



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 8, 2024

ZOOM MEETING

A legislative work session was held on Friday, March 8, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform.

Deschutes County Attendance:			
x	Commissioner Patti Adair, Chair		Nick Lelack, County Administrator
x	Commissioner Anthony DeBone, Vice Chair	x	Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator
x	Commissioner Phil Chang	x	Whitney Hale, Deputy County Administrator
x	Kristie Bollinger, Property Manager		Tim Brownell, Director Solid Waste
x	Sara Crosswhite, Director 9-1-1		Steve Dennison, County Clerk
	Chris Doty, Director Road Department	x	David Doyle, Legal Counsel
	Charles Fadeley, Justice of the Peace	x	Janice Garceau, Director Health Services
	Stephen Gunnels, District Attorney	x	Peter Gutowsky, Director Community Development
	Geoff Hinds, Director Fair & Expo	x	Kathleen Hinman, Director Human Resources
x	Deevy Holcomb, Director Community Justice		Bill Kuhn, Treasurer
	Scot Langton, Assessor		Keith MacNamara, Manager Veteran's Services
x	Tania Mahood, Director Information Technology	x	Kevin Moriarty, Forester
	Shane Nelson, Sheriff	x	Elizabeth Pape, Internal Auditor
x	Lee Randall, Director Facilities	x	Robert Tittle, Chief Financial Officer

x	Heather Kaisner, Director Public Health	x	Holly Harris, Director Behavioral Health
x	Tom Kuhn, Public Health Program Manager	x	Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager
x	Angie Powers, Administrative Assistant		Kim Riley, Assistant Legal Counsel
x	Cody Smith, Assistant Director Road Department		
Others Present:			
x	Doug Riggs, Director NW Policy Advocates		

1. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Adair called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

2. Commissioner Updates

Chair Adair expressed gratitude for significant **BM 110** reform via **HB 4002**. Commissioner DeBone thanked Doug for representing Deschutes County in Salem. Commissioner Chang is pleased the legislature delivered meaningful **BM 110** reform and a housing package.

3. Legislative Updates

a. NW Policy Advocates

Doug Riggs provided a brief update. The session ended on the evening of March 7, with significant funding bills passing on the last evening. The legislature has adjourned and will not return until January 2025 for the next session. Housing and behavioral health / **BM 110** reform were the top priorities during this short session. He credited Rep. Kropf and Rep. Lieber for listening to the input and crafting meaningful legislation for **BM 110** reform. Key investments were made in community corrections, aid and assist, and medication assisted treatment in jails, and direct funding for deflection programs that will impact our region.

Related to housing, Redmond received \$2.5 million for NorthPoint Vista. Additionally, Madras and Prineville received funding for housing infrastructure. A revolving loan program for cities and counties for housing projects is being developed by OACS. In a new approach, an infrastructure grant program was placed into Business Oregon. Funding for shelter operations will also impact Deschutes County.

Responding to Commissioner Chang, Doug stated he will investigate \$33 million in wildfire funding related to **SB 5701**.

Although there were some disappointments, including Redmond's 21st Street, the lesson learned is that the Ways and Means process has changed

significantly over the past 4-5 years in terms of *how* projects are funded. This shift has diminished the power of individual legislators and policy committee chairs. Ways and Means relies upon projects that are on a *list* during their decision-making process. Partnering with outside organizations and grouping projects onto lists will be increasingly important moving forward. Transportation will be a key issue in 2025.

Commissioner Chang emphasized that if our region wants a youth psychiatric treatment center, we must be advocating for it sooner than later, and including stakeholders from Lane County and the Portland metro area.

Doug reported the transportation right of way issue has been resolved, as discussed last week with Chris Doty.

HB 4056 is related to foreclosed properties. At the hearing on March 6, Doug testified that the Dash 8 amendments were confusing, and the committee should adopt the Dash 6 amendments. At the end of the day, the bill did pass with Dash 8 amendments and has moved onto the Governor's desk. Responding to Commissioner Chang, Doug said the failure to include a timeframe for the lookback period is one of the issues with the Dash 8 amendments.

Janice Garceau wished to acknowledge that today is International Women's Day and recognized the women in leadership in attendance at today's meeting.

b. Staff

Commissioner DeBone shared that AOC legislative post-session meetings take place today and Monday, and he plans to be in Salem for these on Monday.

Responding to Chair Adair, Doug reported that Mountain View Community Development was not allocated any funding. Additionally, many parts of rural Oregon fell by the wayside.

4. Updates and Briefing from Legislators

There were no legislators in attendance.

5. Other Items

No additional items were discussed.

Adjourn: Chair Adair adjourned the meeting at 8:27 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Angie Powers, Administrative Assistant