



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

DESCHUTES COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION UPDATE

7:30 AM

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025

ZOOM MEETING

A legislative work session was held on Friday, March 21, 2025 at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform.

Deschutes County Attendance:			
x	Commissioner Anthony DeBone, Chair		Nick Lelack, County Administrator
x	Commissioner Patti Adair, Vice Chair	x	Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator
x	Commissioner Phil Chang		Whitney Hale, Deputy County Administrator
	Kristie Bollinger, Property Manager		Tim Brownell, Director Solid Waste
x	Sara Crosswhite, Director 9-1-1		Steve Dennison, County Clerk
x	Chris Doty, Director Road Department		David Doyle, Legal Counsel
	Charles Fadeley, Justice of the Peace		Janice Garceau, Director Health Services
x	Stephen Gunnels, District Attorney	x	Peter Gutowsky, Director Community Development
x	Holly Harris, Director Behavioral Health		Geoff Hinds, Director Fair & Expo
x	Deevy Holcomb, Director Community Justice	x	Heather Kaisner, Director Public Health
	Sean Kirk, Manager Veteran's Services		Bill Kuhn, Treasurer
x	Tom Kuhn, Public Health Program Manager		Scot Langton, Assessor
	Tania Mahood, Director Information Technology	x	Kevin Moriarty, Forester
x	Elizabeth Pape, Internal Auditor	x	Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager

x	Angie Powers, BOCC Administrative Assistant	x	Lee Randall, Director Facilities
x	Kim Riley, Senior Assistant Legal Counsel	x	Robert Tittle, Chief Financial Officer
	Kent van der Kamp, Sheriff		Aaron Wells, Undersheriff
	Heather Herauf, Procurement Manager		Daniel Kieffer, Budget & Financial Planning Analyst
	Cody Smith, Assistant Director Road Department	x	Brenda Fritsvold, BOCC Executive Assistant
Others Present:			
x	Doug Riggs, Director NW Policy Advocates		Corey Barber, Outreach Director NW Policy Advocates
	Emma Innes, Associate NW Policy Advocates		
Legislators Present:			
x	Representative Jason Kropf	x	Representative E. Werner Reschke
x	Senator Diane Linthicum	x	Senator Mike McLane
x	Reagan Knopp, Chief of Staff for Representative Vikki Breese-Iverson		

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair DeBone called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

2. Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Adair mentioned **HB 3166**, the rank choice voting bill. This topic was not approved by voters in previous sessions but is back in the legislature for reconsideration.

Commissioner Chang reported that the Deschutes water bank bill has formally been introduced. He did not provide a bill number.

Commissioner DeBone joined the **HB 3556** hearing yesterday but did not get the opportunity to testify. This week, the Board submitted a letter for the record. This bill relates to using a portion of Transient Room Tax for public safety services and community infrastructure.

3. Updates and Briefing from Legislators

Representative E. Werner Reschke reported that today is work session posting deadline. From a revenue perspective, he will be watching for bills that come to Revenue because they have an impact on revenue. To-date, his work has been preparatory, but the heavy lifting is yet to come.

Commissioner Adair reported that the Board of Commissioners approved a request by the Terrebonne Sanitary District on Wednesday. Rep. Reschke noted that sanitation and drinking water issues are a hot topic, with many issues related to aging infrastructure.

Senator Mike McLane provided a summary of the committees on which he serves, noting that Deschutes County has good representation.

Doug Riggs reported that there will not be a biennial Ways and Means Committee Road Show in Deschutes County, but there will be one on April 4th at the elementary school on Warm Springs Reservation and one in Klamath Falls on April 25th. These are opportunities for individuals to ask questions.

Responding to Commissioner Adair, Sen. McLane said that the \$800 million waterfront baseball stadium in Portland proposal does have life, and proponents have made a compelling argument for the project. He spoke briefly about debt service for the \$800 million bond.

Reagan Knopp, Chief of Staff for Representative for Rep. Breese-Iverson, is tracking **HB 3166** which deals with switching us to an open primary. It is currently in the House Rules committee. He summarized Rep. Breese-Iverson's priorities. **HB 3846** would allow Oregon Department of Forestry to enter into an agreement with the Federal government to manage the Ochoco National Forest, as a pilot project. The goal is to start a bipartisan conversation about the state gaining more control over national forest lands.

Another key priority for Rep. Breese-Iverson is **HJM (House Joint Memorial) 14** which relates to all federal lands. Knopp added that 53% of Oregon's lands are owned, operated and managed by the federal government. **HJM 11** relates to improvements on federal wildfire management practices. Juniper removal and rural Emergency Medical Services (EMS) modernization (**HB 3572**) are additional priorities.

Senator Diane Linthicum summarized the committees on which she serves. **SB 916** relates to paying union workers while on strike. They put up a good fight in opposition to this bill, but it did pass. She attended a COCO event at the Capitol. She met the Mayor of La Pine and had conversations with her and others from Redmond about water storage. She looks forward to the list of bills being narrowed down.

Representative Jason Kropf noted the fast-approaching bill posting deadline. Allocations for deflection programs were summarized as it relates to public safety.

4. County Priorities

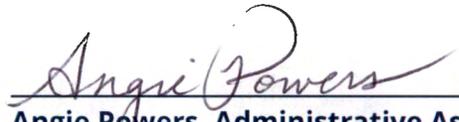
5. Closing Comments

Riggs thanked legislators for attending today's meeting.

Next Meeting: The next virtual legislative update meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 28 at 8:00 a.m.

Adjourn: Chair DeBone adjourned the meeting at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Angie Powers, Administrative Assistant