



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

BOCC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 AM

WEDNESDAY January 8, 2025

Barnes Sawyer Rooms
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Anthony DeBone, Patti Adair, and Phil Chang. Also present were Nick Lelack, County Administrator; Kim Riley, Senior 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: 2024 Chair Adair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Referring to the current wildfires burning in southern California, she shared that she is praying for all of her friends and others who are affected.

1. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair for 2025

Stating his willingness to serve as Chair if the Board will return to its historical tradition of rotating the Chair position amongst the Commissioners, Commissioner Chang nominated himself for Chair in 2025. There was no second to the motion.

Commissioner Adair said in all of 2024, there were very few times when Commissioner Chang accepted something she had said without responding.

Commissioner Chang said as policy-makers, all of the Commissioners have the choice to speak their opinion.

In response to Commissioner Adair, Senior Assistant Legal Counsel Kim Riley said if the Board does not decide a Chair and/or Vice Chair amongst itself, by default the Commissioner with the longest-serving tenure will be Chair and the one with the second-longest tenure will be Vice Chair. Riley added that no vote by the Board would be necessary if the Chair and Vice Chair are selected by default according to the Code.

Commissioner Adair nominated Commissioner Chang to be Vice Chair.

Commissioner Chang refused the nomination, which he viewed as meaningless as it would not result in his being selected as Chair.

Commissioner Adair looked forward to having five Commissioners in 2027 when the voter-approved expansion of the Board takes effect.

The positions of Chair and Vice Chair for 2025 having been selected by default according to County Code, Commissioner DeBone acknowledged his default selection as Chair. Saying it was a shame that the Board is in this situation, he said it feels like a sideswipe attack at the leadership and culture of the County. He listed several values which he supports, including private property rights, establishment of defensible space against wildfires, opportunity for sewers in rural areas, groundwater protection, and fiscal responsibility.

Commissioner Chang said the Chair of the Board serves to facilitate the business of the Board, not to serve one particular political agenda or another.

Commissioner DeBone explained he lacked confidence that Commissioner Chang would not use the position of Chair to pursue certain agendas as has occurred behind closed doors over the last few years.

Commissioner Chang said because there is no room on the Board's dais for different policy perspectives, he instead engages with others off-dais.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZEN INPUT:

- Ron Boozell said his personal New Year's resolutions pertain to respect, integrity, character and honor. He hoped that everyone will try to step up to these values.
- Daniel Jones shared concerns about the manner in which the positions of the Forest View Special Road District Board are selected and said it does not appear that upcoming vacancies are advertised to the community.

Commissioner DeBone offered to discuss this matter in person with Mr. Jones.

Commissioner Chang noted that each of the County's special road districts has bylaws which govern it.

Further discussion ensued regarding how many special road districts are in the County and available legal recourses to this kind of concern.

- Greg Bryant requested that the County develop a community plan for Deschutes River Woods as has been done for both Tumalo and Terrebonne. Bryant noted that DRW has 5600 residents and as such is the third-largest community in Deschutes County.

Commissioner Chang said both Tumalo and Terrebonne are designated as unincorporated communities.

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

2. Approval of Resolution No. 2024-060, adopting a supplemental budget and increasing appropriations in the Health Services Fund
3. Approval of Resolution No. 2025-001 adopting a supplemental budget and reducing FTE within the 2024-25 Deschutes County budget
4. Approval of an amendment to a grant agreement with the Oregon Health Authority OHA 180009-15
5. Approval of Document No. 2024-006 accepting a 2023 Shared Savings Investment Grant from the Central Oregon Health Council, and approval of Board Order No. 2025-001 designating signing authority to Jessica Jacks
6. Consideration of Board Signature on letter appointing Matt Latimer for service on the Central Oregon Regional Housing Authority (dba Housing Works) Board
7. Consideration of Board Signature on letter thanking Dr. Peter Boehm for service on the Public Health Advisory Board
8. Consideration of Board Signature on letters thanking Lorelei Kryzaneck, Christina Lee and Roger Olsen, and reappointing Dr. Peter Boehm and Jill Adams, for service on the Public Health Advisory Board
9. Consideration of Board Signature on various letters of thanks, appointment and reappointment, to various Special Road Districts

10. Approval of the minutes of the December 10, 2024 Mid-Year Budget Update meeting
11. Approval of the minutes of the November 18 and December 2 and 4, 2024 BOCC meetings

Commissioner DeBone noted a correction to page 10 of the December 4th minutes to accurately reflect the name of Lisa Clarke, Field Manager of the Bureau of Land Management's Deschutes Field Office.

ADAIR: Move Board approval of Consent Agenda with the correction to the December 4th minutes as stated
CHANG: Second
VOTE: ADAIR: Yes
CHANG: Yes
DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

ACTION ITEMS:

12. Public Hearing and consideration of Board Order No. 2024-052 approving the Ponderosa Pine Estates annexation into the Bend Park & Recreation District

Dave Doyle, County Counsel, said Ponderosa Pine Estates LLC submitted a petition to annex property into the Bend Park & Recreation District. The Assessor's Office, County Clerk and the District have approved the annexation.

The public hearing was opened at 9:27 am. There being no one who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed at 9:27 am.

In response to Commissioner Chang, Doyle confirmed that the property is within the Urban Growth Boundary.

A member of the audience having indicated he wished to provide testimony, the public hearing was re-opened at 9:28 am.

Greg Bryant asked to know how this area is proposed to be annexed into the Bend Park & Recreation District.

Commissioner DeBone explained that the owner of the property asked that it be annexed into the district. Doyle added that all property owners in the annexed area will pay to be part of the district.

There being no one else who wished to speak, the public hearing was re-closed at 9:29 am.

CHANG: Move approval of Board Order No. 2024-052 approving the Ponderosa Pine Estates annexation into the Bend Park & Recreation District

ADAIR: Second

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

13. Consideration of second reading of Ordinance No. 2024-012 – Destiny Court Properties, LLC Comprehensive Plan Amendment and Zone Change

Anthony Raguine, Principal Planner, said no changes were made to the ordinance since the Board approved first reading on December 18th.

ADAIR: Move approval of second reading of Ordinance No. 2024-012 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.

ADAIR: Move adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-012 amending Deschutes County Code Title 23, the Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan, to change the Comprehensive Plan Map Designation for certain property from Agriculture 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 to Multiple Use Agricultural

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes
CHANG: No

DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 1

Raguine said the ordinance will take effect on April 8, 2025.

14. Presentation: Deschutes County Civic Assembly on Youth Homelessness

Josh Burgess, director of Deschutes County Civic Action project, presented information on the process by which a diverse group of residents convened to develop recommendations on how to address the challenge of youth homelessness in Central Oregon. Burgess said the resultant 22 recommendations envision a partnership of local governments, higher education institutions, businesses and foundations, and implementing the recommendations would involve engaging and educating the community.

Kathy Rusling described actions that could be taken to help students stay in and be successful at school, saying that education can help break the cycle of homelessness.

Adding that youth homelessness is a humanitarian matter, not a political one, Alex Lehman spoke to some of the recommendations of the assembly.

Burgess sought feedback from the Board on the recommendations and what actions the County will take.

Commissioner Adair said many grandparents who are raising their grandchildren need support. She added that Oregon has one of the worst graduation rates in the nation and was further concerned that 15% of kids tracked by CASA do not have an assigned representative to advocate for them.

Expressing his appreciation for those who participated in this process, Commissioner Chang said the County could partner with others on some of these, including establishing a regional youth psychiatric facility. With regard to the recommendation for a central hub for teens, he said the County offers a program called "The Drop" in Bend and Redmond but only some days of the week in the afternoon hours. He shared his willingness to help advocate for and support the Academy's recommendations and suggested that the Board review the list and issue a letter to the Academy stating what it supports.

Commissioner DeBone encouraged working to build trust and advance the recommendations, agreeing that the Board can review these and take action as appropriate. Noting that the County does not have resources for all desired programs and projects, he stated his support for a premier public transportation system for locals and visitors alike.

County Administrator Lelack reported that an article published by The New Yorker on December 31st about citizen's assemblies and what they can do for communities quoted Deschutes County Deputy Administrator Erik Kropp.

Burgess added that the group has published a seven-minute mini-documentary on YouTube.

OTHER ITEMS:

- Nick Lelack, County Administrator, provided updates in advance of tomorrow's meeting regarding a possible collaboration with the City of Redmond on a managed camp, saying he met with City Manager Keith Witcosky and Mayor Ed Fitch last week. Noting that the extension of 21st Street is now expected to be completed in August or September, Lelack shared that the City has authorized a \$250,000 contribution towards developing a managed camp and asks that the County contribute \$800,000.

Commissioner Chang noted that the only costs discussed thus far are for capital/construction and the \$800,000 requested would not include funds for operating a managed camp. He was concerned that there are no plans yet on how to operate the camp or how to pay for those operations. He preferred to consider a comprehensive package of capital and operating plans and costs before the County commits a large proportion of its remaining APRA funds to this initiative.

In response to Commissioner Adair, Lelack said after accounting for the \$400,000 allocation for the Juniper Ridge camp and the re-allocation of \$250,000 to the Coordinated Houseless Response Office, the County has just under \$1.4 million in ARPA funds remaining.

Commissioner Adair said she wants to partner with the City of Redmond on a managed camp, but not at the requested financial level.

Commissioner DeBone advised establishing a long-term visitor area where people could stay at a low cost and where persons who are displaced from unauthorized encampments could be offered to relocate to. He agreed with the idea of adding a gravel access from the north.

- Lelack reminded that the Board will hold its annual retreat on Monday, January 27th at the Road Department.
- Lelack shared that he and Commissioner Adair will attend Visit Central Oregon's annual strategic retreat next Wednesday.

- Commissioner DeBone said he will attend the Eastern Oregon Counties Association meeting on Friday January 17th.
- Commissioner Adair reminded that the Fair Association's annual dinner is this Sunday.
- Commissioner DeBone shared that he will be in Salem next Monday for Oregon Emergency Management and AOC meetings.
- Commissioner Chang reported on an after-action review conducted by the University of Oregon on last year's prescribed fire smoke management program. Saying that Deschutes County Public Health played an important role in these efforts, he shared a copy of the report.

Noting that air quality during prescribed burns can be very bad, Commissioner Adair suggested targeted logging and utilizing goat herds to reduce vegetation.

Commissioner Chang said some prescribed burning is necessary to reduce the spread and intensity of wildfires.

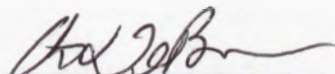
Commissioner Adair said the prevalence of heavy smoke days negatively affects Central Oregon's tourism industry.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

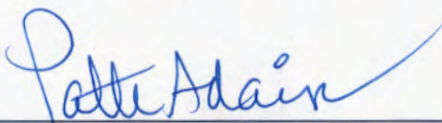
ADJOURN:

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

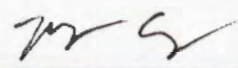
DATED this 22nd Day of January 2025 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.



ANTHONY DEBONE, CHAIR



PATTI ADAIR, VICE CHAIR



PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



RECORDING SECRETARY