



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1300 NW Wall Street, Bend, Oregon
(541) 388-6571

FOR RECORDING STAMP ONLY

DESCHUTES COUNTY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

8:00 AM

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2023

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

A virtual legislative update meeting was held on Friday, March 10, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform, for a weekly scheduled event during this 2023 Legislative Session.

| Deschutes County Attendance: | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| x | Commissioner Anthony DeBone | x | Nick Lelack, County Administrator |
| x | Commissioner Patti Adair | x | Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator |
| | Commissioner Phil Chang | x | Whitney Hale, Deputy County Administrator |
| x | Dave Doyle, Legal Counsel | | Kim Riley, Assistant Legal Counsel |
| | David Givans, Internal Auditor | x | Robert Tittle, Chief Financial Officer |
| x | Chris Doty, Road Department Director | x | Janice Garceau, Health Services Director |
| x | Kristie Bollinger, Property Manager | | Stephen Gunnels, District Attorney |
| x | Peter Gutowsky, Community Development Director | x | Kathleen Hinman, Human Resources Director |
| | Keith MacNamara, Veterans' Services Manager | x | Deevy Holcomb, Community Justice Director |
| x | Lee Randall, Facilities Director | x | Kevin Moriarty, Forester |
| x | Chad Centola, Solid Waste Director | | Tim Brownell, Incoming Solid Waste Director |
| | Shane Nelson, Sheriff | x | Sara Crosswhite, 9-1-1 Director |
| | Steve Dennison, Clerk | x | Cheyenne Purrington, Houseless Strategies and Solutions Director |
| x | Geoff Hinds, Fair & Expo Director | | Scot Langton, Assessor |
| | Charles Fadeley, Justice of the Peace | x | Tania Mahood, IT Director |
| x | Holly Harris, Behavioral Health Director | | Will Groves, Planning Manager |

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|-----------------------------|--|---|--|
| x | Tom Kuhn, Public Health Program Manager | x | Angie Powers, BOCC Administrative Assistant |
| x | Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager | | |
| Legislators Present: | | | |
| | Senator Lynn Findley | | Senator Tim Knopp |
| | Representative Emerson Levy | | Senator Dennis Linthicum |
| | Representative Vicki Breese Iverson | | Representative Werner Reschke |
| | Representative Jason Kropf | x | Andy Smith, Rep. Kropf's office |
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| Others Present: | | | |
| x | Doug Riggs, NW Policy Advocates President | x | Gabriel Velásquez, NW Policy Advocates Legislative Coordinator |
| x | Sherrie Grief, community member | x | Morgan Greenwood, community member |

1. Introductions

Commissioner DeBone called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

2. Legislator Updates

Doug Riggs reported that several legislators left early this morning to travel over the snowy mountain passes, so legislators were unable to attend the meeting. Andy Smith from Representative Kropf's office was in attendance, but did not provide any updates on his behalf.

3. Commissioner Updates

Commissioner DeBone reported that AOC is holding legislative meetings next week and a reception on Monday evening. Meetings will take place in the Capitol.

Mr. Gutowsky discussed **SB 1013**, which would allow property owners to site one recreational vehicle on rural properties. He suggested that it should be temporary and there should be siting standards, such as septic system requirements and ramadas to protect snowfall from accumulating. Mr. Riggs added that the suggestion has been made to make this an option, rather than a mandate, for counties. CDD recommended priority 1 support with amendments.

Ms. Harris gave an update on **HB 2757**, which provides funding for a coordinated crisis services system for a suicide and behavioral health hotline. She suggested a priority 2 watch position on this bill, as it has a flurry of activity at this time. Mr. Riggs reported that a work session on dash 2 amendments will take place on Monday. There are no plans for County staff to testify at this time.

Mr. Kuhn discussed **SB 5525**, the complex OHA budget. Informational sessions are currently taking place. When public health modernization comes up, Mr. Riggs will take note.

Ms. Hinman discussed **HB 2296**, which makes permanent provisions allowing retired PERS members to be reemployed by a participating public employer without reduction pension benefits. Mr. Riggs reported that public safety agencies, such as DCSO, support this bill due to the training cost savings by keeping these retirees on board in lieu of training new staff. AOC recommends support with amendment, to extend for five years and sunset in 2029, rather than making the rule permanent. The Board took a neutral position on this bill.

Mr. Riggs discussed **HB 3205**, allowing agencies to continue paying hiring and retention bonuses. A hearing will take place on Monday, and he will keep the group posted.

Chad Centola spoke to **HB 3229**. This bill changes the fee structure for air quality permits. Currently, Solid Waste has a title 5 air quality permit for Knott Landfill. The rate change for the County seems modest. However, there is a rumor that this bill could cause fees to increase 80%, but he believes this increase is geared towards industrial waste discharge as opposed to landfills. The Board took a priority 2 watch position on this bill.

Mr. Riggs provided an update on **HB 2001**. This comprehensive housing and homelessness bill is scheduled this morning in the Ways and Means committee for a work session. He anticipates it will go to the floor soon. If the bill is read in-full, it will take some time as it is lengthy. There are incorrect statutory references in the bill but they are moving forward to avoid any delay, and later in the session there will be a technical fix bill.

HB 2261 provides that a fixed percentage of video lottery revenues be transferred to counties for economic development. The Board took a position of priority 2 support on this bill.

HB 3321 deals with community water systems and directs OHA to study small community water systems. Commissioner DeBone and Mr. Riggs shared that there is a shortage of trained operators for small community water systems. Mr. Riggs reported broad support for this bill. OWAC would establish a training center and would train operators. The Board took a position of priority 2 support for this bill.

SB 673 is Commissioner Adair's bill, which requires Deschutes County to approve applications to develop manufactured homes or RV parks outside of the urban growth boundary. It doesn't appear that this bill will get a hearing before the

deadline. Mr. Riggs advised not giving up hope and to keep this on the radar. The priority is to move **SB 644** through this week.

4. Updates from NW Policy Advocates

Doug Riggs shared that next Friday is the deadline to post work sessions for bills, with exceptions for joint committee bills. Bills that don't meet the deadline will die. The senate is requiring that the text of each bill must be read, by a computer referred to as "Rita". A dash 4 amendment to SB 644, to allow ADUs in rural areas subject to wildfire mapping to proceed, is being worked out. A work session is scheduled for next Wednesday, March 16. State revenues are up, resulting in a \$1,000 median kicker refund per Oregon household.

5. Other Items

- Commissioner DeBone spoke about the City of Bend's request for the County to partner in a SE Bend managed homeless camp, and the large amount of media coverage this week on the topic. He hopes for additional guidance from the governor.

Next Meeting: The next virtual legislative update meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 17, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.

Adjourn: Chair DeBone adjourned the meeting at 8:43 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Angie Powers, BOCC Administrative Assistant