

MINUTES FOR THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
STATE OF OREGON, COUNTY OF JACKSON
WORK SESSION HELD ON
NOVEMBER 16, 2021

The Board of Commissioners' Work Session was opened by Commissioner Rick Dyer on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. by videoconference. Those participating were:

Rick Dyer, Chair
Colleen Roberts, Commissioner
Danny Jordan, County Administrator
Joel Benton, County Counsel
Jennifer Drake, Recording Secretary
Members of the Public and Press

Absent: Dave Dotterrer, Commissioner

1. *Order Authorizing a Request for Distribution of Funds Pursuant to Oregon House Bill 5006 (2021) for Reimbursement of Lost Tax Revenue Related to the 2020 Wildfires in Jackson County. Order No. 209-21*

Commissioner Dyer read the Order by title. Mr. Jordan explained that Jackson County suffered from devastating wildfires during September 2020. The destruction of property caused by the wildfires resulted in a significant loss of revenue for the County, and all taxing districts within the County, related to property taxes which would have otherwise been collected from the damaged or destroyed properties. The Oregon Legislature enacted Oregon House Bill (HB) 5006 which contained an appropriation to the State of Oregon, Department of Revenue (DOR), to make grants to counties for the reimbursement of lost tax revenue related to the 2020 wildfires. Jackson County wishes to request grant funding pursuant to Oregon HB 5006 to reimburse the County for lost tax revenue related to the 2020 wildfires.

The grant request shall be in the amount of \$2,829,073, which represents the amount of estimated revenue lost in Tax Year 2020-2021 due to the 2020 wildfires. The amount of estimated revenue lost due to the 2020 wildfires was based on the amount set forth on page 39 of the Budget Report for Oregon HB 5006 (2021). Prorations that were completed during Tax Year 2020-2021 that were deducted from the current year distribution ((OAR 150-311.806(B)) and, therefore, reduced the amount of tax distributions to all taxing districts based on the 2020-2021 certified distribution schedule. The total amount of these prorations was \$1,425,185 and shall be distributed to all districts based on the 2020-2021 certified distribution schedule. Oregon HB 2341 (2021) provides for additional prorations for those properties that did not apply, as well as adds an additional month of proration for those properties that did submit an original application under ORS 308.425. This is related to Tax Year 2020-2021. The tax vouchers for these prorations are still in progress and the resulting reduction in tax will be applied to all districts under the 2021-2022 certified distribution schedule per OAR 150-311.806(B). The total amount of the additional prorations under Oregon HB 2341 (2021) is \$710,477. This will be distributed back to all districts based on the 2021-2022

certified distribution schedule. The remaining amount of the request (\$693,412) shall be distributed directly to the affected districts by applying tax rates to the lost Assessed Value by Code Area. Mr. Jordan reiterated that from a previous discussion it was decided that these monies would be allocated to the districts even though the funds could have been retained by the County. He then explained that there had been a change by the legislature since the last time this was discussed and, instead of receiving an allocation encompassing the next four years, this allocation would be for the first year and the subsequent years would be applied for separately. Commissioner Dyer asked if these numbers were based on actual loss and Mr. Jordan explained the calculation process. Commissioner Dyer then expressed his concern that the future distribution would be subject to change by the legislature. Commissioner Roberts asked if this decrease in funding was for all taxing districts. Mr. Jordan explained that it was not a decrease in funding, but the allocation process had been changed to only include the first year at this time.

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve Order No. 209-21 as read. Commissioner Dyer seconded the motion. Those who voted aye: Commissioner Roberts and Commissioner Dyer. Motion passed.

2. *Order Removing Mark Orndoff as the Local Public Health Administrator and Appointing Jackson Baures as the Interim Local Public Health Administrator. Order No. 210-21*

Commissioner Dyer read the Order by title. Mr. Jordan explained that, in accordance with Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 431.003(7), the Board of Commissioners is the Local Public Health Authority for Jackson County. In accordance with ORS 431.418 and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 333-014-0520, the Local Public Health Authority is required to appoint a Local Public Health Administrator (LPHA). Mark Orndoff has served as the Local Public Health Administrator as director of HHS and has retired. The Board of Commissioners finds that Jackson Baures has the requirements of a bachelor's degree and public health work experience that demonstrates competencies in the foundational programs and capabilities of the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), as required by OAR 333-014-0520(1) and (2). In accordance with ORS 431.418, the Board of Commissioners finds that Jackson Baures has education and professional experience in public health that demonstrates his competencies in the foundational programs and capabilities of public health as set forth by the OHA. Counsel reviewed the Order to meet legal requirements. Commissioner Roberts asked if Mr. Baures was willing to serve in this capacity, and Mr. Jordan responded that he is.

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve Order No. 210-21 as read. Commissioner Dyer seconded the motion. Those who voted aye: Commissioner Roberts and Commissioner Dyer. Motion passed.

3. *Order Increasing 4.00 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Positions in the Community Justice Department. Order No. 211-21*

Commissioner Dyer read the Order by title. Mr. Jordan explained that the Community Justice Department has requested an increase in personnel of 4.00 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. These positions are for Senior Deputy Parole and Probation Officers to provide services to justice-involved individuals. He explained that the Community Justice Department prepares its one-year budget prior to the State preparing a biennial budget, so they make conservative estimates on funding to avoid the need to cut positions after the State's budget is finalized. This will increase the FTEs for the Community Justice Department from 137.50 to 141.50 for fiscal year 2021-2022. Commissioner Dyer asked if there was any indication that the hiring process would be difficult due to the current hiring shortage affecting all businesses. Mr. Jordan explained that these positions are often filled internally due to the need of certification and these positions are not typically difficult to fill. Commissioner Roberts asked about the amount of the additional funding received, and

Mr. Jordan indicated it was approximately a \$2,000,000 increase in funding. He further explained that this was included in the State's budget for the next two years and there would be no guarantee each biennium beyond that. He added that if there are reductions to this revenue, that the reductions are not back filled utilizing the County General Fund. He further explained that if the budget was underspent, the State allowed Community Justice to carry forward dedicated State revenue.

Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve Order No. 211-21 as read. Commissioner Dyer seconded the motion. Those who voted aye: Commissioner Roberts and Commissioner Dyer. Motion passed.

Following the motion and roll call vote, Commissioner Roberts and Commissioner Dyer each authorized the use of his/her electronic signature on Order Nos. 209-21, 210-21, and 211-21, pursuant to Order No. 1-21.

4. *Discussion Regarding COVID-19*

Mr. Jordan reported that he had not yet received the updated COVID-19 report for today. He told the Board that the mobile vaccination clinic had been closed temporarily due to the van being stolen when picking up supplies in Portland. Commissioner Dyer informed the Board of news that a stay had been upheld on the Federal mandates and that appeals were also upheld. Mr. Benton clarified that this stay was for the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) mandate, not the Federal contractor mandate. Commissioner Dyer expressed that this was a step in the right direction and Commissioner Roberts agreed and said there were many legal fights being brought forth against these mandates.

5. *Executive Session*

There was nothing for Executive Session.

There being no further business, Commissioner Dyer adjourned the Work Session at 9:22 a.m.

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Rick Dyer

Rick Dyer, Chair

/s/ Dave Dotterer

Dave Dotterer, Commissioner

/s/ Colleen Roberts

Colleen Roberts, Commissioner

/s/ Jennifer Drake

Jennifer Drake, Recorder

Approved on: 12/01/2021

Due to the existing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the need to promote physical distancing, the Jackson County Board of Commissioners is conducting meetings through electronic and telephonic means. On January 5, 2021, the Board of Commissioners approved Order No. 1-21 authorizing the use of their electronic signatures on Ordinances, Orders, and other documents. Following the motion and roll call vote, Commissioners Dyer, Dotterer and Roberts authorized the use of his/her electronic signature on these minutes of November 16, 2021.