



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

BOCC MEETING MINUTES

1:00 PM

MONDAY, October 27, 2025

Allen room
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Anthony DeBone, Patti Adair and Phil Chang. Also present were Deputy County Administrator Erik Kropp; Senior Assistant Legal Counsel Kim Riley; and BOCC Administrative Assistant Angie Powers.

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: None

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner DeBone said that he attended Neighbor Impact's Empty Bowls event yesterday. Empty Bowls is a fundraising event for hunger relief.

Commissioner Adair recently attended a BurnBot demonstration at a 24,000-acre private ranch. The BurnBot mastication machine can do ten times the work of a twenty-man hand crew. In the past, the County contracted with BurnBot to clear fuels at North Juniper Ridge at a rate of approximately \$850 per acre.

Commissioner Adair reported that Sleep in Heavenly Peace hosted an event on Saturday morning. This organization builds twin beds, and provides them to children in

need along with new bedding. Their funding has been severely impacted, and Commissioner Adair urged the community to consider donating to their cause.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Approval of Document No. 2025-511, a contract for Trident Professional Security to provide services at the Deschutes County Health Services Stabilization Center

Nicole Keith, Behavioral Health Manager, said that Behavioral Health wishes to enter into a contract with Trident Professional Security to continue to utilize their security services at the Stabilization Center. Responding to Commissioner Adair, security guards walk around outdoors approximately once per hour, and they ensure that County vehicles are locked and secured. Security is on-site after 3 p.m. to 7 a.m. seven days per week.

Responding to Commissioner Chang, Keith described some of the security issues encountered in the past. It was noted that in prior years, DCSO has contributed financially towards the Stabilization Center but due to budget constraints, will not be doing so this fiscal year. He asked if it is feasible for Sheriff's Deputies to check in on the Stabilization Center once or twice a day. Holly Harris, Health Services Director, stated it may be a discouraging factor from utilizing services if armed law enforcement were present on site, highlighting a difference in optics between unarmed security officers and armed law enforcement officers.

ADAIR: Move approval of Document No. 2025-511, a contract for Trident Professional Security to provide services at the Deschutes County Health Services Stabilization Center, not-to-exceed \$252,000

CHANG: Second

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

2. Presentation from 4D Recovery

Holly Harris, Health Services Director, Gabriele Ward, 4D Recovery, and Tony Vezina, 4D Recovery (via Zoom) were in attendance for this presentation. Harris said the passage of Measure 110 and subsequent amendments resulted in a Behavioral Health Resources Network (BHRN) which funds several organizations, including 4D Recovery. BH is supportive of the work they are doing, and as they

are the newest provider to the BHRN network, Harris is cognizant not to duplicate efforts amongst BHRN providers. 4D is a peer support organization that offers unique services, with a focus on adolescent and young adult services. In Deschutes County, 4D will focus on young adults ages 18 to 35 and will operate a drop-in recovery center.

Vezina presented slides about his organization. 4D has three main purposes: intervene on substance use, stabilize through treatment, and provide long term recovery and support services to maintain sobriety.

Vezina described recovery centers and their purpose, noting that sustained recovery can take several attempts. Survey results from participants indicate that recovery services helped individuals make progress on recovery outcomes.

Gabrie Ward shared her story. She fell into addiction at age 12, attended Rimrock Trails and various treatment services, and ended up in prison at age 19. She highlighted a lack of services for adolescents and young adults. She's now 26 years old, and in March will have five years sober. She is a client of 4D recovery. 4D recovery centers are tailored for young people and include fun social activities. Ward got a mentor with 4D who helped her gain employment and get her photo ID. She has now been working with 4D for 3.5 years, doing personal and impactful work.

Responding to Commissioner Adair, Harris said that BHRN funding is challenged.

Responding to Commissioner Chang, recovery organizations work in concert with one another as part of the continuum of care. 4D provides a social support network.

Responding to Kropp, the recovery drop-in center is coming to Deschutes County, but will send out an invitation for their grand opening.

3. Update to the community roundabout art progress at US 20/OB Riley-Cook Avenue in Tumalo

Chris Doty, Road Department Director, introduced Nathan Wismer, Nathan's Custom Wood and Steel; Steve Davidson, Co-Founder of The Bite in Tumalo; and Lauren Cramer. Doty provided a brief update on the art installation for the roundabout at the intersection of US 20/OB Riley-Cook Avenue in Tumalo, noting it has been nearly two years since the Board received an update. A group was tasked with gaining community feedback, funding, and perpetual maintenance of an art installation. Nathan is the builder and installer, Lauren put together the voting requirements and Steve created a non-profit (Tumalo Improvement

Projects) for funding the art installation and maintenance. Engineered drawings will go to ODOT for approval.

Responding to Commissioner DeBone, there will be no integration with the existing monuments entering Tumalo. The roundabout concept includes an irrigation windmill (with no moving parts), horses, and trout. Native vegetation will require minimal maintenance.

Doty noted the next step is to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with ODOT, a site agreement with the nonprofit for maintenance and expectations, and a permit for the actual construction and installation. The permit will be for working in the right-of-way, noting that ODOT has design standards for artwork, setback and maintenance requirements. Doty is confident the design will meet ODOT standards.

4. Clarification on guidelines for the District Mapping Advisory Committee (DMAC)

Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager, stated she is here at the request of the DMAC. The DMAC currently has three draft maps off which they are working. Patterson noted that over the past nine meetings, there has been robust discussion around population sources, including August 2025 voter registration data and the 2020 census population data, noting the pros and cons to each data set. A majority vote of the DMAC was to accept primarily voter registration data to draft the districts, but they are also considering the census data.

DMAC is seeking clarification from the Board of Commissioners. Patterson credited Lee Klemp for his GIS mapping work. Staff used the mean (the total population divided by 5 districts) with a range of 5% over and 5% under. However, the guidelines state “5% variance between the largest and the smallest district” so they have inadvertently been using 10%. There is no clear directive for redistricting from the State of Oregon.

The DMAC is struggling to reach all of the criteria set in the guidelines and seeks clarification. Two alternatives are to expand the 5% variance to 10% or start looking at chopping up precincts. Citing a 2022 exercise by Washington County, redistricting involved splitting up precincts. It was a time and labor-intensive process for staff.

Commissioner Adair expressed she is not interested in splitting precinct lines. She also stated her preference for using voter registration data over the 2020 census data.

Commissioner Chang expressed concern over the consequence diluting individuals' voting power of more populated districts if the guidelines go from 5% to 10%. He noted that Deschutes County's population is growing rapidly and is cautious about disenfranchising voters.

Patterson noted that County Clerk, Steve Dennison, and retired County Clerk Nancy Blankenship do not recommend breaking up precinct lines. Additionally, Patterson noted additional software may be required.

Additional data the DMAC has looked at includes new building permits which were collected for a particular time for Bend, Redmond and Deschutes County. However, it is important to consider dwelling numbers as one permit can result in multiple dwellings for something such as an apartment complex. Patterson acknowledged that growth data has limitations.

Commissioner DeBone said that he supports maintaining current precinct lines. Commissioner Chang suggested that those districts that are smaller should be the ones anticipated to have more growth.

The Board directed Patterson to maintain current precinct lines, and directed Patterson to revise the DMAC Guidelines, Map Drawing Criteria 4.b.

ADAI: Move approval of an update to the DMAC Guidelines, section 4.b. Map Drawing Criteria, to read "Maps should be drawn to approximately equal population size, to be within a **10%** range between the largest and smallest district".

DEBONE: Second

VOTE:	ADAI:	Yes
	CHANG:	No
	DEBONE:	Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2-1

Commissioner Chang stated he is not comfortable using voter registration data instead of total population data. He is also not comfortable choosing between breaking up precincts and having wide variance in population size amongst districts.

5. Treasury Report for September 2025

Bill Kuhn, Treasurer, discussed economic conditions, noting this is day 27 of the ongoing federal government shutdown. This is the second longest shutdown to date, only exceeded by the 35-day shutdown during President Trump's first term.

The main roadblock for reopening the federal government is the expiring health insurance subsidies through the Affordable Care Act. There are 700,000 furloughed federal workers who are not being paid. A private donor has contributed \$130 million towards paying military personnel. Programs including SNAP, HeadStart, and WIC will run out of funding at the end of October.

It is anticipated the Federal Reserve will reduce the key overnight borrowing rate by 25 basis points on October 29. Kuhn highlighted a deteriorating labor market and sticky inflation. The only remaining Fed meeting is on December 9, and another 25 basis point cut is predicted.

Year over year inflation increased to 3%, with most inflationary pressure is with food and energy costs. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics released this data because Social Security uses this data for its COLA. There are key gaps in the reporting of key economic indicators, due to the shutdown. The September payroll report was not released by BLS, but the ADP hiring data shows weak job growth with only 50,000 new jobs in September. The overall unemployment rate is expected to remain at 4.3%. The Producer Price Index, which relates to wholesale and manufacturing pricing, was also not released as scheduled.

President Trump has stopped tariff negotiations with Canada, who is the second largest trade partner with the U.S. However, the United States and China are closing in on a trade agreement, and the markets have responded positively. The Supreme Court has not yet issued a ruling on the legality of tariffs.

Kuhn had no national housing start data to report, but he provided regional housing data to the Board. Sales have remained strong in Bend and Redmond. Kuhn reported that Bend and Redmond, with an average rent of \$1,800 per month, are the highest rental rates in Oregon. The combined vacancy rate is 11.1%.

Kuhn summarized the Treasury Report for September 2025, a copy of which was included in the agenda packet. The strategy is to match redemptions with the expected debt servicing needs in May of each year. They utilize a hold to maturity strategy, so the County is not actively trading investments.

6. Finance Report for September 2025

Robert Tintle, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Finance Report for September 2025. The financial dashboard summarizes requirements and resources. Expenditures are under budget and resources are under – currently at 5% for the General Fund (GF), but the County is beginning to take in property

taxes so this will rise steeply. 92% of the County's budgeted funds will be received by the end of November.

The total FTE increased by 0.8 FTE, with a 1.0 FTE increase in Community Development and a 0.2 FTE decrease in the DA's Office. Fair Director interviews are in progress, so FTEs will rise in Fair and Expo.

Although no department is currently over budget for total personnel costs, Community Development and Fair and Expo are projected to go over by year's end in the absence of budget adjustments. Overtime is under budget, with most OT in the Sheriff's Office who is currently at 25% of projected.

The General Fund (001) was budgeted at an assessed value increase of 4.58% but it came in at 4.9%, because the assessed values came in higher than anticipated. 113,000 tax statements were mailed out, and 85% of property owners typically pay in full by the November 15 deadline.

Tintle highlighted a new report on page 82. The Oregon Health Plan Capital Reserves Fund 270 used to be rolled up in the "Other" category but has since been split out. \$36 million was budgeted but it is expected to be at \$40 million by the end of the year. Commissioner Adair thanked Tintle for this report.

OTHER ITEMS:

- Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator, noted that Consent Agenda item 1 from Wednesday's agenda has been pulled. This item was a contract Amendment with Oregon Beverage Service with Deschutes County Fair and Expo. Some recommendations from Internal Audit are being incorporated into a revised amendment which will come before the Board for consideration at a later date.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 3:09 p.m., the Board entered Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations as the Governing Body of Deschutes County 9-1-1 Service District and ORS 192.660 (2) (e) Real Property Negotiations as the Governing Body of Deschutes County.

The Board exited Executive Session at 3:30 p.m. and directed staff to proceed as directed.

ADJOURN:

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

DATED this 12th Day of November, 2025 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.

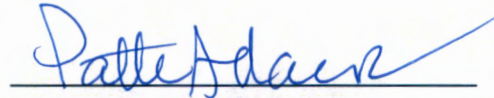
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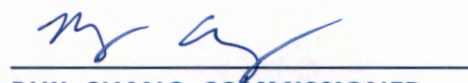
ANGIE POWERS
RECORDING SECRETARY



ANTHONY DEBONE, CHAIR



PATTI ADAIR, VICE CHAIR



PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER