



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

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# DESCHUTES COUNTY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

8:00 AM

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

A virtual legislative update meeting was held on Friday, June 23, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. via the Zoom meeting platform to discuss matters pertaining to the 2023 Legislative Session.

### Deschutes County Attendance:

x	Commissioner Anthony DeBone	x	Nick Lelack, County Administrator
	Commissioner Patti Adair	x	Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator
x	Commissioner Phil Chang		Whitney Hale, Deputy County Administrator
x	Dave Doyle, Legal Counsel	x	Kim Riley, Assistant Legal Counsel
	David Givans, Internal Auditor		Robert Tintle, Chief Financial Officer
x	Chris Doty, Road Department Director	x	Janice Garceau, Health Services Director
	Kristie Bollinger, Property Manager		Stephen Gunnels, District Attorney
x	Peter Gutowsky, Community Development Director		Kathleen Hinman, Human Resources Director
	Keith MacNamara, Veterans' Services Manager	x	Deevy Holcomb, Community Justice Director
x	Lee Randall, Facilities Director	x	Kevin Moriarty, Forester
	Chad Centola, Solid Waste Director		Tim Brownell, Incoming Solid Waste Director
	Shane Nelson, Sheriff	x	Sara Crosswhite, 9-1-1 Director
	Steve Dennison, Clerk		Heather Kaisner, Health Services Deputy Director (Public Health)
	Geoff Hinds, Fair & Expo Director		Scot Langton, Assessor
	Charles Fadeley, Justice of the Peace	x	Tania Mahood, IT Director
	Holly Harris, Health Services Deputy Director (Behavioral Health)		Will Groves, Planning Manager

x	Tom Kuhn, Public Health Program Manager		Bill Kuhn, Treasurer
x	Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager	x	Angie Powers, BOCC Administrative Assistant
<b>Others Present:</b>			
x	Doug Riggs, NW Policy Advocates President		

## 1. Introductions

Commissioner DeBone called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

## 2. Updates from NW Policy Advocates

Doug Riggs shared some highlights from the week. He estimates the legislature to be 36 to 48 hours away from completion, and should be out by Sunday at the latest, with approximately 60 bills remaining to get through. They hope to get through the session and avoid a special session into July. Budget bills will be held until the end of session.

The big news this week is that Deschutes County received a \$15 million general fund allocation for the courthouse expansion project, adding that many public projects for cities and counties around the state were not funded. Those which were funded were typically cut by 50% but our request was cut by 40%, from \$25 million to \$15 million.

There has been less transparency in the Ways and Means process this year as compared to previous years. Little justification has been given about the decisions being made. The Christmas Tree Bill includes a \$15 million behavioral health package for workforce and infrastructure. Public health funding was not restored to the level we were hoping for.

Doug added that our region's delegation worked very well together this year to represent the County, and these efforts have paid off. The Deschutes River Conservancy received two separate allocations out of the drought package, the juniper management projects were partially funded and Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council also received some funding out of this package.

Responding to Nick, Doug spoke briefly about the Christmas Tree Bill funding. Some stability towards homelessness funding and stabilization centers are included. Housing will continue to be a priority. The Ways and Means decision-making process this session doesn't seem to have a central theme. One big surprise was that some cities got nothing for housing infrastructure funding. Doug will send an update with links related to the Christmas Tree Bill. The Christmas Tree Bills are in five different

bills and not particularly well-organized. Courthouse funding can be found in three different places in four different bills. Our courthouse funding comes from the general fund as opposed to construction bonds.

### **3. Department Updates on Priority Bills**

Jen Patterson reported nothing new on the bill report for this week.

### **4. Other Items**

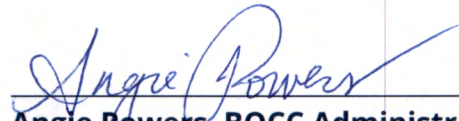
- Commissioner DeBone thanked Doug Riggs for his representation.

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**Next Meeting:** The next legislative update meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 30, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.

**Adjourn:** Commissioner DeBone adjourned the meeting at 8:13 a.m.

*Respectfully Submitted by:*

  
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**Angie Powers, BOCC Administrative Assistant**