



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

# BOCC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 AM

**WEDNESDAY March 22, 2023**

Barnes Sawyer Rooms  
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Anthony DeBone, Patti Adair and Phil Chang. Also present were Nick Lelack, County Administrator; Kim Riley, Assistant County Counsel; and Angie Powers, Board Administrative Assistant.

This meeting was audio and video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal website [www.deschutes.org/meetings](http://www.deschutes.org/meetings).

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair DeBone called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **CITIZEN INPUT:**

- Commissioner Adair acknowledged that voters passed the formation of the Terrebonne Sanitary District, by a vote of 24 to 16, out of 154 ballots. She acknowledged former Deschutes County Administrator, Tom Anderson and current Road Department Director, Chris Doty, for their work towards this end. The capacity of the wastewater plant in Redmond will be increased. Commissioner Chang added that this will protect groundwater below Terrebonne, and will allow the community of Terrebonne to grow and to redevelop the downtown corridor.

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

Commissioner DeBone asked for clarification on Consent Agenda item #2. Dan Emerson,

Budget Manager, was present via Zoom and confirmed that the position would be funded in the amount of \$26,000 with ARPA funds. This position will help with DSL land and other projects.

ADAIR: Move approval of Consent Agenda

CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

1. Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Walla Walla County
2. Consideration of Resolution No. 2023-014 to extend 1.0 limited duration Health Services FTE within the FY 2022-2023 Deschutes County Budget
3. Consideration of Board Signature on letters reappointing Bill Anderson and David Pilz to the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council.
4. Approval of the minutes of the March 3 and 10, 2023 BOCC Legislative meeting
5. Approval of the minutes of the February 22 and 27, and March 1 and 6 BOCC meetings

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#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

#### **6. Recognition of staff and presentation of the Triple Crown Designation from the Government Finance Officers Association**

Robert Tintle, Chief Financial Officer, recognized Finance staff for receiving Triple Crown designation from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for FY 2021. Jana Cain, Accounting Manager; Dan Emerson, Budget Manager (via Zoom); and Camilla Sparks, Budget Analyst, were in attendance representing Finance. Casey Hardin, Accountant, was acknowledged for her work but not present.

The County received all three GFOA awards: the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, the Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award, and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. This is the third consecutive year the County has received the Triple Crown designation from the GFOA. Mr. Tintle explained that each of these documents show transparency, accountability

and help to relay the financial position of the County. Ms. Cain expressed gratitude to the County for providing resources for these documents to be created, stating that it is an important investment. Fewer than 200 counties in the country receive Triple Crown distinction. The Popular Annual Financial Award is easily digestible for the public. Erik Breon, Public Information Officer, took a photo of the Board and Finance staff for posting to social media.

**7. Resolution authorizing participation in the 2023-2025 Oregon Community Dispute Resolution Grant Program**

Stephanie Robinson, Administrative Analyst, recognized receipt of a letter from the University of Oregon's School of Law, inviting the County to participate in the 2023-2025 Oregon Community Dispute Resolution Program (CDRP) Grant Funds selection process. This process is done every two years, and the funds go towards mediation services for community members.

Responding to Commissioner Chang, Ms. Robinson shared that Community Solutions was the only eligible institution in our area over the last grant cycle. The Board expressed overwhelming support.

CHANG: Move approval of Resolution No. 2023-016, authorizing participation in the 2023-2025 Oregon Community Dispute Resolution Grant Program.

ADAIR: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

ADAIR: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

**8. Consideration of ARPA funding to support the Homeless Outreach Services Team**

Holly Harris, Health Services Deputy Director, requested Board approval to increase ARPA Funds to fund 3.0 FTE through June 2026 for County-wide homeless outreach services. Dan Emerson, Budget Manager, was also in attendance. December 2021, the Board approved \$1 million towards this goal. Ms. Harris requests to convert the limited-duration positions to regular, and to increase the ARPA funding. Responding to Commissioner Adair, Cheryl Smallman, Health Services Business Officer, clarified a date provided in the agenda packet.

Commissioner Adair thanked Ms. Harris for the detailed reports, adding that this is very important work and they are doing a wonderful job. Commissioner Chang thanked Ms. Harris for the summary data, and acknowledged the important role

these staff play in our community. He read a direct quote from a client being supported by ARPA staff, adding that these services are having a major impact in our community. Commissioner DeBone questioned what the big picture was and how these efforts are being coordinated, and would like the DSL land swap to be completed.

ADAIR: Move approval to extend and increase American Rescue Plan Act Funds to fund 3.0 FTE through June 2026 for Countywide Homeless Outreach Services

CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

Mr. Emerson said that a resolution is required to convert the three positions from limited duration to regular, and this resolution will appear on a future agenda.

**9. Resolution converting 1.0 FTE Behavioral Health Specialist II and 1.0 FTE Peer Support Specialist positions from limited duration to regular**

Holly Harris, Health Services Deputy Director and Adam Goggins, Behavioral Health Program Manager, were in attendance. Ms. Harris shared that this is part of a contract with the Bend Police Department, and the co-responder program model is not going to work the same way it used to. The County has been one of the major grantees for SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services). There is a continuum of crisis response, and the trend is to respond to many behavioral health responses without law enforcement, acknowledging that they will continue to be a crucial partner.

Mr. Goggins said that critical support is offered by Peer Supports and Case Managers at the Navigation Center. Getting willing individuals connected to long-term services is an important role. Ms. Harris hopes for additional funding from Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Commissioner DeBone shared that the 5-year analysis shows some budgetary ebb and flow, and having alternate funding sources is important. Commissioner Chang commented that once these positions are converted to regular, if the bottom falls out of the program, it is important to retain these employees with specialized behavioral health skills.

CHANG: Move approval of Resolution No. 2023-015 to convert 2.0 limited duration FTEs to regular FTE positions within the Health Services Fund.



ADAIR: Second

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

**10. Grant from the City of Bend and addition of a Behavioral Health Specialist I to be located at the Navigation Center**

Holly Harris, Health Services Deputy Director; Kara Cronin, Behavioral Health Program Manager; and Amy Fraley, City of Bend, were in attendance. This is a partnership with the City of Bend to train and provide a dedicated position at the Navigation Center. This is a limited-duration position, but will likely be a long-term partnership with the City of Bend.

Commissioner Adair spoke to the importance of the Navigation Center working towards their Good Neighbor Agreement with neighboring businesses. Ms. Fraley shared that there is no overnight camping allowed within 500 feet of the center. Responding to Commissioner DeBone, Ms. Fraley said that an Oregon Housing and Community Services Grant provides the funding towards this position. Commissioner Chang feels that cities should be providing places for people to live and counties, as the region's health authority, should be providing wrap-around services for this city-county relationship. Ms. Fraley provided a copy of Navigation Center reports to the Board.

ADAIR: Move approval of Board Signature of Document No. 2023-143, accepting a grant from the City of Bend in the amount of \$405,000 over three years.

CHANG: Second

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

CHANG: Move approval of Resolution No. 2023-013, increasing FTE within the Health Services Fund and the 2022-23 Deschutes County Budget

ADAIR: Second

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

**11. Grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation for an awareness campaign to address impaired driving**

Jessica Jacks, Health Services Program Manager, asked for Board approval to accept an ODOT grant. This partnership is to address adolescent impaired driving. Oregon has experienced an increase in car crashes and loss of life in the age range of 15-20 years, experiencing a 100% increase between 2019 and 2021. This campaign focuses on parent conversations as the most critical factor in discouraging substance use/abuse behaviors in adolescents. Marijuana tax revenues will work in concert with this grant funding to increase awareness in the community.

Commissioner Chang commended Ms. Jacks for presenting at the last Cannabis Advisory Panel on ways to discourage substance use in the community. There were youth in attendance, who shared personal stories about ways in which youth navigate choices related to substance use and abuse. He believes these are dollars well spent. Commissioners DeBone and Adair thanked Ms. Jacks for being a voice towards this issue as it relates to youth. Commissioners Adair and Chang believe the County should be spending more funds towards these prevention programs.

ADAIR: Move approval of Chair Signature of Document No. 2013-186, accepting a grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation.

CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

**12. Amendment to the contract with St. Charles for psychiatric emergency services**

Holly Harris, Health Services Deputy Director and Adam Goggins, Behavioral Health Program Manager, were in attendance to speak on this agenda item. This amendment extends the termination date for six months, from December 2022 to June 2023. They are currently working towards the next long-term agreement, but this six month buffer is critical. Some very complex issues need to be worked through with OHA. Ms. Riley reported that the Master Services Agreement goes through December 2025. Legal Counsel is working with St. Charles on the next Master Agreement, clarifying that it is separate from the funding agreement.

CHANG: Move approval of Board Signature of Document No. 2023-090, amending the contract with St. Charles for psychiatric emergency services.

ADAIR: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

ADAIR: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

### **13. Safe Parking Program Update**

Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator and Cheyenne Purrington, Executive Director Coordinated Houseless Response Office (via Zoom), spoke about this agenda item. Safe Parking programs are an important tool to help transition individuals out of homelessness. Deschutes County has a site in Redmond, managed by Mountain View Community Development. A team of staff was assembled to do preliminary research on establishing additional Safe Parking sites in unincorporated areas of the County. Oregon land use laws make Safe Parking more restrictive in counties than cities. Rick Russell, Mountain View Community Development, presented at Monday's meeting. Mr. Russell suggested having certain standards, such as no camping within 500 feet of Safe Parking sites. Staff will come back to the Board in April with a Proposed Draft Program. At that time, additional public input will be prudent. Mr. Kropp asked the Board for priority items.

Commissioner Adair asked about the status of a response to the Board's letter, from the Governor's Office. No response has yet been received.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Peter Gutowsky, CDD Director, estimated the City of Bend to have approximately 1,000 acres in an "urban holding zone", in unincorporated areas within the UGB but outside of city limits. Redmond's figure would be smaller. It is open to discussion, as to whom has jurisdiction. Unincorporated communities relevant to this discussion include: Sunriver, Tumalo, Terrebonne, and Rural Service Centers or "pockets" like Alfalfa and Millican. Commissioner Chang said that some minor tweaks to existing legislation (HB 2006) could potentially allow this kind of use in the unincorporated County.

Commissioner DeBone reported that there are many churches in rural areas, and perhaps there is room for discussion about siting Safe Parking sites at church parking lot sites. Nick Lelack, County Administrator, shared that state agencies are being asked about potential sheltering areas. In 2020-21, the Department of Land Conservation and Development adopted rules for sheltering outside of UGB to provide multiple governments to allow for sheltering in areas in response to

wildfire evacuation and loss of homes. This could be tweaked from a natural resource emergency (wildfires) to a housing emergency. Rep. Kropp was one of the main sponsors for HB 2006, and Rep. Levy sits on the Housing Committee, and they may be valuable resources. There was unified direction from the Board to approach Rep. Kropp and Rep. Levy, regarding modification to HB 2006 to allow siting in unincorporated areas.

The Board directed staff to draft a letter to the legislature with the concepts and scenarios relevant to HB 2006. It will be discussed during Friday morning's weekly Legislative Update. Once the letter is agreed upon, it will go to the County's legislative delegation.

Responding to Commissioner DeBone, Mr. Gutowsky shared that counties across the state are having similar conversations, in varying degrees of intensity. He didn't have specific case studies to share, in regards to whether other counties are doing similar research.

Commissioner Chang shared that there are eight other counties with Coordinated / Joint Houseless Response Offices, and if we were to survey these counties we could learn how far along they are with planning and implementation.

Cheyenne Purrington, Houseless Strategies and Solutions, shared that the letter from the Board to the Governor was shared with LOC and AOC, and with the other HB 4123 pilot cohort. The HB 4123 cohort was interested in Deschutes County taking a leadership role.

#### **OTHER ITEMS:**

- Commissioner Adair will be touring with Helping Hands in Portland on Thursday, weather permitting.
- Mr. Lelack and Mr. Gutowsky asked for direction on the Planning Commission recruitment process. There will be two additional vacancies effective July 1, 2023, a Tumalo area and an at-large vacancy. Some discussion took place, and it was determined that the interview process would begin with the Tumalo area vacancy, so that those who are not selected are able to pursue the at-large vacancy. Commissioners DeBone, Chang and Adair all expressed interest in participating in the interview process. Commissioners will send Mr. Gutowsky their top 4 or 5 candidates to move forward with interviews. Interviews will be held individually one-on-one, as opposed to publicly with the Board of three with each candidate.
- Commissioner Adair attended the COBA (Central Oregon Builders Association) meeting at Tetherow this week. Room tax revenue has gone



down for the past three months, and a topic of conversation was marketing for Mt. Bachelor. She added that the concert business in our County has increased drastically.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 10:42 a.m., the Board went into Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2) (e) Real Property Negotiations; ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations; and ORS 192.660 (2) (i) Employee Evaluation.

**ADJOURN:**

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

DATED this 5<sup>th</sup> Day of April 2023 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.

  
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**ANTHONY DEBONE, CHAIR**

  
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**PATTI ADAIR, VICE CHAIR**

  
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**PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**RECORDING SECRETARY**