



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

BOCC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 AM

WEDNESDAY December 18, 2024

Barnes Sawyer Rooms
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Patti Adair, Tony DeBone 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 webpage www.deschutes.org/meetings.

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

CITIZEN INPUT: None

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

Convening as the Governing Body for the Countywide Law Enforcement District (District 1)

1. Approval of Resolution 2024-051 adopting a supplemental budget which increases FY25 Beginning Working Capital, and appropriations within the Countywide Law Enforcement District (District 1) Fund

Convening as the Governing Body for the Rural Law Enforcement District (District 2)

2. Approval of Resolution 2024-052 adopting a supplemental budget which increases FY25 Beginning Working Capital, and appropriations within the Rural Law Enforcement District (District 2) Fund

Convening as the Governing Body for the Deschutes County 9-1-1 Service District

3. Approval of Resolution 2024-053 adopting a supplemental budget which recognizes additional FY25 Beginning Working Capital and increased appropriations within the Deschutes County 9-1-1 Service District

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

4. Approval of Resolution 2024-054 adopting a supplemental budget which recognizes additional FY25 Beginning Working Capital and increases appropriations within the Deschutes County Extension and 4-H Service District

Reconvening as the Governing Body of Deschutes County

5. Approval of Resolution No. 2024-059 adopting a supplemental budget, adjusting appropriations and removing 1.00 FTE within the 2024-25 Deschutes County budget
6. Approval of Document No. 2024-866, a Notice of Intent to Award Contract for the DCRD Campus Electrical Upgrades Project
7. Approval of Order No. 2024-050, establishing a designated speed of 30 mph on Cimarron Drive, and Order No. 2024-051, establishing a designated speed of 30 mph on Chaparrel Drive
8. Consideration of Board Signature on letters thanking Rick Bestwick and appointing Jeff Fowlds for service on the Fall River Estates Special Road District
9. Consideration of Board Signature on letter appointing Diane Flowers for service on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory
10. Consideration of Board Signature on letters thanking Tod Watkins and appointing Jerry Keller for service on the Howell's Hilltop Acres Special Road District
11. Approval of minutes of the BOCC meetings of October 30 and November 4 and 13, 2024

Commissioner DeBone acknowledged that the Board is convening as the governing body for multiple districts as indicated on the published agenda.

DEBONE: Move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented

CHANG: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

ACTION ITEMS:

12. Appointment of Kent van der Kamp as Deschutes County Sheriff for the period of January 1, 2025 until his term of office begins on January 6, 2025

Dave Doyle, County Counsel, said Deschutes County Sheriff Shane Nelson and Undersheriff Paul Garrison are both retiring as of December 31, 2024. Because Sheriff-elect Kent van der Kamp's term of office does not take effect until January 6, 2025, Legal has drafted a Board Order appointing van der Kamp as Sheriff from January 1, 2025 until he is sworn in for his full term on January 6, 2025.

Commissioner Adair was proud that van der Kamp will lead the Sheriff's Office starting on January 1st. Commissioner DeBone stated his support for public safety and the services of the Sheriff's Office and its staff. Commissioner Chang thanked van der Kamp for rising to the call of service five days before his term of office is scheduled to begin.

Sheriff-elect van der Kamp stated his appreciation for the Board's support.

DEBONE: Move approval of Board Order No. 2024-049 appointing Kent van der Kamp to the Office of Deschutes County Sheriff

CHANG: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

13. Public hearing and consideration of Resolution 2024-050 adopting a supplemental budget and increasing or reducing FY25 Beginning Working Capital and appropriations

Cam Sparks, Budget & Financial Planning Manager, said during the budgeting process, departments project end-of-year fund balances based on information known at the time. Because actual ending fund balances always differ from estimated ending fund balances, staff proposes budget adjustments to either increase or reduce Beginning Working Capital (BWC) and appropriations to show that the actuals were different than the budgeted amounts, and by how much.

In response to Commissioner Adair, Sparks said the combined total increase to BWC and appropriations for all of the funds is \$16,815,787.

Commissioner Chang asked to know why some revenues came in lower than expected and/or why some expenses were higher than expected in three certain

funds. In response, Sparks said the Special Transportation Fund was inadvertently budgeted for a half-year (until December 31st) instead of a full fiscal year. In the Health Benefits Fund, expenditures were higher than budgeted. Sparks said she will look into the reason for the variance in the General County Reserve Fund and provide that information to the Board.

Responding to Commissioner Adair, Sparks said the purpose of these budget adjustments is to further transparency and offer clarity on the current status of each fund's revenues and expenditures.

Commissioner DeBone noted that the Special Transportation Fund is the Dial-a-Ride and bus system. Deputy County Administrator Whitney Hale confirmed that the County collects payroll taxes which are used to provide public transit services.

The public hearing was opened at 9:15 am. There being no one who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed at 9:15 am.

CHANG: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-050, increasing or reducing Beginning Working Capital and appropriations within 2024-25 Deschutes County Budget

DEBONE: Second

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

Commissioner Adair noted the revised budget total is \$206,476,974.

14. Public hearing and consideration of Resolution 2024-061 adopting a supplemental budget and increasing revenue and appropriations in the Health Benefits Fund

Budget & Financial Planning Manager Cam Sparks summarized the proposed changes to the Health Benefits fund to align the adopted budget with revised projections for premium charges to the departments as well as for prescription rebates, interest earnings and claim reimbursements.

Commissioner Chang commented that part of what distinguishes the County as an employer is its provision of quality health benefits. Commissioner Adair said health insurance costs at private companies have gone up by as much as 29%.

The public hearing was opened at 9:21 am. There being no one who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed at 9:21 am.

DEBONE: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-061, adopting a supplemental budget and increasing revenue and appropriations in the Health Benefits Fund

CHANG: Second

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

15. Fiscal Year 2026 Preliminary Transient Room Tax Budget Discussion

Nick Lelack, County Administrator, reminded that the Board recently approved changes to the General Fund to address the projected structural imbalance which could result in a budget shortfall as early as FY 2027 if preventative actions are not taken. Staff is now proposing additional precautionary changes as outlined in a memo provided to the Board—Lelack noted that the first listed change to increase Environmental Health fees is not being recommended at this time.

Budget Manager Cam Sparks reminded that because the General Fund will not be able to make a contribution to the Capital Reserve Fund in 2026 as it has done in the past, and considering the importance of the Capital Reserve Fund, staff proposes that Transient Room Tax (TRT) funds be used for this critical allocation.

Sparks reviewed the three recommended changes (identified as items 2-4 on the memo referenced by County Administrator Lelack), as follows:

2. Move the Dispute Resolution contract of \$20,000/year from the General Fund to the Justice Court's budget to more accurately show the cost of operating the Justice Court. The Justice Court is subsidized with TRT funds (approximately \$381,000 per year).

In response to Commissioner Adair, Deputy County Administrator Whitney Hale said this contract is with Community Solutions. Although these services have historically been available for all County departments and offices, in practice they are only utilized by the Justice Court.

3. Hold existing TRT allocations flat from FY 2025.
4. No new external commitments of the TRT fund.

Staff from the Environmental Health Division spoke to the possible change of increasing Environmental Health fees to significantly reduce or eliminate the

TRT and video lottery subsidies to this division. In the current fiscal year, these subsidies totaled \$527,000 (\$250,000 in video lottery funds and \$277,000 in TRT).

Emily Horton, Environmental Health Program Manager, presented information on the various non-fee-based services provided by Environmental Health. Adrea Albin, Environmental Health Supervisor, reviewed the division's fee-based services. Public Health Supervisor Eric Mone, Horton and Albin then presented three different scenarios for fee increases, noting the potential that many non-fee-based services may have to be significantly reduced if no revenues were available to pay for them.

Mone shared information on how the County's restaurant license fees, mobile unit license fees, tourist accommodation license fees, and pool & spa license fees compare to those of other counties. He narrated a graph which depicted the increase in license fees from FY19-25 for restaurants with 16-30 seats.

Commissioner Adair noted that inflation increased the cost of consumer goods and services by 9% in 2021, and has continued to increase albeit at a lower rate.

Saying that the County's financial constraints are real, Commissioner DeBone shared that he is hearing from different counties that budgets are tightening, due in part to continuing inflation. He offered to help Horton present this information to the legislature.

Commissioner Chang said it would be helpful to talk about this in the big picture of how much the County contributes to Public Health in General Funds, or TRT or video lottery funds, and which allocations are sustainable.

Lelack agreed that more discussion is needed on the idea of increasing Environmental Health fees.

Discussion ensued of the many competing needs, including transportation, and efforts to advocate for State funding of Public Health Modernization to ensure continued capacity for critical public health programs and services.

CHANG: Move to direct staff to prepare FY 2026 budget with items 2, 3 and 4 as presented

DEBONE: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

16. Amendment to Mountain View Community Development ARPA grant Agreement

Laura Skundrick, Management Analyst, introduced a proposed amendment to the ARPA grant agreement with Mountain View Community Development (MVCD) for MVCD's transitional shelter project. This amendment was prompted by MVCD requesting a use of funds which differs from the original approved allocation. MVCD has requested to use the funds to support feasibility study work by adding additional language (indicated in bold and underlined) to the projects' scope of work, as follows: ARPA funds to be used for **research and development of** site work, infrastructure investment, community building, and restroom/laundry outbuildings.

Rick Russell, executive director of Mountain View Community Development, summarized the proposed development for 60 units of permanent supportive housing.

In response to Commissioner Adair, Russell said about \$50,000 of the allocated \$200,000 has been spent thus far.

Michelle Cross described progress to date with project partners the City of Redmond, Hayden Homes, Housing Works, and HA McCoy Engineering. She said MVCD is actively seeking capital and operations funding from the State as well as a \$3 million grant from the Federal Home Loan Bank.

Russell said no letter of support from the City of Redmond is available at this time as certain people are out of the office.

Job Stoneman spoke to the ways in which having supportive shelter has helped him.

Commissioner Chang had no concerns or questions about the proposed change in the use of the appropriated funds.

Commissioner DeBone stressed his desire to see the land exchange with DSL proceed next year and said while the proposed permanent supportive housing would have benefits, he would not support it if it compromises the land swap. He encouraged looking at the big picture and working backwards from the desired results and said he was unclear on the probability of the housing project going forward given the lack of committed funding sources.

Cross believed that the State's Health Services department considers this to be a viable project and said a funding award is expected within the year.

Commissioner DeBone asked for proof of collaboration with other parties and tangible action, saying he did not want to spend funds to analyze something that may not go forward or would be problematic for the DSL land swap.

CHANG: Move approval of Document No. 2024-658, amending the agreement with Mountain View Community Development for the use of ARPA funds

ADAIR: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: No

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 1

17. Recategorization of ARPA funds awarded to COIC for Broadband Infrastructure

Management Analyst Laura Skundrick said after the County allocated \$300,000 of ARPA funds to COIC in 2021 for a regional broadband needs assessment and action plan, the U.S. Department of the Treasury questioned if this project met eligibility criteria for the broadband infrastructure category of ARPA funding. Although the Department of the Treasury has since affirmed that it does, in fact, meet the necessary eligibility requirements, staff recommends that the funds be recategorized to the revenue replacement category to allow the project's funding to be covered by the General Fund ARPA reserve.

DEBONE: Move to recategorize \$300,000 in ARPA funds from COIC's Broadband Infrastructure project to the Revenue Replacement category

CHANG: Second

VOTE: CHANG: Yes

DEBONE: Yes

ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

Commissioner Chang requested information about possible future rounds of funding which may be sought by the County to address access to broadband infrastructure.

18. First reading of Ordinance 2024-012 changing the Comprehensive Plan map designation and zoning of approximately 65 acres located at 19975 Destiny Court, Bend

Anthony Raguine, Principal Planner, presented Ordinance No. 2024-012 for first reading, noting that the Board had previously voted 2 - 1 to approve these applications.

DEBONE: Move approval of first reading of Ordinance No. 2024-012 by title only
ADAIR: Second

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

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

Saying that the Rural Housing Profile update which was recently completed forecasts modest population growth in Deschutes County, Commissioner Chang said the County has more than enough vacant, buildable residential parcels to fill the projected need, even aside from the opportunity to site ADUs on some properties and possibly have RVs as rental dwellings. He spoke against rezoning agricultural land for more residences.

Noting that 79% of the land in Deschutes County is publicly-owned, Commissioner DeBone said if the market supports building housing on small, rural homesteads, he will consider facilitating that.

Commissioner Chang said the kind of properties described by Commissioner DeBone do not provide workforce housing.

19. Administrative Services Budget and County Internal Audit Office Recruitment

County Administrator Nick Lelack spoke to his decision to reduce the Performance Auditor position to .5 FTE effective January 1, 2025. Explaining that the reason for this decision is to achieve necessary cost savings in the Administration's budget in anticipation of a near-term structural imbalance in the General Fund, he said the proposed timing would take advantage of the opportunity to fill an upcoming vacancy in Risk Management related to the retirement of the Claims Coordinator. The Performance Auditor has accepted the offer to maintain full-time employment with the County by moving to this position.

Elizabeth Pape, Internal Auditor, expected that the proposed staff reduction would have negative impacts on the Audit Office. Saying that the purpose of the office is to evaluate processes and procedures and recommend improvements,

she said it would be difficult to fill a half-time position and explained why it is important to have more than one person doing this work. She said although four audits remain to be completed by the end of June 2026, if the Audit Office has just one person staffing it, she would likely be unable to complete three of those.

Daryl Parrish, chair of the Audit Committee, referenced his letter to the Board on this subject, stressing his concern about the proposal to reduce Audit Office staff from 2.0 FTE to 1.5 FTE. He reported the Audit Committee's action to recommend that the BOCC prioritize the internal audit function, and urged the County to identify other places to save the money associated with moving the Performance Auditor position to part-time.

Noting that isolation was not identified as a major concern when former Internal Auditor David Givans did not have other staff in the office, Commissioner Chang asked if Parrish or the Audit Committee as a whole could provide some of the sounding board functions that the Performance Auditor has recently done for the Internal Auditor. Parrish said while the Committee could provide that on a very limited basis, the amount of support available from external volunteers would pale in comparison to that which is provided by a second staff person.

Pape added that Givans did not have an audit background but rather was a CPA. She said it is difficult to get regular feedback from the Audit Committee, which meets every other month, and relayed concerns she has heard that in the past, the Audit Office was perhaps too close to Administration.

Commissioner Adair did not support reducing the Performance Auditor position to half-time, saying she agreed that the independence of the Audit Office is of high importance and that collaboration is needed in that office. She expressed her appreciation for all of the good work done by this office and was concerned about developing and maintaining public trust.

Stating his support for the independent audit function, Commissioner DeBone added that the County is responsible for appropriating the public's money for the business of the public, and cannot spend more money than it has. Noting that this is a point in time, he supported reducing the Performance Auditor position to half-time with the intention of bringing it back to full-time in the future.

Commissioner Chang agreed that the audit function is extremely important and noted that this office was just one person until recently. While it has been great to have two staff on board, he said it would be appropriate to utilize the available funds to either hire a half-time Performance Auditor or to contract for that capacity. He spoke to the need to reduce the Administration budget's draw of

General Fund revenues and listed other reductions which are also being made in the interest of fiscal health now and in the future.

Parrish said a strong Audit Office can help reduce risk and increase savings to the County.

Summer Sears, Audit Committee member, said it is much harder to get needed work done with only one person, and much easier with two people. She did not want to go backwards in terms of being accountable to the public and encouraged the County to prioritize this in the interest of transparency, finding efficiencies, lowering risk, and bolstering trust.

Commissioner DeBone said he does not assume that bad things are happening which must be addressed.

Commissioner Chang agreed that the County owes its citizens effective and efficient services, and the Audit Office is part of delivering those; however, many other things are also needed such as a fully-functioning Administration department. He said the Audit Office is limited in terms of what it can do to evaluate the County's processes and procedures.

DEBONE: Move to approve initiating a recruitment for 0.5 FTE Performance Auditor
CHANG: Second
VOTE: CHANG: Yes
DEBONE: Yes
ADAIR: Chair votes no. Motion Carried 2 – 1

Stating his agreement that it will be difficult to find a half-time Performance Auditor, Commissioner Chang said challenges and uncertainties are inevitable and advised that the Auditor think harder and more creatively about using contract services for this work.

A break was announced at 11:35 am. The meeting resumed at 11:39 am.

20. Fortify a portion of the Swalley canal located on County-owned property at Juniper Ridge

Kristie Bollinger, Property Manager, reported that people are driving vehicles over the buried canal operated by the Swalley Irrigation District on County-owned property in the Juniper Ridge area. Because this activity risks significantly damaging or breaching canal infrastructure, the County and Swalley have

developed a proposal to create a barrier using approximately 340 concrete barriers or "eco-blocks." Adding that the adjacent privately-owned Beech Craft Lane is also being used to access Juniper Ridge without authorization, Bollinger said a barrier made of eco-blocks (or, alternatively, boulders provided by the Solid Waste department) could be placed there as well.

Steve Shropshire from the Jordan Ramis law firm representing the irrigation district added that the canal is pressurized with high-pressure flow. He described the proposal as low-cost and said if the County purchases the eco-blocks, Swalley will install them.

Cautioning that people might be able to roll boulders out of the way, Commissioner DeBone supported using these if they can be optimally placed.

In response to Commissioner Adair, Bollinger said traffic control would be needed so the blocks could be staged within ODOT right-of-way before they are placed by Swalley. The cost of that traffic control is not yet known.

Following discussion of the estimated costs of the needed eco-blocks, gates, and delivery of materials, a majority of the Board supported using ARPA funds for this project.

Commissioner Adair noted that the County has \$1,397,608 still available in ARPA funds.

CHANG: Move approval of proceeding with utilizing ARPA funds to fortify a section of the Swalley canal located on County-owned property at Juniper Ridge with the specification that a subset of boulders be placed down Beechcraft Lane east of the canal as appropriate

DEBONE: Second

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

21. Discussion on format for weekly legislative updates meetings for the 2025 Legislative Session

Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager, reminded that during the 2024 legislative session, the County held weekly legislative update meetings on Fridays at 8:00 am. She sought direction for next year's meetings and suggested that legislators could be invited to participate on a biweekly or monthly basis.

The Board concurred to again schedule these meetings at 8 am on Fridays.

A lunch break was announced at 12:01 pm. The meeting reconvened at 12:59 pm.

22. Continued Deliberations – RVs as Rental Dwellings Text Amendments

Tanya Saltzman, Senior Planner, introduced the matter of continued deliberations for legislative text amendments to allow recreational vehicles (RVs) as rental dwellings on privately-owned residential properties. Saltzman reviewed the background of this matter, which included a public hearing before the Planning Commission and another before the Board along with several post-hearing discussions by the Board, most recently on November 13th.

Saltzman then presented four decision points for the Board's consideration, as follows:

1. Determination of minimum lot size

Saltzman shared how many lots would approximately be eligible under each minimum lot size scenario (one acre, two acres, or five acres).

Commissioner DeBone supported a one-acre minimum except for South County.

While he appreciated the concern about the seemingly high number of eligible properties, Commissioner Chang said the investment needed will be too much for many property owners and most RVs will not have a shower, dishwasher, or washing machine. He too supported a one-acre minimum lot size.

Commissioner Adair spoke against a minimum lot size of one acre, saying it does not take much to overwhelm a septic system.

Following further discussion, the Commissioners were in consensus to support Option B which would require a two-acre minimum lot size except for areas of South County, which would have a minimum of five acres.

2. Placement/setbacks

A majority of the Board was in consensus to support Option B, which would require that an RV be sited ten feet from any structure and within 100 feet of the primary dwelling. In addition, any and all setbacks for dwellings in the underlying zone would also be applied to an RV used as a rental dwelling.

3. Defensible Space

Commissioner Adair asked if insurance companies might view adding an RV as a residential dwelling on a private property as a fire risk to the primary dwelling. Commissioner Chang noted that RVs are licensed and insured as vehicles.

A majority of the Board was in consensus to support Option A, which would require the property owner to maintain a 20-foot radius around the RV of non-combustible ground cover of gravel, concrete, asphalt, grass mowed to four inches, or some combination of these. Alternatively, a property owner could show proof of consultation with the applicable fire district to develop acceptable firebreaks and defensible space.

4. Emergency access

A majority of the Board was in consensus to require driveways to be 12 feet wide with an all-weather surface and have a horizontal clearance of 20 feet and a vertical clearance of 13.5 feet. Applicants could produce a written confirmation from a fire protection service provider to show that these standards have been met.

Saltzman noted other remaining unresolved issues pertaining to a possible system development charge (SDC) fee or business license fee, or a one-time fee to compensate the Code Enforcement division for work done to process an application and ensure initial adherence to requirements.

In response to Commissioner Adair, Community Development Director Peter Gutowsky said RVs would not be allowed as rental dwellings on any land zoned Farm or Forest.

Commissioner Adair asked how many ADUs have been built since the County began allowing these. Gutowsky said about 30 so far, noting it is costly to add a new septic system or expand an existing system to accommodate an ADU.

CHANG: Move to conclude deliberations on this matter and approve specific legislative amendments as discussed

DEBONE: Second

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

Saltzman said staff will return with an ordinance formalizing these Code changes.

23. Letter of support to acquire 40 acres of Deschutes National Forest located southeast of La Pine

Kristie Bollinger described a potential opportunity for the County to acquire 40 acres of Deschutes National Forest located southeast of La Pine, saying the property, which adjoins a private surface mine, is known to have a State of Oregon certifiable hard rock supply. Upon acquisition, the intent would be to sell the property on the open market for future surfacing mining operations.

Commissioner DeBone stated his support for this concept as presented.

Commissioner Chang said while he did not object to the proposal to acquire this property, he believed the County owed it to the federal taxpayers to offer the Forest Service some compensation. He added that the County owns property in the Little Deschutes floodplain which would make an excellent trade.

Commissioner Adair supported signing the letter as drafted.

DEBONE: Move approval of the letter to Congressman Cliff Bentz supporting the acquisition of 40 acres of Deschutes National Forest located southeast of La Pine
ADAIR: Second
VOTE: CHANG: No
DEBONE: Yes
ADAIR: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried 2 - 1

24. Treasury Report for November 2024

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

25. Finance Report for November 2024

Robert Tintle, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Finance Report for November 2024.

Commissioner Adair shared information received at a recent Central Oregon Visitors meeting indicating that corporate travel bookings are ticking up.

26. Board selection of Chair and Vice Chair for 2025

Commissioner Adair said it has been her pleasure to serve as chair for this year.

Commissioner DeBone thanked her for her service.

Commissioner Chang said because a precedent of partisan election of Board chair has supplanted the historical precedent to rotate the chair designation between the three positions, he expected that Commissioners Adair and DeBone will again select a chair from amongst themselves.

Commissioner Adair said all of the Commissioners work hard to serve the residents of Deschutes County.

Senior Assistant Legal Counsel Kim Riley said the Board can select its chair for 2025 at the first meeting of the year. If the Board does not decide 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.

OTHER ITEMS:

- County Administrator Nick Lelack reminded of the request from the Association of Oregon Counties that the Board choose a representative to serve on AOC's Legislative Committee in 2025.

CHANG: Move to appoint Commissioner Adair to be the liaison to the Association of Oregon Counties' Legislative Committee for 2025

DEBONE: Second

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

- Lelack sought input from the Board on rescheduling its planned 2025 retreat for a day other than January 10th, when AOC will hold many legislative meetings. The Board was in consensus to reschedule its retreat to Monday, January 27th.
- Lelack reminded of ongoing work to establish a managed camp at Juniper Ridge in collaboration with the City of Bend.

Deputy County Administrator Erik Kropp said numerous staff are working to define this project's scope as well as the presumed scope of operations in order to estimate costs. He said staff will return to the Board in January when more defined cost estimates are available.

Noting that one of the two plans considered may cost less as far as access and utilities, Commissioner Chang said some service providers have expressed concern regarding the operations of this managed camp and whether one organization can

manage the site and its facilities while also providing supportive services and case management to homeless persons.

Saying that she met with Chuck Hemingway yesterday, Commissioner Adair reported that the City of Bend will decide its 2025 budget for the Temporary Safe Stay Area (i.e., the managed camp) by the end of this year.

Commissioner DeBone supported moving full speed ahead for the land transfer with DSL in Redmond and urged this be completed by July 1st.

Commissioner Adair said she has heard that the DSL land has encampments.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

At 2:56 pm, the Board entered executive session under ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations and ORS 192.660 (2) (e) Real Property Negotiations.

At 3:15 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.

ADJOURN:

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:16 pm.

DATED this 15th day of January 2025 ~~2024~~ for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.


PATTI ADAIR, CHAIR

ATTEST:


RECORDING SECRETARY


ANTHONY DEBONE, VICE CHAIR


PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER