



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

BOCC MEETING MINUTES

1:00 PM

MONDAY November 18, 2024

Allen Room
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Patti Adair, Anthony DeBone and Phil Chang. Also present were County Administrator Nick Lelack; Deputy County Administrator Whitney Hale; Deputy County Administrator Erik Kropp; Senior Assistant Legal Counsel Kim Riley; and BOCC Executive Assistant Brenda Fritsvold.

This meeting was audio and video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal webpage www.deschutes.org/meetings.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Adair called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm

CITIZEN INPUT: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Before the Board was consideration of the Consent Agenda.

Convening as the Governing Body for OSU-4-H Extension District

1. Approval of amended bylaws for OSU Deschutes County Extension Advisory Council

Reconvening as the Governing Body of Deschutes County

2. Approval of an agreement with Jackson House Redmond SRTF for a Secured Residential Treatment Facility in Redmond

3. Approval of a permanent utility easement to the City of Bend east of NW Wall Street and south of NW Olney Avenue
4. Authorization to add 2.00 regular duration FTE within the Health Services department to transition telehealth providers to in-person providers
5. Approval of a Cybersecurity Plan for the County
6. Consideration of Board Signature on letter appointing Aaron Everett for service on the Project Wildfire Steering Committee
7. Consideration of Board Signature on letter reappointing Jim Fister for service on the Deschutes County Budget Committees
8. Approval of the minutes of the BOCC October 14, 2024 meeting

Commissioner DeBone asked about the proposed changes to the bylaws for the OSU 4-H Extension district. Senior Assistant Legal Counsel Kim Riley confirmed that the proposal is to have five board members on the advisory council instead of four.

Commissioner DeBone questioned the appropriate disposition of any assets belonging to the district, should it dissolve. Noting that the advisory council exists to support the extension, Commissioner Chang was comfortable with any assets reverting to the extension if the district should ever dissolve.

In response to Commissioner DeBone, Riley said the requirements relating to the agreement with Jackson House for a Secured Residential Treatment Facility in Redmond would be in place until 2044 due to a stipulation of receiving the grant funds. Should the facility cease operations before then, Jackson House would have to repay the grant funds at the prorated amount of \$100,000 for every year the facility falls short of 20 years.

Responding to Commissioner Adair, Behavioral Health Director Holly Harris said the County has had just 16 residential treatment beds for more than 20 years, and the new facility is badly needed. Harris added that the Jackson House SRTF is structured to be a self-sustaining model as it will be primarily rate-funded.

Commissioner Adair extended thanks to Jim Fister for his past and continuing service on the Budget Committee.

DEBONE: Move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented
CHANG: Second

10. Consideration of Document No. 2024-888, an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Bend and Deschutes County to fund housing-focused case management at the Temporary Safe Stay Area (TSSA)

Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator, summarized the background of this proposal and said under the intergovernmental agreement, both Deschutes County and the City of Bend would allocate \$400,000 for a total of \$800,000 to fund the provision of supportive case management services to homeless persons in the Juniper Ridge area.

Amy Fraley, City of Bend Senior Program Manager, referred to a presentation recently made to the Bend City Council on this proposal.

Commissioner Chang said while he was excited to be moving ahead with this initiative, he was concerned about finding service providers who are ready and able to do this work.

Fraley said the City is already soliciting providers and thus far, two have applied. NeighborImpact will monitor the services being provided and report results to the County and City.

Commissioner DeBone wanted monthly in-person reports.

Fraley assured that the provision of metrics will be part of the contracts with the selected service providers.

Commissioner Adair said four touches are needed per week with each homeless person to facilitate progress. Fraley confirmed this is what the budget assumes. Fraley added the budget also assumes the presence of 260 people in this area.

Commissioner DeBone cautioned that the population of homeless persons in Juniper Ridge may grow instead of decrease. In addition to wanting metrics every two weeks, he also wanted to disallow camping east of the tracks. He said any person living in this area who has dogs needs to register and vaccinate them.

Fraley said the program is for housing-focused case management, but staff can look into providing support to register and vaccinate dogs. She said factual data in terms of hard numbers will be provided every month, with anecdotal information every two weeks.

Commissioner Adair referred to another fire in this area recently. Kropp said this occurred on property owned by the County, which is working with BioSolutions to address it.

Discussion ensued of the availability of permanent housing for formerly houseless persons.

CHANG: Move approval of Document No. 2024-888, an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Bend and Deschutes County to fund housing-focused case management at the Temporary Safe Stay Area

DEBONE: Second

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

11. Greater Sage-Grouse – 2024 Mapping Update

Nicole Mardell, Senior Planner, presented information on an upcoming hearing before the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) on new habitat maps for the Greater Sage-Grouse species. Mardell shared background information on this subject, saying that this species was identified as a candidate for the Endangered Species Act in 2010 and explaining that pertinent regulations adopted by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) in 2023 have not yet been applied to any properties because these have yet to be integrated into Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR). Once adopted into OAR, land use requirements would officially apply to all affected areas as defined by the new map boundaries.

Mardell then shared the proposed new map for Deschutes County, noting the removal of the Millican Service District area from the map. In addition, 70 tax lots are remapped from Low Density to Core Habitat, 32 tax lots are remapped from Core to Low Density, and the General Habitat Area is removed. Saying that the County will send a Measure 56 notice to all impacted property owners the first week of December, Mardell advised that the Board hold a hearing on this subject in February of 2025 following the DLCD hearing on January 23rd.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Mardell said the Bureau of Land Management has its own sage grouse habitat process regarding restrictions on federal land which is not subject to OAR.

Commissioner Chang advised that the Measure 56 notices sent by the County include clear information on which properties are being removed, which are being left within the habitat boundary, and which are being added to the habitat boundary. He said this information should be shared with all affected property owners.

Responding to Commissioner DeBone, Mardell spoke to DLCD's general statewide policy to not include rural commercial centers in this habitat boundary.

Commissioner DeBone noted that sometimes a disconnect exists between what people want to do with their land and what they are allowed to do with their land. He asked if the sage grouse population has stabilized. Mardell said this appears to be the case in Deschutes and Crook counties.

Stu Garrett, representing the East Cascades Birding Alliance, spoke to the population counts.

12. CDC Environmental Health Specialist Network Grant Application

Adrea Albin, Environmental Health Supervisor, explained the proposal to apply for an Environmental Health Specialists Network (EHS-Net) grant of up to \$200,000 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Environmental Health Science and Practice. Saying this would be used to study hygiene and sanitation in long-term care facilities, schools and daycares, Albin spoke to the impact of foodborne illnesses on highly susceptible populations including older adults, children, and people with suppressed immune systems.

Discussion ensued of recent outbreaks of foodborne illnesses and their causes. In response to questions, Albin said some of the funding would be used to train staff and to assess outbreaks and conduct interventions.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Albin confirmed that existing staff would conduct this work.

DEBONE: Move to authorize an application for an Environmental Health Specialist Network grant from the Centers for Disease Control to develop a model for public health educational and consultative intervention to address foodborne illness outbreaks in congregate settings of vulnerable populations

CHANG: Second

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

13. Treasury Report for October 2024

Bill Kuhn, County Treasurer, presented the Treasury Report for October 2024.

14. Finance Report for October 2024

Robert Tintle, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Finance Report for October 2024. With respect to Transient Room Tax (TRT) revenues, Tintle said private lodging reservations appear to be up, with commercial lodging down somewhat. Commissioner Adair added that some lodging rates have dropped.

Referring to the beginning fund balance of the Sheriff's Office budget, Commissioner Adair asked if having \$19 million will position this department in a much better spot. Tintle confirmed this, saying that it is essential to have four months' worth of the yearly budget in fund balance.

Continuing, Tintle noted two errors in the report and provided corrected numbers to lines in the Health Services Fund 274, the first of which is that due to updates to the administrative allocation, the total requirements projection should be \$3.7 million instead of -\$12.7 million. Also, the total fund balance is a positive projection of \$8.7 million rather than -\$15 million.

With regard to the Health Benefits Fund, Tintle noted that the Board approved recommendations from the Employee Benefits Advisory Committee which have the result of increasing the year's revenue projection to \$42.6 million. Tintle added that staff continues to anticipate the receipt of higher claims than were budgeted for, although the total fund balance at year-end is projected to be \$7.7 million.

OTHER ITEMS:

- Jen Patterson presented a draft letter to U.S. Representatives Bentz and Chavez-DeRemer supporting the reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools program.

DEBONE: Move approval of Board signature of the letter to U.S. Representatives Bentz and Chavez-DeRemer supporting the reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools program, as slightly edited to remove the reference to "almost \$200,000"

CHANG: Second

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

- Commissioner DeBONE reported his receipt of a jury duty notice for an upcoming two-week period.

- Commissioner Adair shared reports that a gate installed at Leona Park in La Pine needs to be moved as the park is closed for the winter but people are accessing it and littering.

Commissioner DeBone said this is an ongoing situation involving the unauthorized installation of a gate at the intersection. Explaining that a nearby resident is upset to live near a public park, he said it is up to the La Pine Parks & Recreation District Board to take official action in this matter.

- Commissioner Adair reported that BasX has expressed interest in pursuing a 27-employee project in Sisters in a building which has long been vacant.
- Commissioner Adair reported on last week's Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting, saying progress is being made on a 15-bed children's treatment facility.
- Commissioner Chang attended Best Care's open house of its new addiction treatment clinic last Thursday and said medication-assisted treatment is helping many people to take steps towards recovery.
- Commissioner Chang reported on the meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization's policy board at which the MPO boundary in the Tumalo area was discussed. He said at his suggestion, public outreach will be conducted to explain the purpose of the MPO, part of which is to enable access to federal funding for capital improvements.
- Commissioner Chang will attend a Regional Housing Council meeting tonight.
- Commissioner Adair reported on a Sunriver Chamber meeting last Thursday as well as a Central Oregon Health Council meeting, also last Thursday.
- Commissioner Adair reported on last week's COACT meeting at which Clear Alliance made a presentation.
- Commissioner DeBone reported on a recent COIC board meeting where it received the recommendations of the Citizen's Academy on youth homelessness.
- Commissioner DeBone commented on a Skilled Trades Fair at Fairground last Friday.
- Commissioner DeBone mentioned an Oregon Living With Fire meeting.
- Commissioner DeBone reported on last week's quarterly SEIC meeting, which he chaired.

A break was announced at 2:57 pm. The meeting resumed at 3:01 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 3:01 pm, the Board entered executive session under ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations and ORS 192.660 (2) (e) Real Property Negotiations.

At 3:36 pm, the executive session concluded and the public was invited to return to the room. The Board then directed staff to proceed as discussed during the executive session.

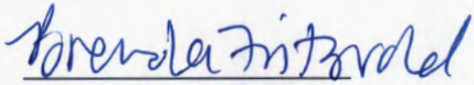
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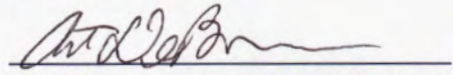
Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:36 pm.

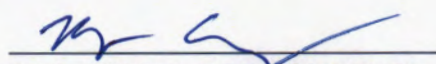
DATED this 8th day of January 2025 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.


PATTI ADAIR, CHAIR

ATTEST:


RECORDING SECRETARY


ANTHONY DEBONE, VICE CHAIR


PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER