



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

# BOCC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 AM

**WEDNESDAY June 25, 2025**

Barnes Sawyer Rooms  
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Anthony DeBone, Patti Adair and Phil Chang.  
Also present were County Administrator Nick Lelack; 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 website [www.deschutes.org/meetings](http://www.deschutes.org/meetings).

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

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### CITIZEN INPUT:

- Gage Thompson expressed concerns regarding the Four Rivers Vector Control District, questioning why more than one District Board member recently resigned and saying that the District appears to operate as a sovereign entity outside the jurisdiction of the County. He reported that the District no longer offers homeowners the ability to refuse having pesticide sprayed on their property.
- Paige Thompson said the Four Rivers Vector Control District had said it would not spray the Thompsons' property or the properties on either side of them, but the District then sprayed all three properties against their wishes.

Commissioner DeBone said property owners should have the opportunity to request that their property not be sprayed.

Commissioner Chang referred to the concerns of the BOCC about the governance of the District and hoped that with the recent appointments to its Board, the District will be more responsive to its constituents.

Commissioner DeBone confirmed that the BOCC will receive the required annual operational update from the District this fall.

Commissioner Adair advised that the Thompsons reach out to the three people recently appointed by the BOCC to the District Board to communicate their concerns.

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

1. Approval of the 2025-2027 STIF Formula Program Agreement with ODOT
2. Approval of an agreement designating COIC as the County's Subrecipient for the distribution of STIF funds
3. Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with Oregon Department of Human Services to provide Functional Family Therapy (FFT) for youth and families in Deschutes County
4. Approval of a lease with Mosaic Community Health for space at the Deschutes County Health Services Building located at 2577 NE Courtney Drive in Bend
5. Approval of a lease with Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council for use of office space and parking spaces at South County Services Building located at 51340 S. Highway 97 in La Pine
6. Approval of a lease with Vigilnet America LLC for use of space at the Adult Parole and Probation Building located at 63360 Britta Street in Bend
7. Approval of a lease with Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living for use of space at 236 NW Kingwood Avenue in Redmond
- 7.a. Approval of revisions to Policy F-4, Capital Asset Policy
- 7.b. Approval of a contract with CompuNet for Microsoft 365 Licensing renewal
8. Consideration of Board Signature on letter appointing Joe Bachtold for service on the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council Board of Directors
9. Consideration of Board Signature on letter appointing P. Todd Marron for service on the Deschutes River Recreation Homesites Special Road District #1

10. Approval of the minutes of the June 13, 2025 BOCC Legislative Update

Chair DeBone noted that the consent agenda contains item numbers 1 – 10 and added items 7.a. and 7.b.

With regard to the item that would approve the 2025-2027 STIF Formula Program Agreement with ODOT, Commissioner Chang noted his service on the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) and said he had recused himself from the OTC's decision to approve STIF awards knowing that Deschutes County would receive funding. Senior Assistant Legal Counsel Kim Riley confirmed that in view of his recusal when this matter came before the OTC, it would be reasonable for Commissioner Chang to participate in the Board's action on this matter; however, ultimately it is his decision on whether he believes he can proceed on this matter.

Referring to the leases presented for the Board's approval, Commissioner Adair said the County should have full awareness of the maintenance costs of properties it owns and be sure those costs are recovered as leases are negotiated. She reported that Mosaic Medical pays only for utilities for the space it is leasing from the County at the Courtney Building.

Nick Lelack, County Administrator, said Facilities will bring a full update on leases to the Board in July.

CHANG: Move Board approval of the Consent Agenda as presented

ADAIR: Second

VOTE:	ADAIR:	Yes
	CHANG:	Yes
	DEBONE:	Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

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Commissioner Adair reported the passage of HB 3135, which resulted in the allocation of \$5.2 million to remove juniper trees across the State. Saying that 21,000 properties in Deschutes County have been determined to be at high risk for wildfire and noting that removing junipers will help reduce wildfire risk, she thanked Representative Breese-Iverson for supporting this bill.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**11. Criminal Justice Commission Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant Application 2025 – 2027**

Danielle Martell, Management Analyst, shared that this grant application has already been submitted as the deadline was June 12th. If the application is successful, DCSO will return to the Board for authorization to accept the awarded funding.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Jessica Vanderpool, Senior Management Analyst, said the \$100,000 allocated to DCSO through the Cannabis Advisory Committee was appropriated for a specific position involving enforcement of illegal marijuana operations.

ADAIR: Move to authorize the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office and the Deschutes County District Attorney's Office to apply for a Criminal Justice Commission Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant for 2025 – 2027

CHANG: Second

VOTE:                      ADAIR:              Yes  
                                 CHANG:              Yes  
                                 DEBONE:            Chair votes yes. Motion Carried –3-0

## **12. Notice of Intent to Award a contract for Correctional Facility System Controls**

Captain Michael Shults explained that the Deschutes County Sheriff Office (DCSO) has budgeted \$400,000 to upgrade the adult jail's correctional facility system control panel. He described the scope of the project and said that following an RFP and the evaluation of four responsive proposals, Corrections Technology Group was deemed to be the top-ranking proposer.

Noting that the expansion of the jail was completed in 2013, Commissioner DeBone agreed that a new control system is needed at this time.

Commissioner Adair requested an updated analysis of the jail population as was done six or seven months ago which reported that 92% of those in the jail experience substance use or mental health issues.

CHANG: Move approval of Document No. 2025-605, a Notice of Intent to Award a contract for installation and ongoing maintenance of a correctional facility system control panel for the Deschutes County Adult Jail

ADAIR: Second

VOTE:                      ADAIR:              Yes  
                                 CHANG:              Yes  
                                 DEBONE:            Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

### **13. Presentation on Status of Greater Sage-Grouse in Deschutes County**

Nicole Mardell, Senior Planner, introduced Skyler Vold, Sage-Grouse Conservation Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Dr. Christian Hagen, Associate Professor / Senior Researcher from Oregon State University.

Vold and Dr. Hagen presented information culled from research on the status of Greater Sage-Grouse populations and habitat in Deschutes County and the effectiveness of the protections required by the State. The presentation focused on data collected over the last three years on sage grouse populations in the Brothers and Paulina areas, how that data was collected (by tracking individual birds via radio transmitters on collars or harnesses and by monitoring nests and broods), and information on population trends and possible factors in population declines, including fluctuating weather conditions and avian predator concentrations.

Dr. Hagen concluded that sage-grouse nests in the Brothers PAC are about 1.5 times more likely to survive than those in the Paulina PAC.

Discussion ensued of the County's evaluation of sites for a new landfill and the impacts that noise, traffic and raven populations can have on sage-grouse survival rates. Planning Manager Will Groves cautioned that because a site-specific land use application for the new landfill will likely come before the Board, it would be best to restrict discussion of this subject to the record if and when an application is submitted to avoid engaging in *ex parte* communication.

In response to Commissioner DeBone, Dr. Hagen confirmed that other predators of sage-grouse are coyotes and red fox, and possibly wolves.

### **14. Consideration of First and Second Reading and adoption by emergency of Ordinance No. 2025-008 regarding Clear and Objective Housing Text Amendments - Title 17 (Subdivisions)**

Tarik Rawlings, Senior Transportation Planner, presented Ordinance No. 2025-008 for adoption by emergency, reminding that a public hearing was held before the Board on May 28th.

ADAI: Move approval of first and second readings of Ordinance No. 2025-008 by title only

CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

Chair DeBone read the title of the ordinance into the record two times.

CHANG: Move approval of Ordinance No. 2025-008 amending Deschutes County Code Title 17, Subdivisions, and Title 22, Deschutes County Development Procedures, to incorporate Clear and Objective Housing Standards in compliance with State law, by emergency to take effect immediately

ADAIR: Second

VOTE:                    ADAIR:        Yes  
                              CHANG:        Yes  
                              DEBONE:      Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

**15. Consideration of First Reading – Ordinance 2025-007: Reconsideration of Deschutes County 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update**

Nicole Mardell, Senior Planner, presented Ordinance No. 2025-007 for first reading, reminding that after conducting deliberations on June 11<sup>th</sup>, the Board voted 2-1 to approve amendments to the County's Comprehensive Plan with several revisions as detailed in Exhibit B to the ordinance.

Commissioner DeBone spoke to the need to preserve the historical opportunity to consider land use in view of development pressure while exercising prudence as such decisions come before the Board.

Commissioner Adair appreciated that the document now includes the information that of the 2,000,000 acres of land in Deschutes County, 250,000 of these are zoned for Exclusive Farm Use and under private ownership.

Commissioner Chang said the Plan does not address concerns raised regarding large-scale, numerous rezones and the cumulative effects of these.

ADAIR: Move approval of first reading of Ordinance No. 2025-007 by title only  
DEBONE: Second

VOTE:                    ADAIR:        Yes  
                              CHANG:        No  
                              DEBONE:      Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 – 1

Chair DeBone read the title of the ordinance into the record.

**16. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-010 – Plan Amendment/ Zone Change for approximately 279 acres located southeast of the City of Bend and addressed at 60725 Arnold Market Road**

Nathaniel Miller presented Ordinance No. 2025-010 for second reading and adoption, reminding that the Board conducted first reading on June 11, 2025.

ADAIR: Move approval of second reading of Ordinance No. 2025-010 by title only  
CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes  
CHANG: Yes  
DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

Chair DeBone read the title of the ordinance into the record.

CHANG: Move approval of Ordinance No. 2025-010 amending Deschutes County Code Title 23, the Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan, to change the Comprehensive Plan Map Designation for certain property From Agriculture and Surface Mining to Rural Residential Exception Area, and amending Deschutes County Code Title 18, the Deschutes County Zoning Map, to change the Zone Designation for certain property from Exclusive Farm Use and Surface Mining to Rural Residential

ADAIR: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes  
CHANG: Yes  
DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

Miller said the ordinance will take effect 90 days from today.

Commissioner Chang stated his appreciation that the Bend Parks & Recreation District had communicated how it plans to use this property so the Board was able to take the potential outcomes on the area into consideration.

**17. Public Hearing to consider rate adjustments for Wilderness Garbage and Recycling, Cascade Disposal, Bend Garbage and Recycling, and High Country Disposal**

Tim Brownell, Director of the Solid Waste Department, explained how the County contracts for the collection of waste and recyclables through franchises granted to four companies. Referring to the disposal fee increases at Knott Landfill which will take effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>, Brownell said all four franchisees requested rate increases for

FY 2026. Staff recommends that the Board approve a 3% rate adjustment for residential, curbside waste and recyclables collection services provided to residents by Cascade Disposal and a 4.7% increase for Republic Services (operating as Wilderness Disposal, Bend Garbage and Recycling, and High Country Disposal).

Brownell added that both Cascade Disposal and Republic Services also offer additional services including debris box collections and on-call services. Staff recommends that the Board approve all fees assessed by the franchisees for such add-on services as the Cities of Bend and Redmond have also approved.

*The public hearing was opened at 10:40 am. There being no one who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed at 10:40 am.*

CHANG: Move approval of Board Order No. 2025-025, establishing rates for franchised collection and transfer services for waste and recyclables in the unincorporated areas of Deschutes County

ADAIR: Second

VOTE:	ADAIR:	Yes
	CHANG:	Yes
	DEBONE:	Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

**18. Approval of Board Order No. 2025-023 cancelling uncollectible personal property taxes of \$247,298.22**

Robert Tintle, Chief Financial Officer, presented Order 2025-023 which would cancel uncollectible personal property taxes in the amount of \$247,298.22. Tintle said this amount is 1.42% of the total property taxes levied on personal and manufactured structures in the 2024-25 tax year. The personal property taxes deemed to be uncollectible result from business failures, bankruptcies, sold or closed businesses, businesses which moved out of Deschutes County, and two businesses which were destroyed by fire.

In response to Commissioner Adair, Tintle said not every overdue account is viewed to be uncollectible in any given year.

Responding to Commissioner Chang, Connie Heim, Accounting Technician, said Finance staff makes repeated attempts to collect overdue amounts. Some of the accounts determined to be uncollectible at this time are overdue going back to 2014.

Commissioner DeBone noted that Deschutes County also collects property taxes for all of the other taxing districts in the County.



Commissioner Adair wondered if some of the \$111,000 in uncollected property taxes from 2023 resulted from business failures attributable to regulations imposed during the pandemic, which negatively impacted many businesses.

Responding to questions, Tintle confirmed that even if a property tax account is determined to be uncollectible, a lien placed on the property by the Tax Office remains active for future possible collection.

ADAIR: Move approval of Board Order No. 2025-023, cancelling uncollectible personal property taxes of \$247,298.22

CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

#### **19. M110 BHRN grant funding from the Oregon Health Authority**

Shannon Brister-Rogas, Interim Behavioral Health Director, reviewed the background of the County's receipt of Behavioral Health Resource Network (BHRN) grant funding from the Oregon Health Authority and the request from Health Services to accept new funding awarded in the amount of \$6,650,000 for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Interim Health Services Director Holly Harris spoke to the reduced amount of total available BHRN funding for distribution amongst all of the applicants.

Responding to Commissioner DeBone, Harris hoped that in the future, the amount of funding received in each grant cycle will stabilize.

Responding to Commissioner Chang, Harris said the funding lost by the County primarily impacts the harm reduction program, and Health Services does not see a way that program can be fully sustained although Best Care and other behavioral health partners have pledged to help offset some of those losses. She added that Health Services has committed to maintaining the current level of naloxone distribution, using reserves if necessary, as that service is known to save lives.

Commissioner Adair asked for updated numbers of overdose deaths. Harris agreed to provide that information.

CHANG: Move approval of Document No. 2025-638, accepting M110 BHRN grant

funding from the Oregon Health Authority  
ADAIR: Second

VOTE:            ADAIR:        Yes  
                      CHANG:        Yes  
                      DEBONE:      Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 3 – 0

Commissioner Adair extended congratulations to the Behavioral Health division for securing \$3 million from the State for a child psychiatric facility in Central Oregon.

## **20. Update on Deschutes County Wolf Committee Vacant Position**

Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager, reported on the receipt of applications from persons interested to serve on the Wolf Depredation Compensation and Financial Assistance Committee, which is scheduled to next meet in September.

Following discussion, the Board was in consensus that all three Commissioners will participate in interviews for the vacant position along with three current members of the Wolf Committee.

## **21. Update on District Maps Process**

Strategic Initiatives Manager Jen Patterson reviewed decisions made thus far to convene a District Map Advisory Committee to draft County Commissioner district maps for the Board's consideration to place before the voters in May of 2026. She listed the members of the internal workgroup which is developing guidelines for the Board to consider for guiding the work of the committee, adding that workgroup member Neil Bryant has agreed to serve as facilitator for the committee as it meets weekly starting in September.

Commissioner Adair said that Los Angeles County, which has a population of more than ten million, has five County Commissioners. She wanted Deschutes County's district boundaries to be fair and representative.

In response to Commissioner Chang, County Clerk Steve Dennison said it has not yet been decided whether the district boundaries will be drawn according to total population or the number of registered voters. Patterson said this decision may be a point of guidance from the Board to the committee.

Commissioner Chang said not drawing the districts according to total population would demonstrate bias against families.

Discussion ensued of whether to create five districts or to create four districts and have one position be elected at-large. Patterson said this decision could also be addressed in the guidelines given to the committee by the Board.

Patterson spoke to the possibility that the committee could meet in Bend as well as in other places around the county.

Following discussion, the Commissioners were in consensus to present their proposed nominations for DMAC members at its July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting and finalize those on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. It is not yet known whether alternates will also be named.

Commissioner Chang advised coordinating the selection of committee members to achieve rural and urban proportional representation as well as geographic representation and political affiliation representation.

## **22. Potential Sheriff Transition**

County Administrator Nick Lelack said the resignation submitted by Sheriff Kent van der Kamp will take effect on July 31<sup>st</sup> if it is not withdrawn before tomorrow at 5:00 pm.

In response to questions, Senior Assistant Legal Counsel Kim Riley said DCSO Undersheriff Aaron Wells would assume Sheriff duties after July 31<sup>st</sup> if the Board does not name a successor before then.

Commissioners Adair and Chang stated they will attend a forum hosted by the Sheriff's Employees Association on July 7<sup>th</sup> to hear from persons interested to be appointed Sheriff.

Commissioner Adair reminded that the Board's appointment will be for the term of approximately 18 months before an election is held and the voters choose someone to serve as Sheriff.

The Commissioners agreed that any person interested in being appointed as Sheriff must submit a written statement of interest for their review and consideration by or before 5:00 pm on Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup>.

In response to Commissioner Chang, County Counsel Dave Doyle said only residents of Deschutes County for one year prior to the election are eligible to be appointed.

*A break was announced at 12:11 pm. The meeting resumed at 12:19 pm.*

**OTHER ITEMS:**

- Cam Sparks, Budget & Financial Planning Manager, reported that she will present a resolution to the Board at its Legislative Update Meeting this Friday to correct a scrivener's error in the FY 2025 year-end Budget adjustments resolution.
- Cody Smith said he will add a Notice of Intent to Award a contract for the paving of Tumalo Road to this same meeting agenda.
- Commissioner DeBone announced an Eastern Oregon Counties Association meeting scheduled for July 23rd.
- Commissioners Chang and Adair attended yesterday's Community Conversation on Houselessness yesterday in Sisters.

Commissioner Adair said the Point-in-Time count doubled in Sisters and has increased even more after the closure of China Hat.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 12:25 pm, the Board entered Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations.

The Executive Session concluded at 1:06 pm, and the public was invited to return to the room.

**ADJOURN:**

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:08 pm.

DATED this 6<sup>th</sup> Day of Aug. 2025 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.

  
ANTHONY DEBONE, CHAIR

**ATTEST:**

  
RECORDING SECRETARY

  
PATTI ADAIR, VICE CHAIR

  
PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER