



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

BOCC MEETING MINUTES

1:00 PM

MONDAY April 3, 2023

Allen Room
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Anthony DeBone, Patti Adair and Phil Chang (via Zoom). Also present were Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator; Whitney Hale, Deputy 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 1:00 p.m.

CITIZEN INPUT:

- Toby Bayard objected that the public cannot speak to items listed on the Board's current meeting agenda and asked how to share her input with the Commissioners.

Commissioner DeBone said the Commissioners serve full-time and are available to speak to members of the public outside of the Board's work meetings on any topic. Commissioner Adair added that the public hearing on the item referenced by Ms. Bayard is this Wednesday.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1. Work Session: Preparation for Public Hearing for a Plan Amendment and Zone Change to approximately 93 acres located east of Bend between Neff Road and Highway 20**

Nathaniel Miller, Associate Planner, described the request for a Comprehensive Plan amendment and associated rezone for approximately 93 acres between Neff Road and Highway 20 east of Bend. The applicant seeks a Comprehensive Plan designation change from Agricultural to Rural Residential Exception Area, and a corresponding zone change from Exclusive Farm Use to Multiple Use Agricultural. Miller reviewed comments received at the public hearing held before the Hearings Officer on November 15, 2022, after which the Hearings Officer issued a recommendation of approval for the proposed Plan amendment and Zone change.

The Board was in consensus to allow the applicant ten minutes to speak and other persons three minutes.

Commissioner Chang inquired about water rights and whether these properties have any history of farming or other agricultural use. Miller confirmed that no water rights exist and no information in the record indicates past farming.

Responding to Commissioner Chang, Miller said all of the previous comments submitted are available on the application's webpage. Deputy County Administrator Erik Kropp asked that the written comments from Toby Bayard also be included in the record.

2. Work Session on 4 Peaks Music Festival 2024 Outdoor Mass Gathering Permit

Rachel Vickers, Associate Planner, summarized that the applicant seeks a permit for an outdoor mass gathering in June of 2024 for a music festival with up to 2,000 attendees on property approximately 150 acres in size. As part of its application, the applicant has requested a waiver from the requirement to have an ambulance on site—that waiver request is supported by the Bend Fire Department. Vickers noted that no public comments have yet been received on this request; the required public hearing is scheduled for this Wednesday.

Deputy County Administrator Erik Kropp added that in previous years during COVID, this event had fewer than 500 attendees and was permitted administratively.

The Board indicated public hearing time limits as follows: 20 minutes for a presentation from the applicant; three minutes for each person wanting to comment; and five minutes for applicant rebuttal if needed.

Commissioner Chang asked about the history of the size of this event. Vickers said she will include that information in her staff report on Wednesday.

3. Use of Opioid Settlement Funds

Janice Garceau, Health Services Director, introduced the recommended use of an estimated \$6.7 million in opioid settlement funds which Deschutes County is expected to receive over the next 17 years as part of the national settlement agreements. Health Services proposes these funds be used in the following ways: 1) to add capacity and expand existing efforts by implementing targeted expert Opioid Use Disorder prevention services; 2) to increase coordination of surveillance and overdose prevention and harm reduction efforts; and 3) to sustain existing interventions.

Garceau reported the number of overdose deaths in Central Oregon, which increased by 85% from 2018 to 2021, and on the number of emergency department visits for opioid overdoses according to age group. She shared current strategies to address these problems, including the distribution and use of Naloxone, efforts to lower problem opioid prescriptions, and the County's Stabilization Center which offers services to persons with substance use disorders or who are experiencing mental health crises.

Garceau described focused strategies to discourage or prevent the misuse of opioids, particularly by adolescents and youth up to age 24. Other strategies are proposed to prevent or reduce overdose deaths or other opioid-related harms such as suicide, and to connect persons needing treatment to services that help them stabilize and improve their quality of life. Garceau relayed the work being done in the region by other partners including Central Oregon Prevention and Response and how these efforts coordinate with the County's relevant public health and behavioral health programs.

Heather Kaisner, Public Health Director, said the close coordination with other agencies and local partners to determine where overdoses are happening allows the quick distribution of information via health alerts and media releases to targeted areas when appropriate. Garceau added that as part of its harm reduction efforts, Health Services is managing to reach people who do not report overdoses to either the emergency department or law enforcement.

Cheryl Smallman, Health Services Business Officer, reviewed a proposed distribution by fiscal year of the opioid settlement amounts estimated to be received by Deschutes County from 2024 to 2039. The recommended expenditures will fund indirect expenses along with certain direct expenses to include program supplies and equipment, staff, and operations at the Stabilization Center.

Commissioner DeBone wanted to see input and involvement invited from those in the public safety realm such as the DCSO, the District Attorney's Office and the Public Safety Coordinating Council. He asked how the County can empower action in addition to offering services.

Commissioner Adair inquired about the success rate of referrals to detoxification treatment. Garceau confirmed that DCHS tracks the success of referrals to providers who treat substance use disorders in terms of which persons make appointments and keep them. Garceau added that no one can be forced into treatment, and because many attempts at detox or withdrawal fail, repeated relapses are not uncommon.

Commissioner Chang supported investing the settlement funds in approaches that are proven to work. While he was open to other ideas and supportive of bringing this subject to the Public Safety Coordinating Council, he said all options should be viewed through an evidence-based lens. He offered NaCO as a resource for analysis, strategies and policy papers on the opioid crisis and related issues.

OTHER ITEMS:

- Commissioner DeBone said at the City of Bend's request, he and Sisters Mayor Michael Preedin together signed a letter to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means objecting to the proposal to not offer a public hearing in Central Oregon as it considers the state budget.
- Commissioner Adair announced she will testify later today on HB 3052, which would establish a state task force on elk and deer damage compensation.
- Commissioner Chang reported he was currently in Salem having discussions about the drought package as well as on HB 3126 which would create child psychiatric emergency service centers across the state.


EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

At 2:42 p.m., the Board recessed into Executive Session regarding ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations. At 3:20 p.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 3:20 p.m.

DATED this 11th Day of May 2023 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.


ANTHONY DEBONE, CHAIR

ATTEST:


PATTI ADAIR, VICE CHAIR


RECORDING SECRETARY


PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER