



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

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# BOCC MEETING MINUTES

9:00 AM

**WEDNESDAY April 3, 2024**

Barnes Sawyer Rooms  
Live Streamed Video

Present were Commissioners Patti Adair, Tony DeBone and Phil Chang. Also present were County Administrator Nick Lelack and Assistant Legal Counsel Kim Riley

This meeting was audio and video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal webpage [www.deschutes.org/meetings](http://www.deschutes.org/meetings).

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Adair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### CITIZEN INPUT:

- Judy Trego expressed appreciation for the Board's action reversing its course on the proposed housing for male parolees on Wilson Avenue. She said although the Board decided against siting this program in the Larkspur neighborhood, constituents remain concerned about having this program in any residential area whatsoever. She supported locating this type of housing on the County's public safety campus.

Commissioners Adair and Chang spoke to the feasibility of determining a suitable alternate location for this program.

- Dorinne Tye objected to the pollution of the natural environment and the negative effects this has on wildlife and children. She stated her particular opposition to noise and lead emissions from private aircraft and flight schools, saying this continues unabated and with zero accountability.
- Ryan Rudnick thanked the Board for canceling the Wilson Ave. housing program last week, saying he appreciated that this action demonstrated support for resident safety. He expressed hope that this program could be resurrected elsewhere in a location that does not threaten the safety of women and children.

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

1. Approval of Improvement Agreement for Phase C-2 and the remaining improvements for Phase C-1 of the Caldera Springs Destination Resort
2. Approval of minutes of the BOCC March 6 and 20, 2024 meetings

DEBONE: Move approval of the Consent Agenda as presented  
 CHANG: Second

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

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**ACTION ITEMS:**

**3. Proclamation: Child Abuse Prevention Month**

Staley Micken, Director of Development at MountainStar Family Relief Nursery and Gabrielle Allender, Director of Client Programs and Prevention at KIDS Center shared information on the services and programs provided by these organizations and others who partner with them to help children and families.

The Commissioners read the proclamation into the record.

DEBONE: Move adoption of a proclamation declaring the month of April, 2024 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Deschutes County

CHANG: Second

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

Chair Adair announced that agenda item 6. would be taken up next.

**6. Consideration of the Establishment of a School Support Fee of 15% for the Deschutes County Rural Enterprise Zone**

Steve Curley, REDI Director, requested that the Board approve a resolution to establish a school support fee of 15% for the Deschutes County Rural Enterprise Zone and the Greater Redmond Area Enterprise Zone. Explaining that this fee waives property taxes on certain investments made by eligible businesses, Curley said the Bend-La Pine School District has agreed to this fee and would be responsible for collecting it.

Curley further explained that in 2023, the Oregon State Legislature passed a bill which extended the enterprise zone program and also allowed a school support fee in years four and five of the abatement period. This tax abatement opportunity offers 100% tax abatement on real and personal property by companies which invest in communities by adding jobs at certain wage levels. Curley explained how the abatement works and said this fee has been approved by the Redmond and Sisters City Councils and the Redmond and Sisters School Boards in addition to the Bend-La Pine School Board. Action by the Cities of Bend and La Pine is forthcoming.

Commissioner Chang expressed interest in knowing the total amount of property taxes abated under this program for each of the enterprise zones. Don Myll, Bend Area Director for EDCO, provided statistics for the Bend enterprise zone and noted that the tax district does not lose any income on extended abatements; rather, the program defers collections to a future date.

DEBONE: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-011 establishing a school support fee of 15 percent for the Deschutes County Rural Enterprise Zone and the Greater Redmond Area Enterprise Zone

CHANG: Second

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

**4. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency / Community Change Grant Application / Permission to Proceed**

Peter Gutowsky, Community Development Director, presented a request for authorization to apply for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Community Change Grant for a sub-area of Southern Deschutes County. If approved,

Deschutes County would, in coordination with NeighborImpact, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council, and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, apply for approximately \$19,718,000 for certain projects relating to climate action, pollution reduction and community engagement within a three-year period.

Gutowsky proposed that Deschutes County apply for funding to be used in the following ways:

- Promote the use of green infrastructure (aka nature-based solutions) to protect and/or restore natural systems against the negative impacts of climate change, while simultaneously providing benefits for people and the environment;
- Support investments in low- and zero-emission technologies and energy efficiency upgrades that can help decarbonize residential and commercial buildings and decrease energy burdens;
- Assess indoor air quality and outdoor air pollution and provide remediation to reduce the harmful effects of both; and
- Protect the quality of drinking water resources by addressing challenges that inhibit access to clean drinking water.

Gutowsky shared a table detailing proposed project elements for each of the three strategy areas—these include investments in home rehabilitation, weatherization, and energy assistance for eligible property owners; fuels reduction work on eligible private properties; upgrading conventional septic systems to onsite wastewater alternative treatment technologies for eligible homeowners; and deepening domestic wells for a more reliable water supply for individual homeowners.

Commissioner Adair stressed the importance of installing alternative wastewater treatment systems which are 95% effective in reducing nitrate loads into the ground rather than systems which are only 70% effective. Gutowsky responded that, if awarded, part of these grant funds could be used for a demonstration project that could test these systems and determine their ability for performing at the stated level in Southern Deschutes County. If the systems perform as presented, the County could then advocate for the amendment of State rules to allow these to be utilized in Oregon.

Commissioner DeBone stated he would not oppose considering opportunities to pursue Goal 11 exceptions in existing platted areas.

County Forester Kevin Moriarty responded to questions about air curtain burners and how effective these could be in reducing the amount of natural debris added to the landfill.

Commissioner Chang advised care in how the proposed project components relating to fuels reduction are presented in the grant application and suggested these be framed in terms of mitigating climate change or addressing CO2 emissions.

DEBONE: Move to authorize the application for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Community Change Grant as discussed

CHANG: Second

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

**5. Resolution No, 2024-009 adopting a supplemental budget to increase and adjust appropriations within the Solid Waste Fund**

Tim Brownell, Director of Solid Waste, explained that actual spending for the construction of the Negus Transfer Station is anticipated to come in under the available funds which resulted from the \$21.4 million bond issued for this project. Upon advice from bond counsel and the Finance department, Solid Waste is requesting to transfer \$910,000 from Fund 613 - Solid Waste Capital to Fund 610 - Solid Waste Operations and apply the remaining debt proceeds to the upcoming June 2024 debt service payment.

DEBONE: Move approval of Resolution No. 2024-009 increasing and adjusting appropriations within the Solid Waste Fund and the 2023-24 Deschutes County Budget

CHANG: Second

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

Brownell said the new facility's ribbon-cutting will be on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

- Commissioner DeBone referred to emails from AOC announcing an implementation and training symposium in Salem relative to HB 4002.



Deputy County Administrator Erik Kropp said Behavioral Health Director Holly Harris will attend this event on May 9<sup>th</sup>, possibly along with representatives from the District Attorney's Office and/or the Sheriff's Office.

- Commissioner Chang reported on information presented by the Homeless Leadership Coalition which shared this year's Point in Time count data and noted that the County's overall homeless population has increased since last year, although the number of those unsheltered has not changed much. He suggested the Board receive a formal presentation of this information.
- Commissioner Chang reported that the Wolf Depredation and Financial Compensation Committee received \$32,000 in funding from the State for substantiated depredations and missing animals, and \$27,000 for prevention activities. Recommended expenditures will come before the Board next week for its consideration.

The Board was in consensus to direct staff to issue a press release on the receipt and use of these funds.

- Commissioner DeBone attended the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training community listening session yesterday where he shared information on the CORE3 project.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**ADJOURN:**

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

DATED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.



**PATTI ADAIR, CHAIR**

**ATTEST:**



**RECORDING SECRETARY**



**ANTHONY DEBONE, VICE CHAIR**



**PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER**