

VII. Wrap up and Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. The Advisory Panel agreed that the next meeting would be held on Monday, April 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom only.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager,
Deschutes County Administrative Services