



Board of Commissioners

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Corvallis, OR 97330

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## AGENDA

(Chair May Alter the Agenda)

### BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, January 17, 2023, 9 AM

| How to Participate in the Board of Commissioners Meeting |                                     |                       |                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| In-Person                                                | Zoom Video                          | Zoom Phone Audio      | Facebook LiveStream                                |
| Kalapuya Building<br>4500 Research Way<br>Corvallis, OR  | <a href="#">Click for Zoom link</a> | Dial 1 (253) 215-8782 | <a href="#">Click for Facebook LiveStream link</a> |
|                                                          | Zoom Meeting ID: 894 8529 4215      |                       |                                                    |
|                                                          | Zoom Passcode: 149571               |                       |                                                    |

#### 1. Opening

- 1.1 Call to Order
- 1.2 Introductions
- 1.3 Announcements

#### 2. Review and Approve Agenda

#### 3. Comments from the Public

*Time restrictions may be imposed on public comment, dependent on the business before the Board of Commissioners. Individual comment may be limited to three minutes*

#### 4. Work Session

- 4.1 15 minutes – COVID Update from Department Operation Center – April Holland, Health Services
- 4.2 15 minutes – Update from Benton County Talks Trash Solid Waste Process Workgroup – Darren Nichols, Community Development
- 4.3 30 minutes – Initiation of Development Code Amendments Regarding Stormwater – Greg Verret, Community Development; Gordon Kurtz, Public Works

*The Board of Commissioners may call an executive session when necessary pursuant to ORS 192.660. The Board is not required to provide advance notice of an executive session. However, every effort will be made to give notice of an executive session. If an executive session is the only item on the agenda for the Board meeting, notice shall be given as for all public meetings (ORS 192.640(2)) and the notice shall state the specific reason for the executive session as required by ORS 192.660.*

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to the Board of Commissioners Office, (541) 766-6800.

The Board will take a brief recess between the Work Session and Business Meeting

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**5. Consent Calendar**

5.1 In the Matter of the Following Road District Appointments:

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Lee Ann Julson  | North F Street |
| Beverly Kennedy | Ridgewood Road |

5.2 In the Matter of Approving the January 3, 2023 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

**6. New Business**

- 6.1 Renewal of the 2023 Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) Membership Fees – *Joe Kerby, County Administrator*
- 6.2 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Review – *Rick Crager, Shurisa Steed; Financial Services*
- 6.3 Discussion Regarding Transition Planning for Carrying Out County Administrator Duties – *Joe Kerby, County Administrator*

**7. Commissioner Updates**

- 7.1 Pat Malone, Chair
- 7.2 Xanthippe Augerot, Vice-chair
- 7.3 Nancy Wyse, Commissioner

**8. Other**

ORS 192.640(1)" . . . notice shall include a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting, but this requirement shall not limit the ability of a governing body to consider additional subjects."

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Zoom link:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89397129694?pwd=Q3JOOWRuRVZlZVDc1QzgrMzBSeHFpZz09>

**Livestream:** <http://facebook.com/BentonCoGov>

**Tuesday, January 17, 2023**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Present:** Nancy Wyse, Chair; **Xanthippe Augerot**, Commissioner; **Pat Malone**, Commissioner; **Vance Croney**, County Counsel; **Joe Kerby**, County Administrator

**Staff:** **Jen Brown**, Sustainability; **Shannon Bush**, **Laurel Byer**, **Darren Nichols**, **Webster Slater**, **Greg Verret**, **Inga Williams**, Community Development; **Rick Crager**, **Shurisa Steed**, Finance; **Cory Grogan**, Public Information Officer; **April Holland**, Health; **Gordon Kurtz**, **Shea Steingass**, **Gary Stockhoff**, Public Works; **Amanda Makepeace**, BOC Staff; **Erika Milo**, BOC Recorder; **Sarah Siddiqui**, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion; **Jef Van Arsdall**, Sheriff; **Matt Wetherell**, Juvenile Department

**Guests:** **Manju Bangalore**, **Philip Brownell**, **Mark Yeager**, residents; **John Harris**, Horsepower Productions; **Sam Imperati**, ICM Resolutions

Chair Wyse called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**I. Opening:**

**A. Introductions**

**B. Announcements**

No announcements were made.

**II. Comments from the Public**

Mark Yeager, resident: Yeager, a former member of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, stressed the importance of creating a long-term solid waste management plan for Benton County. Republic Services (RS) plans to apply again to expand Coffin Butte Landfill (CBL). Currently 1.1 million tons of waste are allowed into CBL per year. According to the Department of Environmental Quality, that represents nearly 33% of all solid waste disposed in Oregon in 2020. If expansion is approved, the tonnage cap will be lifted. Less than 10% of the waste going into CBL comes from Benton County. The amount of waste has nearly doubled since 2016. The County should not consider expanding the landfill before completing a plan including alternatives for decreasing the waste stream. RS estimates 18 more years of existing landfill capacity, which provides time for a thorough study.

Manju Bangalore, resident: Bangalore advocated for the Board to address and cancel medical debt, which is now the top reason Americans file for bankruptcy. Medical debt most often impacts low-income and marginalized residents. In 2022, the City of Toledo, Ohio and Lucas County worked with the organization RIP Medical Debt to cancel \$240 million of debt through American Rescue Plan Act funds. Once medical debt has been in collections long enough, it can be purchased at a 1:100 ratio. Each entity contributed \$800,000 to buy \$180 million of residents' debt. Medical debt has been found to contribute directly to a person's risk of dying by suicide. More than 30 other jurisdictions seek to work with RIP Medical Debt. It would cost about

\$429,000 for Benton County and the City of Corvallis to implement this model, cancelling \$40-45 million of medical debt for Benton County residents.

**{Exhibit 1: Bangalore Medical Debt Cancellation Letter}**

**{Exhibit 2: Bangalore Medical Debt Cancellation Article}**

### **III. Review and Approve Agenda**

The following items were added to the agenda:

**6.4 Discussion and Approval of Letter of Support for Greenbelt Land Trust Regarding Community Paths Grant: Pathways for North Benton County Communities** – *Joe Kerby, County Administrator*

**6.5 Renewal of National Association of Counties 2023 Dues in the Amount of \$1,712.00** – *Joe Kerby, County Administrator*

### **IV. Work Session**

**4.1 COVID Update from Department Operation Center** – *April Holland, Health Services*

Holland reported that Respiratory Syncytial Virus peaked in late November 2023. Influenza cases are still high but seem to be on the decline. There could be a second influenza wave. COVID-19 cases surged this winter but are decreasing. COVID-19 cases are likely to increase soon due to the XBB1.5 variant, which is surging on the east coast. There is currently not much XBB1.5 in the Pacific Northwest, but it is expected to become the dominant variant in February 2023. XBB1.5 has not caused more severe disease than other strains, but is more contagious.

Benton County had 49 reported COVID-19 cases in the first week of 2023, for a seven-day rate of 52 cases per 100,000 residents. Positivity rate was 8%. Wastewater monitoring does not suggest a coming increase. Hospital and healthcare staffing is still a challenge in Oregon, but COVID-19 hospitalizations have decreased in the last few weeks. However, more infections still mean more deaths and hospitalizations; the bivalent booster is the best protection against COVID-19 infection, severe illness, and death. Benton County still has highest rate of bivalent booster uptake in Oregon for eligible residents age 65 and older (63.3%) and residents aged 50-64 (43%).

Augerot noted that Federal funding for vaccination has not continued, and asked how long the County can continue to hold community vaccination clinics.

Holland replied that staff are working to distribute vaccines to pharmacies and providers; residents will need to rely on those sources in future. Health has no community clinics scheduled, as Oregon Health Authority partners no longer have funding. Benton Community Health Clinics are vaccinating individuals who lack other access. The Immunization Coordinator regularly contacts long-term care facilities about vaccination needs.

Augerot mentioned hearing discussions of allowing large firms to charge consumers the full cost of the vaccine, and asked if that was the trend.

Holland was unsure. Vaccines are still free at this time. Staff are exploring options to pay for the vaccine for those with no insurance or low income. Health has some one-time funding to retain communications staff.

Malone asked if Federal funding for COVID-19 tests was available and was likely to continue.

Holland replied that the County has a cache of rapid tests and was recently able to acquire more. Every household can use the government portal to get four free tests delivered. Insurance still covers rapid tests. The COVID-19 Response Team provides tests at certain community locations and will continue while supplies last. If there are eligible funds and a gap in test availability, staff will consider purchasing tests for community use.

#### **4.2 Update from the Benton County Talks Trash (BCTT) Solid Waste Process Workgroup (WG) – *Darren Nichols, Community Development***

Nichols explained there is a vacancy in the WG for a member of the Planning Commission (PC). The PC offered Andrew Struthers as a PC representative for the rest of the project if the Board of Commissioners approves. Catherine Biscoe joined the WG as a community member and as a City Councilor from Philomath; Biscoe has now been appointed to the PC, so if Struthers is appointed, the WG would have three PC members. Imperati does view this as a problem.

Wyse noted that if Biscoe filled the second PC seat in the WG, the County would still need another community member. Wyse was comfortable with Biscoe serving as a PC member, but not necessarily as the liaison. Wyse supported appointing Struthers.

Augerot did not favor having three PC members on the WG, but was not sure who else to select. Perhaps a community member who has been active on WG subcommittees could be a candidate.

Responding to a question from Wyse, Imperati replied that three WG meetings remained, including one on January 19, 2023.

Nichols noted that time was short to explore options and recommended proceeding with the appointment.

Wyse suggested leaving one spot vacant.

Augerot and Malone preferred to appoint.

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to appoint Andrew Struthers as an appointee from the Planning Commission to the Benton County Talks Trash Work Group. Augerot seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

Imperati to issue the second draft WG report by tomorrow morning. WG subcommittee findings and recommendations will be incorporated into the second draft. Imperati reviewed the upcoming schedule (exhibit 3). The final report is due to the Board on March 24, 2023, to be presented at the March 28, 2023 Board Meeting if the agenda allows.

Augerot noted that Nichols has said that the Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) needs to be redone, and asked about a possible schedule for that.

Nichols concurred that a holistic plan is needed. Staff need to receive recommendations from the WG (including a proposed table of contents for the SWMP) and get Board feedback on what to include in a request for proposals; then staff can solicit consultants. Funding is needed for an estimated \$350,000 based on comparable Counties; costs could be higher given the need for

robust community engagement. Nichols would prefer to solicit firms in time to inform 2023-25 Biennium budget allocation.

Malone noted that during the report process, topics have arisen that were beyond the WG scope, and asked if a priority list of such items would be part of the final report.

Nichols affirmed that the report would show where the WG reached consensus on next steps and which items the WG disagreed on or did not cover due to complexity.

Imperati recommended that the Board schedule three to four work sessions in April and early May 2023 to vet the WG report and identify issues that need further work.

### **{Exhibit 3: BCTT Schedule}**

#### **4.3 Update on Development Code Amendments Regarding Stormwater – Greg Verret, Community Development; Gordon Kurtz, Public Works**

Verret explained that these code amendments are required by State mandates from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), mainly lowering the threshold requiring erosion and sediment control permits and post-construction detention and runoff treatment of stormwater. A Planning Commission (PC) Public Hearing was held on January 3, 2023 and received testimony from one community member who is also involved with the Public Works-led advisory group. The PC recommended that the Board approving the code, but would like more emphasis on flexibility in alternatives for property owners on post-construction detention and treatment. Since many more projects will need review, the changes could significantly increase cost to property owners and administrative burden on staff. The code contains the framework of permit review requirements, but details of types of treatment or detention will be contained in support documents. Documents are easier to adapt than code and can be interpreted by the County Engineer with some flexibility to ensure that the objectives of stormwater management are met at the lowest cost to property owners, while avoiding unnecessary permitting and infrastructure.

Kurtz added that staff made minor adjustments to code last week to develop an exception for agricultural buildings built outside of Federally-recognized urbanized areas.

Verret noted that at the last Board discussion in December 2022, there was some uncertainty on how to ensure long-term maintenance of stormwater facilities. Staff have developed code language and a template agreement that the County Engineer would enter with property owners when a stormwater treatment/detention facility is constructed to ensure the property owner understands responsibilities and maintenance. This would also grant the County authority to inspect and direct corrections or maintenance, and if maintenance is not performed, to effect repairs, bill the property owner, and put a lien on the property if the bill is unpaid. Staff worked extensively with Counsel on this document and had good examples from other cities.

Augerot agreed with the PC that there are many opportunities for voluntary work, and encouraged collaboration with watershed councils.

Verret added that staff are considering ways that the County or other organizations can encourage low-impact development (LID), working with landowners to reduce impermeable surfaces and avoid needing to install structures.

Kurtz explained that if certain LID applications are used, a credit is given to reduce the amount of impervious area being considered. The goal is to provide the same benefit but reduce the burden on the homeowner.

Malone asked about areas where the County could make exceptions to some requirements.

Verret explained that there are rural areas, the Federally designated urbanized area, and the Urban Growth Boundaries (UGBs) of the Cities of Corvallis and Philomath. The Federal urbanized area is census-derived and has the most scrutiny and requirements. Within the UGBs, the respective city's standards are used.

Kurtz added that the urbanized area boundary fluctuates. The recent code revision added a definition of 'Federally recognized urbanized area' for clarity. The County could grant exceptions outside of the UGBs.

Wyse supported the PC's recommendation for a clear and objective pathway, while calling out other ways to be flexible. Wyse expressed frustration that the DEQ mandate impacts many County departments, but does not include or suggest sources of funding.

Verret stated that the item will return for Public Hearing on February 7, 2023.

## **V. Consent Calendar**

### **5.1 In the Matter of the Following Road District Appointments:**

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Lee Ann Julson</b>  | <b>North F Street</b> |
| <b>Beverly Kennedy</b> | <b>Ridgewood Road</b> |

### **5.2 In the Matter of Approving the January 3, 2023 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to approve the Consent Calendar of January 17, 2023. Augerot seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

Chair Malone recessed the meeting at 10:05 a.m. and reconvened at 10:13 a.m.

## **VI. New Business**

### **6.1 Renewal of the 2023 Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) Membership Fees – Joe Kerby, County Administrator**

Kerby asked whether the Board wished to pay \$39,800.60 for 2023 AOC membership fees, and to pay \$651.58 in voluntary assessment dues.

Responding to a question from Malone, Augerot noted that in recent years, the Board has not paid the County Forest Trust Lands counsel's voluntary assessment dues, some of which are directed towards lobbying and other State-level work that Benton does not necessarily support.

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to approve the 2023 Association of Oregon Counties membership fees of \$39,800.60. Augerot seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

### **6.2 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Review – Rick Crager, Shurisa Steed, Financial Services**

Crager explained that the County received \$18.1 million of ARPA funding in May 2021. Allowed areas of focus for the funding: response efforts to decrease the spread of COVID-19; \$10 million to replace lost public sector revenue; support immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses; address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to unequal impact on certain populations. Benton addressed the latter two through community grants. All funds must be obligated no later than December 31, 2024, although there are several more years to expend. So far, 51.29% of all funds have been expended. Of that, 52% (\$9.5 million) was used for revenue replacement, 13% for negative economic impacts, 2% for public health response, and \$1.6 million for water, sewer, and broadband. 24% of uncommitted funds (\$4.2 million) are allocated to be granted to the community.

Under revenue replacement, \$2,494,101 was allocated for facility remodels; \$1,005,725 for program revenue support for Natural Areas, Parks & Events, Benton Area Transit, and Fleet Services (primarily external); and \$4,250,000 for JSIP land acquisition. Other allocations included employee recognition, information technology upgrades, homelessness program support, and ARPA administration including Steed's position. Steed has helped with grant accountability and has established a stakeholder group.

The \$1.6 million in the water, sewer, and broadband category was allocated to County Service District water/sewer infrastructure. An assessment identified \$2.2 million in upgrades. Staff are prioritizing projects while seeking additional funding. Lobbying partner CFM Advocates believes the County has a strong case for State and Federal funding. Staff are pursuing the whole amount through State and Federal funding, not just the gap, as recommended by CFM.

Steed reviewed the 2022 distribution of \$2.6 million to 19 community grants. If funding is not fully committed, the Board will consider funding additional Tier II awards. About 30% of granted funds are expended. Funds must be obligated by June 30, 2023. Steed is working with six programs that are on Finance's watch list for incomplete spending. The City of Corvallis is still working on its program budget and needs City Council approval, so the County has not expended those funds yet. Steed shared several program success stories.

Augerot suggested using success story photos in the County newsletter.

Crager noted that the \$275,000 Corvallis Business Loan Program is the most concerning in terms of unexpended funds; this is partly due to staff turnover in the Corvallis-Benton County Economic Development Office (EDO).

Augerot asked if the County could take back and re-grant that funding.

Crager confirmed that was an option.

Augerot asked if the other 13 recipients were expending as expected.

Steed confirmed that most recipients were.

Kerby commented that Acting EDO Director Jerry Sorte would provide an update to the Board on January 24, 2023.

Crager suggested a deeper conversation in March 2023 if any organizations remain on the watch list, at which time the Board can consider other options. Staff will perform site visits in the next 30-60 days; Steed has developed an assessment plan.

**6.3 Discussion Regarding Transition Planning for Carrying Out County Administrator (CA) Duties – Joe Kerby, County Administrator; Tracy Martineau, Human Resources**

Kerby explained that last week he submitted his resignation and expects to depart the organization between March 10 and March 15, 2023. Each Commissioner had expressed interest to Kerby in appointing an Acting CA during recruitment for the CA position, and suggested candidates. Martineau has contacted those individuals.

Martineau explained that in 2017 it took six months from posting the CA position to hiring Kerby, and expected it to take four to eight months to fill the position if starting recruitment in February 2023. Martineau to discuss the search plan on an upcoming Board agenda.

Augerot felt the County was well positioned to recruit, thanks to Kerby and the leadership team. For about a year the Board has discussed hiring a Deputy County Administrator or similar role; Augerot recommended fleshing out that position fully before posting the CA position.

Wyse wondered if it would be more attractive for a CA candidate to be involved in creating the support position.

Augerot recommended having the position created and job description in draft form first, then allowing the incoming CA to make the hiring decision.

Kerby added that a draft Deputy County Administrator job description will be submitted to Human Resources (HR) today as a policy option package within the budget process.

Wyse would like the new CA to have some flexibility and input on the support position if desired.

Augerot and Malone concurred.

Kerby explained that the Assistant description is mainly needed as a budget placeholder and to allow HR to classify the position, with opportunities for adjustment later. This is repurposing a vacant position.

Malone opined the CA search should start as soon as possible, but not be limited to a certain fill date. Four to eight months seemed reasonable.

Wyse agreed, but stressed ensuring that candidates do not feel the County is taking too long to select.

Augerot agreed with Wyse and stated the position can say “open until filled.” Augerot asked if the County would use a search firm.

Martineau recommended doing so.

Kerby stated that staff plan to add recruitment for a regular full-time position to the agenda for the January 19, 2023 Board Meeting with the District Attorney and Sheriff. Kerby asked the Board's preference about appointing an interim CA.

Wyse's biggest concern was who could be pulled away from their department, what would happen to that department, and who could best oversee all departments. Wyse's expectations of the interim role would be keeping everything going and not adding new projects.

Augerot concurred, but also stressed keeping projects such as the JSIP bond measure and Benton County Talks Trash process underway. An additional candidate is Health Department Director Hoffman. Augerot regarded Hoffman's candidacy highly; Hoffman has worked with all departments and intends to retire in the near future.

Kerby was developing a transition list of projects. An internal candidate in an interim role would need to know clear expectations and how long the role would last. Kerby expressed confidence in the candidates suggested by the Board, but all are busy with department operations, large projects, and the budget process. The recommended budget is due March 15, 2023; Kerby can stay on long enough to provide input.

Responding to a question from Martineau, the Board confirmed a preference to appoint an existing department director as interim CA.

Martineau summarized that the Board emphasized maintaining momentum on key projects and initiatives, balancing competing department priorities, and capacity for additional workload. Martineau asked if the Board wished to discuss specific candidates now.

Malone felt conversations with Kerby about candidates should continue first.

Augerot stressed that six months or longer is a long time for a director to take away from core departmental responsibilities. Hoffman is leaving her role and has capable deputies prepared to take over during recruitment for her position. Duration of responsibility is a primary concern.

Wyse agreed. All suggested candidates could do the job. Wyse favored Hoffman if she is willing to stay a little longer; Health already has a transition plan. Wyse asked if Hoffman would serve in the interim role up to six months.

Kerby replied that Hoffman preferred three or four months and would go up to six months, but not longer. If Hoffman began as interim CA when Kerby left in mid-March, Hoffman could serve into early December 2023. All Commissioners felt the decision should be made no later than January 24, 2023, so that the interim CA can train with Kerby and get involved in the budget process.

The Board preferred to decide about an interim CA on January 19, 2023, not today.

Malone requested some discussion on January 19, 2023 of possible recruiting firms.

Martineau did not expect to have that information by then, but could discuss search criteria to identify a good partner.

Augerot asked if the cost of a hiring firm was low enough not to need a Request for Proposals.

Counsel replied that the County has solicited free price quotes in the past.

The Board did not feel a need to talk to any of the five internal candidates before the next meeting.

Wyse thanked Kerby for ensuring good employees through mentoring professional development, and encouraged employees to talk to their manager about concerns.

Augerot noted two upcoming “Joe with Joe” roundtables where staff could speak with Kerby.

**6.4 Discussion and Approval of Letter of Support for Greenbelt Land Trust Regarding Community Paths Grant: Pathways for North Benton County Communities – Joe Kerby, County Administrator**

Kerby noted that the year date on the letter should be corrected to 2023.

Malone explained this grant mainly supports a study for a bridge over Highway 99-West to connect Jackson-Frazier Wetlands to Owens Farm. Samaritan Health Services also owns property adjacent to Owens Farm.

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to approve the letter of support (with the date corrected) for Greenbelt Land Trust Community Paths Grant: Pathways for North Benton County communities. Augerot seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

**{Exhibit 4: Community Pathways Grant Letter of Support}**

**6.5 Renewal of National Association of Counties (NACo) 2023 Dues in the Amount of \$1,712.00 – Joe Kerby, County Administrator**

**MOTION:** Augerot moved to approve National Association of Counties dues in the amount of \$1,712.00. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

Augerot noted that the County needs to provide NACo with an updated address.

**{Exhibit 5: NACo Dues Invoice}**

**VII. Commissioner Updates**

**7.1 Pat Malone**

Malone noted the retirement of George Looney, Public Works.

**7.2 Xanthippe Augerot**

Augerot shared copies of a new South Benton County newsletter from former Commissioner Anne Schuster, with an informational handout about the new South Benton Social Services Center. Available in Spanish and English, the newsletter is produced by the South Benton Advisory Committee associated with United Way. Schuster expressed interest in a short article about JSIP and the bond measure for the next issue.

Augerot expressed concern that Governor Tina Kotek’s Declaration of Emergency on Homelessness did not include Benton, Linn, or Lincoln County. Augerot contacted Pegge

McGuire of Community Services Consortium (CSC), the Lincoln County Commissioners, Speaker Dan Rayfield, and Senator Sara Gelser Blouin, who are all concerned. The Lincoln Board wrote a letter to Kotek. Because Benton is included in the Rural Oregon Continuum of Care (COC), there was no data specific to Benton's needs. Augerot would like the Board to send a letter to Kotek protesting this approach.

Malone questioned the map used in the Declaration, which combined counties with small populations in central/eastern Oregon with the Willamette Valley group.

Augerot explained the map is based on Federal COCs. Augerot and CSC have been discussing Linn-Benton-Lincoln becoming an independent COC to align with Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments geography; this situation provides more impetus for that proposal. The Coastal caucus also sent Kotek a letter asking to be considered in the Declaration. Augerot can work with staff on a draft letter voicing the Board's concerns, to be discussed at the January 24, 2023 Board Meeting.

Wyse and Malone supported that suggestion. Malone would support a letter to Kotek about fixing the map and getting support to continue the Benton's work on homelessness issues.

Augerot noted that fixing the map is a separate process, but the Board can request a different approach to allocating the emergency resolution funds.

Wyse would like to thank Governor Tina Kotek for taking action, but provide Board feedback.

Augerot noted that the Board attended the Martin Luther King, Junior birthday celebration.

Wyse added that District Attorney John Haroldson and Sheriff also attended.

### **7.3 Nancy Wyse**

No business was discussed.

## **VIII. Other**

No other business was discussed.

## **IX. Adjournment**

Chair Wyse adjourned the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

DocuSigned by:  
  
 744FC1377E0E4AF...  
 Pat Malone, Chair

DocuSigned by:  
  
 736EA4FE80B0496...  
 Erika Milo, Recorder

*\* NOTE: Items denoted with an asterisk do NOT have accompanying written materials in the meeting packet.*



**BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING**

**Please Sign In If You Wish to Speak During the Public Comment Portion of Meeting**

Individual comment may be limited to three minutes.

[illegible]

Date: 1/17/23Submitted by: Manju Bangalore

Manju Bangalore  
Regarding Medical Debt Cancellation  
January 17th, 2023

My name is Manju Bangalore, and I am the reigning Miss Oregon USA. I will be competing at Miss USA later this year. I am also a physicist, actor, organizer, and the founder of an Oregon-based nonprofit, Operation Period, where we are fighting to create a world where menstruation holds no one back.

As a part of our organization's mission, we advocate on issues that impact menstruators the most – from ensuring we have the menstrual products we need to attend school and work to fighting for incarcerated menstruators' rights in prison. This year, we are in addition advocating for local cities and counties to address and cancel medical debt, which is now the number one reason Americans file for bankruptcy. If the county addresses medical debt, which most often impacts low-income and marginalized residents, thousands will have the opportunity to invest in more basic necessities, like menstrual products, so that they can live life on their terms. Thus, **I am testifying on how the Benton County Board of Commissioners can and should address medical debt for thousands of its residents.**

We live in a country where healthcare costs are astronomically high. While there is a great need to address our healthcare system structurally, there is something we can do *now* to address the debts millions of Americans are faced with because they have sought help from a hospital or clinic.

Last year, the city of Toledo and Lucas County, which Toledo is a part of, worked with an organization, RIP Medical Debt, to begin the process of canceling \$240 million of medical debt. How?

Once medical debt has been in collections for enough time, it is purchasable at a 1:100 ratio. So, using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars, both the city and county contributed \$800,000 each for a total of \$1.6 million to buy \$180 million of its county's residents' debt. The only requirements in place were that the resident has an income of up to 400% of current Federal Poverty Guidelines or their medical debt exceeds 5% of their estimated household annual income. There was no application or approval process. The last step was mailing out letters to the qualifying residents, informing them that they no longer owed even a penny for their healthcare debt.

Medical debt is becoming an entire business, with companies now offering medical credit cards for their care. Moreover, debt and financial difficulties have been found to directly contribute to a person's risk to die by suicide – whether or not they have a mental illness.<sup>1</sup> As a gen-z girl, this is not a world I want to inherit. I want a world where healthcare is a fundamental right and where people can live their lives with dignity, safety, and care.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.healio.com/news/psychiatry/20210430/people-with-debt-burden-significantly-more-likely-to-attempt-suicide>

There is no other direct social service program that performs at a 1:100 ratio. Most often, it is 1:1. If you give a resident \$1, they have \$1. This program is one of its kind, but its model is not

Right now, more than 30 other jurisdictions are requesting to work with RIP Medical Debt to relieve their residents immediately. In Cook County, Illinois, with just \$12 million of their federal funds, RIP Medical Debt has the potential to negotiate the purchase of up to \$1 billion in medical debt for their residents and cancel it. There is literally a template and model for this entire process. I request that this model now be implemented here in our county using ARPA or other unallocated funds.

Here are some estimates regarding the prevalence of medical debt in Benton County and how much budget would be needed to provide relief:

- Benton County has a population of around 95,000 people. Lucas County has 431,000. Benton County thus has 77.9 percent fewer residents (and 75.85 percent fewer adults).
- Based on Benton County's demographic characteristics (and medical debt prevalence statistics from published studies), it's likely that a lower percentage of adults have outstanding medical debt - around 14.1 percent for Benton County versus 14.3 percent for Lucas County (about 1.33 percent less).
- According to the U.S. Census, about 65 percent of Lucas County residents are in households between 0% and 400% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. This percentage for Benton County is 59.4%, or 7.79 percent less.
- The average medical debt (per person with medical debt) in Western states is about 22.0 percent higher than in the Midwest.
- So, an estimated budget for medical debt relief in Benton County would be \$429,000, derived as follows:  $\$1.6 \text{ million} \times (1 - .7585) \times (1 - .0133) \times (1 - .0779) \times (1.22) = \sim \$429,000$ . With that resource, RIP Medical Debt could cancel \$40 million to \$45 million of medical debt.
- The estimated number of people that can be helped in Benton County is 9,000.

These are estimates, but provide us a foundational understanding of how little funding this will take. When people think of pageants, they often think of a stereotype. But I believe strongly that advocacy like at this moment is not only important, but it is imperative. This opportunity to abolish medical debt gives us the opportunity to continue to be a force for good.

I thank you in advance for your consideration on this matter and urge you to take action to relieve thousands of Benton County residents.

## ***Medical Debt Is Being Erased in Ohio and Illinois. Is Your Town Next?***

Cook County, Ill., and Toledo, Ohio, are turning to the American Rescue Plan to wipe out residents' medical debt. Experts caution it is a short-term solution.

By Amanda Holpuch

Dec. 29, 2022

5 MIN READ

In the next few weeks, tens of thousands of people in Cook County, Ill., will open their mailboxes to find a letter from the county government explaining that their medical debt has been paid off.

Officials in New Orleans and Toledo, Ohio, are finalizing contracts so that tens of thousands of residents can receive a similar letter in the coming year. In Pittsburgh on Dec. 19, the City Council approved a budget that would include \$1 million for medical debt relief.

More local governments are likely to follow as county executives and city councils embrace a new strategy to address the high cost of health care. They are partnering with RIP Medical Debt, a nonprofit that aims to abolish medical debt by buying it from hospitals, health systems and collections agencies at a steep discount.

"What we need in this country is universal health care, clearly," Toni Preckwinkle, the president of the Board of Commissioners in Cook County, said. "But we're not there as a nation yet, and so those of us who are responsible for local units of government have to do everything we can to make health care available, accessible to people."

About 18 percent of Americans have medical debt that has been turned over to a third party for collection, according to a report published in July 2021 in the medical journal JAMA. That figure does not account for medical debt that is carried on credit cards or all medical bills owed to providers. Research shows that people with medical debt are less likely to seek needed care and that medical debt can damage people's credit and make it more difficult for them to secure employment.

Cook County plans to spend \$12 million on medical debt relief and expects to erase debt for the first batch of beneficiaries by early January. In Lucas County, Ohio, and its largest city, Toledo, up to \$240 million in medical debt could be paid off at a cost of \$1.6 million. New Orleans is looking to spend \$1.3 million to clear \$130 million in medical debt. The \$1 million in Pittsburgh's budget could wipe out \$115 million in debt, officials said.



James Dickerson for The New York Times

These initiatives are all being funded by President Biden's trillion-dollar American Rescue Plan, which infused local governments with cash to spend on infrastructure, public services and economic relief programs. Health policy experts say that while medical debt relief provides an immediate benefit to people, it does not address the root causes of medical debt, which is almost nonexistent outside the United States.

To be eligible for debt relief through RIP Medical Debt, people must have a household income up to 400 percent of the federal poverty level, or about \$111,000 for a family of four, or have medical debts that exceed 5 percent of their annual income. People cannot apply to be considered for debt relief, and they do not pay taxes on the purchase of their debt. RIP Medical Debt analyzes debt portfolios to determine who qualifies.

Wendy Pestrue, the chief executive of the United Way of Greater Toledo, said debt relief could remove a source of economic stress for the 43 percent of families who either were living in poverty or were unable to afford housing, child care, food, transportation or health care in Toledo, which has a population of nearly 269,000.

"It puts some of this economic strength back in the hands of those who are having debt exonerated and really helps them plan for their stability," she said.

Michele Grim, who joined Toledo's City Council in January 2022, pushed for some of the city's \$180 million in American Rescue Plan funds to be used for medical debt relief after she read about the Cook County initiative.



Michele Grim is one of the leading voices behind Toledo's use of the American Rescue Plan for medical debt relief.  
James Dickerson for The New York Times

"Here's something so simple that local governments can do, maybe even state governments can do, to really help ease that burden on people, because we really need an overhaul in our system, and that's going to take years," said Ms. Grim, who is leaving the council at the end of the year because she was elected in November to be a Democratic state representative.

Toledo's City Council voted 7-5 on Nov. 9 to provide \$800,000 to pay off the debts. Its contribution was matched by Lucas County, resulting in \$1.6 million for medical debt relief. The city, the county and RIP Medical Debt are now working out a contract.

One council member who opposed the plan was George Sarantou, who said that he voted against it because his top funding priority was public safety, including upgrading city fire stations and police vehicles. While Mr. Sarantou said he was not opposed to medical debt relief, he was concerned about state funding for cities and villages, which is expected to be 1.66 percent of Ohio's 2022-23 budget. "Ohio has the

money,” he said. “Toledo does not.”

Medical debt relief appears to be popular. A poll by Tulchin Research found that 71 percent of respondents supported it. Fifty percent supported relieving student loan debt, 65 percent supported “Medicare for all” and 68 percent supported expanding Medicaid. The national poll of 1,500 people was conducted online from Nov. 14 to 20, after the Toledo vote, and had a margin of sampling error of plus or minus three percentage points. (Ms. Grim’s husband works for the polling company.)

This debt relief comes as states change how medical debt is treated.

In November, Gov. Kathy Hochul of New York signed legislation that blocked health care providers from using property liens or garnishing wages to collect medical debt. The day before the Toledo City Council vote, 72 percent of Arizona voters chose to lower interest rates for medical debt and to increase protections for people who owe debt, though a judge has since halted part of the measure.



Officials in Toledo and other cities are partnering with a nonprofit organization that aims to abolish medical debt by buying it from hospitals, health systems and collections agencies at a steep discount. James Dickerson for The New York Times

Wesley Yin, an associate professor of economics at the University of California, Los Angeles, said medical debt relief could be a “game changer” for some people, but governments should also be addressing the causes of medical debt, including high costs and limited access to good health insurance.

In partnership with RIP Medical Debt, Professor Yin is studying how the group’s work affects people’s livelihoods. “I believe there are some positive effects economically, but it might be more muted compared to the face value of the debt that is being forgiven,” he said.

Daniel Skinner, a health policy professor at Ohio University in Athens, said that debt relief was “low-hanging fruit,” considering that the mean amount of medical debt people carry is in the hundreds, not tens of thousands, of dollars.

“We need to get the cost of medicine under control, ultimately,” Professor Skinner said. “I’m all for what Toledo is doing, I’m all for what Cook County and now New Orleans are doing, but, ultimately, we can’t come back every couple of years and do this. It’s not good policy, it’s not efficient.”

Supporters of debt relief measures agree that there is more to be done.

RIP Medical Debt’s chief executive, Allison Sesso, said that a key part of the group’s work was to further discussions about changing the health care system.

In the past two years, RIP Medical Debt has placed more of an emphasis on buying debt directly from hospitals and health systems, before it reaches collectors. Ms. Sesso said that this gave the group a direct channel to talk with hospitals about how their own health repayment plans for low-income patients work. Some of the people whose debt RIP Medical Debt buys should have qualified for these programs in the first place, but they were not enrolled, she said.

“I do this job every day, and I appreciate that what we’re doing is really important and helpful for the individuals that we are helping and it’s resolving this problem for them,” Ms. Sesso said. “At the same time, I can’t help but wonder and question why my existence as an institution is needed in the first place.”

# WORK SESSIONS

## Key BCTT Dates

| Task                                                                                                                                  | Dates               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Informal Member Survey on Draft 1                                                                                                     | Completed           |
| Draft 2 Published with Subcommittee Updates                                                                                           | 1/17/23             |
| Workgroup Meeting 7 to Explore Key Issues in Draft 2                                                                                  | 1/19/23             |
| SWAC/DSAC & PC give feedback on Draft 3, and<br>Subcommittees Continue Refinement Process                                             | 1/25/23 to 2/10/23  |
| Draft 4 Published                                                                                                                     | 2/17/23             |
| Workgroup Meeting 8 to Provide Feedback                                                                                               | 2/23/23             |
| Informal Workgroup Polling and Public Survey on Then-Existing Version of Report (Draft 5,) and Subcommittees Meet for Final Revisions | 2/27/23 to 3/06/23  |
| Final Draft (6) Published                                                                                                             | 3/13/23             |
| Workgroup Meeting 9: Final Polling                                                                                                    | 3/16/23             |
| Member Statements Due                                                                                                                 | 3/21/23             |
| Final Report to Board                                                                                                                 | 3/24/23             |
| BCTT Presentation to Board                                                                                                            | On or after 3/28/23 |

## BOC Agenda Checklist Master

## Agenda Placement and Contacts

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**Suggested Agenda Date** 01/17/23

View [Agenda Tracker](#)

**Suggested Placement \*** Work Session

**Department \*** Community Development

**Contact Name \*** Greg Verret

**Phone Extension \*** 6294

**Meeting Attendee Name \*** Greg Verret, Gordon Kurtz

## Agenda Item Details



**Item Title \*** Stormwater Code Amendments - update

**Item Involves \*** Check all that apply

- ☐ Appointments
- ☐ Budget
- ☐ Contract/Agreement
- ☐ Discussion and Action
- ☒ Discussion Only
- ☐ Document Recording
- ☐ Employment
- ☐ Notice of Intent
- ☐ Order/Resolution
- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 1st Reading
- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 2nd Reading
- ☐ Proclamation
- ☐ Project/Committee Update
- ☐ Public Comment
- ☐ Special Report
- ☐ Other

**Estimated Time \*** 30 min

**Board/Committee Involvement \*** ☒ Yes  
☐ No

**Advertisement\***

☐ Yes

☒ No

**Name of  
Board/Committee**

Planning Commission

## Issues and Fiscal Impact

### Item Issues and Description

#### Identified Salient Issues \*

The purpose of this work session is to update the Board prior to the Board's public hearing on this matter, scheduled for February 7. Staff presented the Board with the concepts for amendments to the Stormwater sections of the Development Code on December 7, 2022; at that meeting, the Board directed staff to proceed with the public hearings process.

#### Updates:

On January 3, 2023, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the proposed amendments. The Planning Commission received testimony from one member of the public (a local real estate professional and member of the County's stakeholder group) who encouraged flexibility in how the stormwater requirements are implemented to reduce costs to property owners.

The Planning Commission discussed several aspects of the proposed code and ultimately voted to recommend adoption of the code as proposed by staff with one modification: Make clear in the code that flexibility and alternatives are available, but that a clear and objective pathway to compliance is also available. The PC was concerned about the cost to property owners and the administrative burden to the County of many more erosion and sediment control (ESC) permits and, especially, Post-Construction Stormwater permits (detention and treatment).

The Development Code provisions are intended to set out the regulatory framework for stormwater permits, while the implementation details (such as design requirements and options) are to be contained in the Stormwater Support Documents. These will be maintained by the County Engineer and be more adaptable over time than would Code provisions. The Stormwater Support Documents are intended to include alternatives and options to help reduce the cost of and need for stormwater detention and treatment on individual properties. Staff is adding language to the Code Amendments to more explicitly connect the Stormwater Support Documents to the Code and to state that the County Engineer has authority to interpret and apply the support documents in order to achieve stormwater objectives at least cost.

Staff will forward the revised code amendments and staff report to the BOC on January 24.

#### Background:

Benton County must amend its stormwater code due to new requirements from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) which Benton County and other jurisdictions are mandated to implement, pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act. The County is required to have updated regulations adopted by March 1, 2023.

The two fundamental changes required by the state are:

1. The threshold for the amount of ground disturbance that triggers the requirement for an erosion and sediment control (ESC) permit is changing from 1 acre to one-quarter acre. This means that many more development activities will require an ESC permit.

2. The threshold for the amount of impervious surface that triggers the requirement for stormwater detention and treatment is changing. Currently, the requirement applies only within the Corvallis Urbanized Area and the UGBs of Corvallis and Philomath, and is triggered by ground disturbance of 1 acre or more or by impervious surface exceeding 25,000 square feet. The new requirement will apply in all of unincorporated Benton County and be triggered by impervious surface exceeding 10,580 square feet (one-quarter acre).

Additionally, staff is proposing to remove design standards from the code and place them in stormwater support documents that include a design manual, a best management practices manual, and the County's overall Stormwater Management Plan. This will simplify the process for updating design standards in the future as needed to keep up with new technology, adopted best practices and low impact design principles. Staff also proposes modifying the provisions for ongoing maintenance responsibility for stormwater detention and treatment facilities.

**Options \***

Staff anticipates this item will be for "Discussion" only; the Board may, however, ask staff to develop other options for the Board's consideration at the public hearing on February 7.

**Fiscal Impact \***

- ☒ Yes  
☐ No

**Fiscal Impact  
Description \***

The mandated changes to the County's stormwater program will result in significantly more development projects being required to obtain erosion/sediment control permits, post-construction stormwater management permits, or both. This will increase time demands on permitting staff in Community Development and engineering staff in Public Works. Other staff in Community Development, Public Works, Environmental Health, Assessment, Records and possibly other departments may see additional work. Materials preparation/distribution costs will likely occur, as well. Additional FTE will likely be necessary, and a budget proposal is being prepared for the 2023-25 biennial budget. Additionally, changes to the stormwater permit fees are being prepared and will be presented to the Board along with the ordinance for the code amendments.

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

**Mandated Service? \*** ☒ Yes  
☐ No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

Describe how this agenda checklist advances the core values or focus areas of 2040, or supports a strategy of a departmental goal.

To review the initiative, visit the website [HERE](#).

**Mandated Service Description \*** If this agenda checklist describes a mandated service or other function, please describe here.  
 Oregon DEQ rules require local jurisdictions such as Benton County to regulate stormwater to state and federal standards under the federal Clean Water Act and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).

## Values and Focus Areas

Check boxes that reflect each applicable value or focus area and explain how they will be advanced.

**Core Values \*** Select all that apply.

- ☐ Vibrant, Livable Communities
- ☐ Supportive People Resources
- ☒ High Quality Environment and Access
- ☐ Diverse Economy that Fits
- ☐ Community Resilience
- ☐ Equity for Everyone
- ☐ Health in All Actions
- ☐ NA

**Explain Core Values Selections \*** The proposed stormwater code provisions are part of Benton County's program to improve water quality in the mid-Willamette Valley.

**Focus Areas and Vision \*** Select all that apply.

- ☐ Community Safety
- ☐ Emergency Preparedness
- ☐ Outdoor Recreation
- ☐ Prosperous Economy
- ☒ Environment and Natural Resources
- ☐ Mobility and Transportation
- ☒ Housing and Growth
- ☐ Arts, Entertainment, Culture, and History
- ☐ Food and Agriculture
- ☐ Lifelong Learning and Education
- ☐ NA

**Explain Focus Areas and Vision Selection \*** Stormwater runoff is a key component of water quality, a key environmental element. The stormwater regulations will affect many developers of land by requiring permits and implementation of water quality protection measures. This may increase the cost of housing and other development. Enabling flexibility in how the permit requirements are implemented may provide lower-cost and more effective alternatives for some properties.

# Recommendations and Motions

## Page 9 of 73

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### Item Recommendations and Motions

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|                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Staff</b>            | Discussion only. |
| <b>Recommendations*</b> |                  |

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| <b>Work Session</b> | I move to ... |
| <b>Motions*</b>     | N/A           |

## Attachments, Comments, and Submission

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### Item Comments and Attachments

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**Attachments**

Upload any attachments to be included in the agenda, preferably as PDF files. If more than one attachment / exhibit, please indicate "1", "2", "3" or "A", "B", "C" on the documents.

**Comments (optional)**

If you have any questions, please call ext.6800

**Department**  
**Approver**

DARREN NICHOLS

1.

### Department Approval

---

Comments

Signature

*Darren Nichols*

2.

### Counsel Approval

---

Comments

Signature

*Vance H. Choney*

3.

### County Administrator Approval

---

Comments

Signature

*Joseph Kerby*

4.

### BOC Final Approval

---

Comments

Signature

*Amarda Makepeace*

# CONSENT CALENDAR

## BOC Agenda Checklist Master

## Agenda Placement and Contacts

**Suggested Agenda Date** 01/17/23

View [Agenda Tracker](#)

**Suggested Placement \*** BOC Tuesday Meeting

**Department \*** Finance

**Contact Name \*** Lindsey Goodman

**Phone Extension \*** 6342

**Meeting Attendee Name \*** Rick Crager or Lindsey Goodman

## Agenda Item Details



**Item Title \*** Road District Appointment, North F Street

**Item Involves \*** Check all that apply

- ☒ Appointments
- ☐ Budget
- ☐ Contract/Agreement
- ☐ Discussion and Action
- ☐ Discussion Only
- ☐ Document Recording
- ☐ Employment
- ☐ Notice of Intent
- ☒ Order/Resolution
- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 1st Reading
- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 2nd Reading
- ☐ Proclamation
- ☐ Project/Committee Update
- ☐ Public Comment
- ☐ Special Report
- ☐ Other

**Board/Committee Involvement \***

☐ Yes

☒ No

**Advertisement \***

☐ Yes

☒ No

## Issues and Fiscal Impact

Page 14 of 73

### Item Issues and Description

#### Identified Salient Issues \*

The Benton County Board of Commissioners are responsible for appointing commissioners for Special Road Districts per ORS 371.338. North F Street Road Districts has submitted a name(s) for a term to their respective Road District. Special Road District Administration (ORS 371.305 through 371.385)

#### Options \*

- 1) Approval
- 2) Contact the respective Road District for submittal of a new nominee for the commissioner appointment.

#### Fiscal Impact \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

**Mandated Service? \*** ☐ Yes ☒ No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

Describe how this agenda checklist advances the core values or focus areas of 2040, or supports a strategy of a departmental goal.

To review the initiative, visit the website [HERE](#).

### Values and Focus Areas

Check boxes that reflect each applicable value or focus area and explain how they will be advanced.

#### Core Values \*

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Vibrant, Livable Communities
- ☐ Supportive People Resources
- ☐ High Quality Environment and Access
- ☐ Diverse Economy that Fits
- ☐ Community Resilience
- ☐ Equity for Everyone
- ☐ Health in All Actions
- ☒ N/A

**Explain Core Values Selections \*** N/A

#### Focus Areas and Vision \*

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Community Safety
- ☐ Emergency Preparedness
- ☐ Outdoor Recreation
- ☐ Prosperous Economy
- ☐ Environment and Natural Resources
- ☐ Mobility and Transportation
- ☐ Housing and Growth
- ☐ Arts, Entertainment, Culture, and History
- ☐ Food and Agriculture
- ☐ Lifelong Learning and Education
- ☒ N/A

**Explain Focus Areas and Vision Selection \*** N/A

## Recommendations and Motions

---

### Item Recommendations and Motions

---

**Staff**

Approval

**Recommendations\***

**Meeting Motions\***

I move to ...

...approve appointing individuals to serve on the North F Street Road District, as listed in the attached Orders.

# Attachments, Comments, and Submission

## Item Comments and Attachments

### Attachments

Upload any attachments to be included in the agenda, preferably as PDF files. If more than one attachment / exhibit, please indicate "1", "2", "3" or "A", "B", "C" on the documents.

ORDER#2023-024 North F Street Road

117.66KB

Appointment.pdf

### Comments (optional)

If you have any questions, please call ext.6800

### Department Approver

RICHARD CRAGER

|                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1.</p> <hr/> <p>Department Approval</p> <hr/> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <div><i>Rick Crager</i></div>            | <p>4.</p> <hr/> <p>BOC Final Approval</p> <hr/> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <div><i>Amanda Makepeace</i></div> |
| <p>2.</p> <hr/> <p>Counsel Approval</p> <hr/> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <div><i>Vance H. Cline</i></div>            |                                                                                                                     |
| <p>3.</p> <hr/> <p>County Administrator Approval</p> <hr/> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <div><i>Joseph Kerby</i></div> |                                                                                                                     |

)

Nancy Wyse, Commissioner

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR THE COUNTY OF BENTON**

**In the Matter of Appointment to the  
North F Street Road District**

)  
)

**ORDER #D2023-024**

THE ABOVE ENTITLED MATTER COMING NOW FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF  
THE BOARD AND,

IT APPEARING TO THE BOARD

THAT the following is a qualified and knowledgeable individual who has indicated a  
willingness to serve on this Road District:

| <u>Name</u>    | <u>Address</u>                                    | <u>Term &amp; Position</u>           |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Lee Ann Julson | 519 N. 12 <sup>th</sup> St<br>Philomath, OR 97370 | 01/17/2023 – 12/31/2025<br>Secretary |

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the above person is hereby  
appointed for a term on the North F Street Road District.

Adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.

Signed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



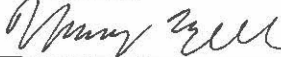
Pat Malone, Chair

DocuSigned by:



Xanthippe Augerot, Commissioner

DocuSigned by:



Nancy Wyse, Commissioner

## BOC Agenda Checklist Master

## Agenda Placement and Contacts

**Suggested Agenda Date** 01/17/23

View [Agenda Tracker](#)

**Suggested Placement \*** BOC Tuesday Meeting

**Department \*** Finance

**Contact Name \*** Lindsey Goodman

**Phone Extension \*** 6342

**Meeting Attendee Name \*** Rick Crager or Lindsey Goodman

## Agenda Item Details



**Item Title \*** Road District Appointment, Ridgewood

**Item Involves \*** Check all that apply

- ☒ Appointments
- ☐ Budget
- ☐ Contract/Agreement
- ☐ Discussion and Action
- ☐ Discussion Only
- ☐ Document Recording
- ☐ Employment
- ☐ Notice of Intent
- ☒ Order/Resolution
- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 1st Reading
- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 2nd Reading
- ☐ Proclamation
- ☐ Project/Committee Update
- ☐ Public Comment
- ☐ Special Report
- ☐ Other

**Board/Committee Involvement \***

☐ Yes

☒ No

**Advertisement \***

☐ Yes

☒ No

## Issues and Fiscal Impact

---

### Item Issues and Description

---

**Identified Salient  
Issues\***

The Benton County Board of Commissioners are responsible for appointing commissioners for Special Road Districts per ORS 371.338. Ridgewood Road District has submitted a name(s) for a term to their respective Road District. Special Road District Administration (ORS 371.305 through 371.385)

**Options\***

- 1) Approval
- 2) Contact the respective Road District for submittal of a new nominee for the commissioner appointment.

**Fiscal Impact\***

- ☐ Yes  
☒ No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

**Mandated Service? \*** ☐ Yes ☒ No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

Describe how this agenda checklist advances the core values or focus areas of 2040, or supports a strategy of a departmental goal.

To review the initiative, visit the website [HERE](#).

### Values and Focus Areas

Check boxes that reflect each applicable value or focus area and explain how they will be advanced.

#### Core Values \*

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Vibrant, Livable Communities
- ☐ Supportive People Resources
- ☐ High Quality Environment and Access
- ☐ Diverse Economy that Fits
- ☐ Community Resilience
- ☐ Equity for Everyone
- ☐ Health in All Actions
- ☒ N/A

**Explain Core Values Selections \*** N/A

#### Focus Areas and Vision \*

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Community Safety
- ☐ Emergency Preparedness
- ☐ Outdoor Recreation
- ☐ Prosperous Economy
- ☐ Environment and Natural Resources
- ☐ Mobility and Transportation
- ☐ Housing and Growth
- ☐ Arts, Entertainment, Culture, and History
- ☐ Food and Agriculture
- ☐ Lifelong Learning and Education
- ☒ N/A

**Explain Focus Areas and Vision Selection \*** N/A

## Recommendations and Motions

---

### Item Recommendations and Motions

---

**Staff**

Approval

**Recommendations\***

**Meeting Motions\***

I move to ...

...approve appointing individuals to serve on the Ridgewood Road Districts, as listed in the attached Order.

## Attachments, Comments, and Submission

---

### Item Comments and Attachments

---

#### Attachments

Upload any attachments to be included in the agenda, preferably as PDF files. If more than one attachment / exhibit, please indicate "1", "2", "3" or "A", "B", "C" on the documents.

ORDER#2023-025 Ridgewood Road

117.87KB

Appointment.pdf

#### Comments (optional)

If you have any questions, please call ext.6800

#### Department

RICHARD CRAGER

#### Approver

|                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1.</p> <p><u>Department Approval</u></p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <div><i>Rick Crager</i></div>            | <p>4.</p> <p><u>BOC Final Approval</u></p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <div><i>Amanda Makepeace</i></div> |
| <p>2.</p> <p><u>Counsel Approval</u></p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <div><i>Vance H. Chesney</i></div>          |                                                                                                                |
| <p>3.</p> <p><u>County Administrator Approval</u></p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <div><i>Joseph Kerby</i></div> |                                                                                                                |

)

Nancy Wyse, Commissioner

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR THE COUNTY OF BENTON**

**In the Matter of Appointment to the  
Ridgewood Road District**

)  
)

**ORDER #D2023-025**

THE ABOVE ENTITLED MATTER COMING NOW FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF  
THE BOARD AND,

IT APPEARING TO THE BOARD

THAT the following is a qualified and knowledgeable individual who has indicated a  
willingness to serve on this Road District:

| <u>Name</u>     | <u>Address</u>                              | <u>Term &amp; Position</u>           |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Beverly Kennedy | 1345 NW Magnolia Dr.<br>Corvallis, OR 97330 | 01/17/2023 – 12/31/2024<br>Secretary |

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the above person is hereby  
appointed for a term on the Ridgewood Road District.

Adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.

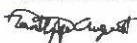
Signed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



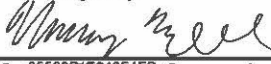
Pat Malone, Chair

DocuSigned by:



Xanthippe Augerot, Commissioner

DocuSigned by:



Nancy Wyse, Commissioner

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Zoom link:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89397129694?pwd=Q3JOOWRuRVlZVDclQzgrMzBSeHFpZz09>

**Livestream:** <http://facebook.com/BentonCoGov>

**Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

**9:00 a.m.**

- Present:** Nancy Wyse, Chair; Pat Malone, Commissioner; Xanthippe Augerot, Commissioner; Vance Croney, County Counsel; Joe Kerby, County Administrator
- Staff:** Shannon Bush, Darren Nichols, Inga Williams, Community Development; Rick Crager, Financial Services; Dawn Dale, Jef Van Arsdall, Sheriff's Office; Gabby Dibble, Gary Stockhoff, Public Works; Cory Grogan, Public Information Officer; John Haroldson, District Attorney; Suzanne Hoffman, April Holland, John Pegg, Health; Nick Kurth, JSIP; Bryan Lee, Emergency Management; Amanda Makepeace, BOC Staff; Erika Milo, BOC Recorder; Sarah Siddiqui, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion
- Guests:** Carol Alley, Peggy Lynch, Arlene Merems, Marge Popp, Mark Yeager, residents; Lori Coppenrath, DLR Group; Brad Dillingham, Benton Area Transit; John Harris, Horsepower Productions; Helen Higgins, Boys & Girls Club of Corvallis; Allison Hobgood, Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center; Sam Imperati, ICM Resolutions; Hyatt Lytle, Corvallis City Councilor; Alex Powers, Mid-Valley Media; Lisa Scherf, City of Corvallis

Chair Wyse called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

- I. Opening:**  
**A. Introductions**  
**B. Announcements**

No announcements were made.

**II. Election of the 2023 Board Chair and Vice-Chair**

**MOTION:** Augerot nominated Malone as Chair. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

**MOTION:** Malone nominated Augerot as Vice-Chair. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

**III. Review and Approve Agenda**

No changes were made to the agenda.

**IV. Comments from the Public**

Carol Alley, resident: Alley encouraged the Board to retain the Exotic Animal Ordinance (EAO), which bans traveling wild animal shows at the Benton County Fairgrounds. Alley displayed a photo of abusive training of a baby elephant and referred to similar videos emailed to the Board (exhibit 1). Alley expressed concern about insufficient public notice of the proposed change to the EAO and that the original authors were not part of the decision. Alley described cruel

handling and confinement of animals in traveling shows. Wild animals in shows can also pose a danger to the community.

### **{Exhibit 1: Alley Letter on Exotic Animal Ordinance}**

Mark Yeager, resident: At the December 20, 2022 Board Meeting, Yeager asked the Board to include Coffin Butte Landfill (CBL) as a unique fire risk in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Staff at that meeting cited a 2021 letter from Adair Village Chief Aaron Harris regarding landfill expansion. Yeager felt that staff mischaracterized the letter's context, which did not apply to associated fire risks at CBL. Yeager emailed the Board, key staff, and Chief Harris about these concerns (exhibit 2). Yeager again asked the Board to include CBL in the CWPP.

### **{Exhibit 2: Yeager Letter on CWPP}**

Yeager commented on the Jail project. In project funding documents, a \$34 million County Capital Funding (CCF) section is cited as a resource, but there is no discussion of the funding mechanism. The 2021-23 budget shows projected reserves at the end of the biennium, which do not equal \$34 million. Yeager asked what specific revenues the County would dedicate to annual debt from this \$34 million, and how the County will meet the debt service coverage requirements for its portion of project funding. Yeager requested articulation of the impacts of shifting resources, and which resources will be shifted to meet the CCF debt obligation. Yeager expressed concerns that the capital debt calculation would be made in April 2023, before the May 2023 bond measure election; that the bond may increase from \$100 million up to \$114 million; and that the Board may suspend Capital Improvement Projects and American Rescue Plan Act grants, creating additional impacts. The public needs to fully understand their choices in the May 2023 election.

Arlene Merems, resident: Merems commented that the stated focus for the EAO work group was that the Ordinance be understandable and enforceable, but this was not the focus of the group's discussion or recommendation. Participants were not familiar with details of animal welfare issues in traveling animal acts. The group did not consider the existing ordinance, and the recommendation for a permit program is not supported by the facts. A violation of the EAO happened because the ordinance did not incorporate edits by co-authors including Merems. Merems offered to clarify the species list as intended and provide guidance to staff. The EAO has strong support from County residents, including a petition to save the EAO which has over 400 signatures.

## **V. Work Session**

### **5.1 COVID-19 Update from Department Operation Center – April Holland, Health Services**

Holland explained that in recent months, there was no single dominant COVID-19 variant. However, in the last two weeks, Omicron sub-variant XBB.1.5 has emerged. XBB is more transmissible than earlier variants, but is not an all-new super-variant. In the northeast United States (US), XBB has increased from an estimated 30% of all circulating variants to 75%. Nationally, XBB has risen from 4% of variants to 40% over December 2022. The estimated proportion in the Pacific Northwest is 18% and is expected to increase. A recent study found that the bivalent COVID-19 booster vaccine helps neutralize the parent variant of XBB.1.5, and is likely to have this effect on XBB. There will probably not be large changes in disease severity, but a new surge in cases still means many hospitalizations and deaths. Holland stressed getting a

bivalent booster and using other protective measures. Home delivery of rapid COVID-19 tests is available at <https://special.usps.com/testkits>.

Malone asked if fully vaccinated individuals are less able to spread COVID-19.

Holland confirmed that this is very true for influenza and somewhat true for COVID-19.

Malone asked if the rapid spread of COVID-19 in China would impact the United States.

Holland replied that detailed data is not available. The Federal government is now requiring proof of negative COVID-19 test for travelers from China to the US. While there are concerns about new variants arising in China, XBB was first found in the US.

## **5.2 Update from Benton County Talks Trash (BCTT) Solid Waste Process Work Group (WG) – *Darren Nichols, Community Development***

Imperati reported that today a rough draft of the BCTT final report will be submitted to the WG and posted on the County website. The draft provides a structure for subcommittees to add their information. A meaningful draft should be ready for discussion on January 19, 2023. The WG is on schedule and will deliver the final report in March 2023.

## **VI. Consent Calendar**

### **6.1 In the Matter of Setting the Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule for 2023**

### **6.2 In the Matter of Designating an Official Newspaper for Benton County for 2023**

### **6.3 In the Matter of Approving the December 20, 2022 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

### **6.4 In the Matter of Approving the November 29, 2022 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

Wyse noted that the December 20, 2022 minutes, packet page 20, stated: “ If the County does not receive \$5 million from the State, staff suggest that the County backstop by suspending Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) from the 2023-25 budget, and suspend or defer release of ARPA funding until the bond outcome is known. If the bond fails, the County will have to sacrifice those resources. If the bond passes, staff can insert the CIPs as a supplemental budget.” Wyse asked if that statement should instead read that if the bond fails, those funds would be available.

Augerot replied it depends on whether the County builds the Emergency Operations Center.

Kerby and Cramer confirmed Augerot’s comment.

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to approve the Consent Calendar of January 3, 2023. Augerot seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

## **VII. Old Business**

**7.1 Justice System Improvement Program (JSIP) Bond Measure Package**  
**Deliberations and Decision** – *Nick Kurth, JSIP Manager; Rick Crager,*  
*Financial Services*

Kurth reviewed discussions in December 2022, when the Board selected JSIP funding options four and five for further consideration. The bond measure title is due on February 24, 2023; proposed title language to be presented to the Board in early February 2023. Today, the Board must decide the bond amount and may decide County funding backstop options (if needed). The presentation assumes that the bond amount will be near \$100 million and that additional County borrowing is not an option.

Total estimated cost of all JSIP facilities has decreased from \$179.6 million to \$179.3 million because the County spent \$300,000 less on planning than was budgeted. These resources were provided by Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) in the 2019-21 biennium; unspent funds will be used for design and construction in 2023-25. Total cost of proposed bond measure facilities remains \$114 million. Kurth reviewed the Board's preferred bond package options from the December 20, 2022 Board Meeting: 4. Support a bond measure amount equaling resource needs, or 5. A hybrid funding approach. Both options support all proposed facilities. The con of option four is that it raises the bond amount, raising the annual tax for the average assessed household in Benton County from \$138 to \$160. Option five includes asking the State legislature for \$5 million for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and an amount to be determined for a Homelessness Navigation Center (HNC), with a bond amount of \$107-109 million. Cons: additional expense to taxpayers, requires the County to backstop funding for the EOC and potentially the HNC. "Backstop" means a reprioritization of extant resources, with changes in future allocations.

Crager noted that reprioritization could include repurposing funds intended for Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grants.

Kurth discussed slide 11, Amounts and Options (exhibit 3). Option 1. Increase bond amount to \$114 million. The County would ask the legislature for \$5 million for the EOC, and funds for a 50/50 split on EOC costs in the bond measure. If the legislature rejects the request, the County would have to fund up to \$5 million. Also, if the County allocates up to \$3 million for the HNC, one scenario is that the legislature would approve funding, but the bond measure fails. Then the County would have to decide whether to proceed with its commitment. Hybrid options 2.a., 2.b., and 2.c. reflect how much the County would allocate to the HNC.

Crager noted that there would still be a backstop if the \$114 million bond passes (slide 11, option 1). In any scenario, the County will ask the legislature for \$9 million for the HNC and will backstop up to \$3 million for that.

Kerby asked if the \$9 million request would be made by the Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center (CDDC) or the County.

Crager replied that will be determined through discussions with Hobgood this week.

Kurth discussed slide 12: Backstop Scenarios for Hybrid Options:

- Scenario 1: legislature rejects EOC funding, approves HNC funding; County backstops \$5 million.
- Scenario 2: legislature rejects EOC funding, approves HNC funding, bond measure fails; County backstops \$5-8 million.

- Scenario 3: legislature approves EOC and HNC funding, bond measure fails, County backstops \$0-3 million.
- Scenario 4: Legislature approves EOC and HNC funding, bond measure passes; no backstop.

Kurth discussed slide 13, Backstop Funding Sources: 1. Capitalize the County share of the old Law Enforcement Building (LEB) or other facilities, such as the Board's former office building; 2. Negotiate site development cost with OJD. Those are unknowns, and less fungible. More fungible sources: 3. Suspend CIPs for biennium. 4. Suspend future ARPA grants; 5. Use a strategic limited budget/ hiring program.

Kerby asked if a strategic limited budget/ hiring program would include managing vacancies, delaying hiring, or other workforce changes.

Crager replied this could include any form of budgetary/administrative restrictions, such as freezing certain positions or restricting materials and supplies.

Kerby noted the County used a similar approach to help manage the budget early in the COVID-19 outbreak.

Augerot did not favor that approach and would prefer to use resources which are not yet allocated.

Kurth discussed slide 14, Backstop Funding Options. The backstop option does not have to be defined in the bond measure, but the Board needs to weigh various funding sources.

Crager added that the County is preparing for budget development, so backstop decisions need to be made in the next two weeks.

Kerby commented that backstop decisions could be delayed till the January 10, 2023 Goal Setting Meeting, but not longer.

Wyse asked Crager to address Yeager's questions about the \$34 million and why that piece is occurring before the bond.

Crager explained that the \$34 million will be put toward County borrowing as part of JSIP. The County is fully funded for JSIP Phase I, the Courthouse (CH) and District Attorney's Office (DAO); \$34 million is the match against the OJD funding that the County is negotiating. Today's discussion covers Phase II, which is all bond dependent. Another aspect is the differences between the budget document and the County's financial statements. The latter show improved growth over what was budgeted; the County planned \$5 million of General Fund reserves, but actually had \$22 million. The County plans that growth over the 30-year bond, and that is how the County pays back the funds. Staff will need Board approval for the \$34 million of bond borrowing once the OJD funding is secure. This will probably be added to the budget at the end of 2021-23 or the start of 2023-25.

Wyse added that the County is borrowing against future budgets from future property taxes. This will not raise property taxes; it is analogous to getting a mortgage on a house and paying that down over the years. This is a very common tool for jurisdictions to fund large projects.

Malone noted that part of the confusion is comparing future prospects to the current budget; the amount and the backstop will be clear soon.

Crager confirmed. When the OJD funds are secured, Crager will define the borrowing structure.

Wyse added that the \$34 million comes before the bond because it will be used for the CH, which is not part of the bond. The State provides \$25 million of CH funding regardless of whether the bond passes.

Kerby observed that the Phase I CH and Crisis Resource Center are being funded with direct borrowing and other legislative projects. Phase II funds the Correctional Facility, LEB, EOC, HNC, and Children & Family Program relocation through a combination of bond and legislative ask.

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to set the JSIP bond measure amount at \$114 million, including funding for expanded mental health and homelessness services facilities, a new Correctional Facility, and a new Emergency Operations Center and Sheriff's Office. Wyse withdrew the motion.

Augerot expressed support for the whole JSIP vision and package, but would prefer a bond amount of \$109-110 million in order to be cognizant of cost sensibilities and acceptable risks. JSIP is Augerot's top priority in 2023. Hopefully the County would not have to backstop the remainder of the funding.

Malone also favored a \$108-9 million bond; the County has good options for additional funding and will have to work harder to secure those sources to make up the difference. The County spent \$300,000 less than projected on Phase I, and inflation appears to be slowing.

Wyse stated that homelessness is a top community priority that the Board agreed to address. Wyse felt risk averse in this situation, not wanting to count on State funding that the County might not receive, which would then risk CIP and ARPA funds. Wyse did not favor taking away funds pledged to Corvallis Housing First, CDDC, Unity Shelter, and others. There are also many upcoming CIPs, including scheduled replacement of Information Technology hardware and Law Enforcement ballistic vests and vehicle purchasing. Wyse asked if those items are supported with grant funds or funds the County must provide.

Crager replied that during the budget process, staff factor in the CIPs and estimate liability that could be created through continuing operation costs. That additional cost would be built into the future service budget.

Kerby confirmed that departments would be impacted if the County suspended CIPs. Staff are currently evaluating CIPs for the 2023-25. There are over twice as many proposed projects as usual, about \$6-7 million in requests, though not all will necessarily be approved.

Wyse did not favor a limited budget/hiring approach. County employees need more support, not more pressure. Wyse did not favor risking other parts of County operations and the community.

Augerot estimated a 60-70% probability of getting some legislative funding for the EOC and HNC. Augerot hoped that groups which have received ARPA funding would help support the County's legislative requests. The Board must pledge to seek those additional funds. ARPA

requests are incredibly important for community; Augerot hoped the County would not have to repurpose those funds.

Malone noted that part of the problem is timing; the legislative session has not started. Early discussions indicate there will be potential funds for homelessness/housing and the EOC. The Board should continue to discuss alternative funding sources.

Wyse emphasized that the Board dedicated ARPA funds for a certain intent. The difference between a \$109 million bond and a \$114 million bond is \$22 more in taxes per year on the average assessed house, or \$1.83 per month. Setting the bond at \$114 million gives certainty that the County will not have to use ARPA funds.

Augerot suggested a \$110 million bond, which would allow the County to use parts of ARPA and CIP funds for a \$4 million reprioritization, or to use some of the OJD allocation savings.

**MOTION:** Augerot moved to set the bond amount at \$110 million with a \$5 million legislative ask for an Emergency Operations Center and a \$9 million legislative ask for homeless services facilities, with a \$3 million County contribution from the bond measure towards the homeless services facilities. Malone seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

Chair Malone recessed the meeting at 10:29 a.m. and reconvened at 10:38 a.m.

Crager reviewed slide 11, option 2a., which would now have a \$4 million legislative ask and a \$6 million bond portion for the EOC.

Augerot asked why staff had placed the change under that project.

Crager replied that the adjustment could be made elsewhere, such as changing the HNC amounts to a \$10 million legislative ask and a \$2 million bond portion.

Malone suggested leaving the EOC legislative ask at \$5 million.

Augerot asked why the legislative ask amount had to change if the bond amount changed.

Crager replied the request did not have to change, but consultants recommended against asking for something in a bond and then asking the State for same thing. The Board could still ask for \$5 million but only need \$4 million.

Augerot clarified wanting to ask less of taxpayers, not ask less of other sources. It is counterintuitive to consider a lower number and then not ask for that from other sources.

Kurth mentioned capitalizing the existing LEB or the Board's former office.

Augerot noted that the Courthouse Annex could also be capitalized. OJD could provide from \$0-4 million. Augerot was hopeful about OJD reallocation funds and that the County could buy down costs with ARPA or CIP funds. Augerot did not want to use staffing cutbacks if possible.

Crager felt very confident about the legislative ask. Crager asked if Augerot and Malone wanted to preserve some of the CIP and ARPA commitments.

Augerot and Malone affirmed.

Augerot stated the CIP process could proceed. The County could still issue ARPA on the regular schedule, saying funding is subject to availability, and the County will not know availability till after the bond vote. Or the County could say there will be limited ARPA grants this year, and possibly a larger final round next year.

Crager summarized that staff should advance CIP and ARPA processes and make preliminary commitments, but with the understanding that the County will not be able to confirm those commitments until the June 15, 2023 legislative session.

Augerot and Malone indicated agreement.

Malone suggested that ARPA projects could be deferred into the next biennium depending on priorities and funding availability. Two more ARPA rounds remain; the County could place fuller funding on immediate allocation, then announce that the final round may depend on other factors. Or the County could modestly reduce the first round and have a bigger reprioritization next year.

Referring to slide 14, County backstop funding options (A.-F.), Augerot opined that the most likely scenario is option D., though Augerot would prefer not to do strategic limited budget/hiring. Augerot was not ready to capitalize the LEB.

Kurth clarified that capitalizing the LEB referred to selling the County portion, about 11,000 square feet.

Crager commented that staff hope to attribute the entire \$15 million site development cost (a conservative estimate from architects DLR Group) to the OJD funding.

Wyse stated her top priority is good governance. That rules out strategic limited budget/hiring, which could harm government functions or unnecessarily burden staff. If required to choose, Wyse would prioritize CIPs over ARPA. However, Wyse would prefer to see more details first and decide about backstops at the January 10, 2023 Board Meeting.

Crager noted that staff will soon know the exact CIPs and ARPA projects being requested.

Augerot asked Crager to create a plan showing the process and timing of decisions to redirect funding.

Malone summarized that the Board had narrowed the list to options D. through F., or D. and F. The consensus was to try to keep County functions as intact as possible and see what potential savings can be found in multiple areas to generate the \$4 million that is potentially needed.

Wyse requested clarification of the meaning of “partial” on option D. under OJD Allocation Savings.

Kurth explained that there would be approximately \$0-4 million in savings; a 50% probability of a \$4 million savings is \$2 million.

Wyse summarized that “partial” represents the variable amount.

Crager confirmed.

Kerby stated that staff will bring a timeline to the January 10, 2023 Board Meeting.

Wyse also asked to see potential wording of the motion.

**{Exhibit 3: Corrected Bond Funding Presentation}**

**VIII. New Business**

**8.1 Letter of Support for the Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center (CDDC) Navigation Center – Suzanne Hoffman, Health Services; Allison Hobgood, Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center**

Hoffman presented a letter in support of Hobgood's efforts to expand CDDC and create a Homelessness Navigation Center. This addresses several of the Home, Opportunity, Planning, and Equity (HOPE) recommendations that were accepted by the City of Corvallis and the County. Hobgood will use this letter and one from Corvallis in funding requests, including one from the State legislature.

**MOTION:** Augerot moved to approve the letter of support for the Corvallis Daytime Drop-In Center's Navigation Center. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

**8.2 Goods and Services Contract (Faith Hope Charity, Inc.) - Emergency Inclement Weather Services – Suzanne Hoffman, John Pegg, Health Services**

Counsel noted that Pegg clarified some wording in the draft contract to address a comment by Counsel.

Hoffman explained that Health issued a request for proposals (RFP) for emergency weather or similar sheltering under specific thresholds. Those thresholds can change with available resources. No proposals were received. One service provider informed Hoffman that this was primarily due to capacity issues and concerns about having enough properly-trained staff to operate such a program. Health's model is the Lane County Egan Memorial Warming Center, contracted to Saint Vincent de Paul. Health provided an alternate plan to Kerby for risk review, considering whether the County could operate the program with existing or new employees. However, Fred Edwards of non-profit Faith Hope Charity, Incorporated (FHC) approached the County about operating the program. The Board must approve because this approach is outside of the competitive process.

Augerot noted that the shelter model has shifted to hotel-based rather than place-based.

Hoffman was pleased that hotel sheltering this is the first model FHC proposed, which will be a better arrangement for logistical reasons such as COVID-19. FHC already secured room commitments from several hotels. However, the model may not work for everyone. In the emergency sheltering set up in December 2022, as many as 30 people were served with less than 24 hours of outreach. If such weather continues, the County might need overflow capacity and options for people who have not been successful in a hotel room.

Responding to a question from Malone, Hoffman replied that project funds come from the ARPA category of the HOPE program. Hoffman and Finance determined that \$50,000 would be sufficient to start the program. Health brought on a project manager and a contract grant writer/

researcher. The County has also applied for a Corvallis grant; the City Council will review staff proposals around January 17, 2023. Staff will seek additional funding sources for the future.

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to approve the contract, as amended, with Faith Hope Charity, Incorporated for severe weather sheltering. Augerot seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

**8.3 State Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Committee Project and Budget Recommendations for the 2023-25 Biennium – Gary Stockhoff, Benton Public Works Director; Lisa Scherf, Corvallis Transportation Services Supervisor; Brad Dillingham, Benton Special Transportation Coordinator**

Stockhoff explained that staff adapted the list of projects based on feedback from Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

Scherf explained that this biennial funding originally came from House Bill 2017, which included a .01% payroll tax to fund transit in Oregon. Benton County is the qualified entity for that process, so all projects in the County pass through the Board for approval. The list of projects will be submitted to ODOT. Funds become available at the start of the 2023-25 biennium. The County must submit its suballocation methodology. Since an update is not required at this time, the STIF Committee recommends keeping the existing methodology, which is based on each locale's payroll, number of jobs, and number of job sites, plus a ten-factor equity analysis.

Wyse asked if Corvallis was aware of this process.

Scherf replied that the new rules require that all public transportation service providers be informed of decisions around suballocation methodology, so Corvallis has a representative on the Committee who has attended all these discussions and has no objections.

Malone asked why the Community of Alsea was not represented in the suballocation formula.

Scherf replied that any unincorporated communities are represented by the County.

Malone asked about funding for Linn-Benton Loop (LBL), which serves the whole territory.

Scherf replied that LBL receives Federal funds which require match funding; the match is split between Linn and Benton Counties. Allocation amounts shown in Attachment A are just a starting point; allocation is project-based, not grant-based.

**MOTION:** Augerot moved to reaffirm the suballocation methodology for distribution of STIF funds in Benton County. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

Scherf noted that the Committee will update the methodology in two years.

Malone requested a list of Committee members.

Kerby asked Stockhoff to forward Committee minutes to Board.

Scherf explained that staff review project applications that come in through ODOT. Many are returning projects. The ODOT funding amount estimate was received in September 2022. ODOT

asked the County to add 20% because these plans cannot be modified during the biennium. ODOT had the County list more projects than have available funds, so the Committee ranked the projects to know which to drop. Total program amount is \$8.2 million; collections are \$7.4 million. A reserve of almost \$700,000 could be used to bridge the gap. The Committee also evaluated how much funding is designated for operations projects, and determined that funding should be sufficient to sustain these projects into the future.

Stockhoff added that there was a large carry-over from the previous biennium, and ODOT did not favor the County's Unanticipated Projects of Regional Significance approach; all anticipated projects must now be on the list.

Scherf added that ODOT does not want the County to carry over a large reserve. The reserve built up due to projects delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Malone asked if a project can be added during the biennium.

Scherf stated that ODOT does not want that to happen in future.

Augerot asked about the status of ridership and drivers.

Dillingham replied that fixed-route services such as the Coast-Valley Express and 99 Express are doing well. Ridership is down nationally since the pandemic, but Benton Area Transit (BAT) ridership is at 150% of pre-pandemic levels because the County reduced fares and staff better aligned BAT schedules with other services such as Amtrak. BAT lift services (paratransit) numbers are still down about 40% from pre-pandemic levels, but have stayed consistent in 2022. BAT has found enough drivers to maintain service levels, but other agencies are struggling. While STIF provided funding to expand services, finding additional drivers is difficult.

Augerot noted that Linn-Benton Community College and Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments will provide driver training, which should help.

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to approve the projects and associated budgets for the Biennium 2023-25 Benton County STIF Formula Payroll Projects (\$7,562,500) (Attachment B); the STIF Formula Population Funded Projects (\$496,474) (Attachment C); and Federal 5310 Urban and Rural Projects (\$572,166) (Attachment C). Wyse withdrew the motion.

Scherf described project funding sources, including payroll (transit tax), Statewide General Fund, and Federal 5310 funding. Any reserve would be allocated to BAT.

Augerot asked if the funding amounts were similar to past amounts.

Dillingham replied that all project amounts will increase slightly in the 2023-25 biennium.

Scherf added that because all funding is allocated to projects, the County's population-based funding rose from \$440,000 in this biennium to \$496,000 in the next biennium. Federal 5310 funding for paratransit fell from \$595,000 to \$572,000. In sum, rural funding decreased and urban funding increased.

Augerot asked if that would cause a problem for demand services.

Scherf replied that remains to be seen. Costs could rise in the next biennium.

Dillingham noted that the majority of BAT lift service is urban.

Augerot requested more reporting on that area in future.

Wyse asked whether to include the parenthetic dollar amounts in the motion.

Counsel replied that omitting the numbers would provide some flexibility.

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to approve Biennium 2023-25 Benton County STIF Formula Payroll Projects (Attachment B); the STIF Formula Population Funded Projects (Attachment C); and Federal 5310 Urban and Rural Projects (Attachment C). Augerot seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

## **IX. Departmental Reports and Requests**

### **9.1 Notice of Intent to Apply for a Community Wildfire Risk Reduction (CWRR) Grant – Bryan Lee, Emergency Operations Manager, Sheriff's Office**

Lee explained that CWRR grants are administered through the Oregon State Fire Marshal, a result of Senate Bill 762. This grant targets wildfire mitigation projects. The application deadline is January 31, 2023. The County will apply for the full \$500,000, to be used for a project coordinator position, education campaigns, vegetation mitigation, and planning projects, as outlined in the County CWPP. The State confirmed that the County can use its updated draft CWPP, which will be updated just after the grant deadline. The total funds available for Counties are \$5 million, and not all Counties will apply for their total allotment. Although Benton is rated as a lower fire-risk county, the grant takes that into account.

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to allow Benton County Emergency Management to apply for the Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant through the Oregon State Fire Marshall. Augerot seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

## **X. Other**

No other business was discussed.

## **XI. Adjournment**

Chair Malone adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

---

Pat Malone, Chair

---

Erika Milo, Recorder

*\* NOTE: Items denoted with an asterisk do NOT have accompanying written materials in the meeting packet.*

# NEW BUSINESS

## BOC Agenda Checklist Final Approval

### Agenda Placement and Contacts

**Suggested Agenda Date** 01/17/23

View [Agenda Tracker](#)

**Suggested Placement \*** BOC Tuesday Meeting

**Department \*** Board of Commissioners

**Contact Name \*** Amanda Makepeace

**Phone Extension \*** 5417666461

**Meeting Attendee Name \*** Joe Kerby

### Agenda Item Details



**Item Title \*** Renewal of the 2023 Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) Membership Fees

**Item Involves \*** Check all that apply

- ☐ Appointments
- ☐ Budget
- ☐ Contract/Agreement
- ☒ Discussion and Action
- ☐ Discussion Only
- ☐ Document Recording
- ☐ Employment
- ☐ Notice of Intent
- ☐ Order/Resolution
- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 1st Reading
- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 2nd Reading
- ☐ Proclamation
- ☐ Project/Committee Update
- ☐ Public Comment
- ☐ Special Report
- ☐ Other

**Estimated Time \*** 10

**Board/Committee Involvement \***

☐ Yes

☒ No

**Advertisement\***

☐ Yes

☒ No

**Page 41 of 73**

Item Issues and Description

Identified Salient  
Issues\*

The Association of Oregon Counties 2023 membership fees are due, with an invoiced amount of \$39,800.60. This amount has been factored into the budget.

Options\*

Approve or reject the 2023 membership fees.

Fiscal Impact\*

☐ Yes  
☒ No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

### 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

Describe how this agenda checklist advances the core values or focus areas of 2040, or supports a strategy of a departmental goal.

To review the initiative, visit the website [HERE](#).

**Mandated Service? \*** ☐ Yes ☒ No

### Values and Focus Areas

Check boxes that reflect each applicable value or focus area and explain how they will be advanced.

#### Core Values \*

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Vibrant, Livable Communities
- ☐ Supportive People Resources
- ☐ High Quality Environment and Access
- ☐ Diverse Economy that Fits
- ☐ Community Resilience
- ☐ Equity for Everyone
- ☐ Health in All Actions
- ☒ N/A

**Explain Core Values Selections \*** n/a

#### Focus Areas and Vision \*

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Community Safety
- ☐ Emergency Preparedness
- ☐ Outdoor Recreation
- ☐ Prosperous Economy
- ☐ Environment and Natural Resources
- ☐ Mobility and Transportation
- ☐ Housing and Growth
- ☐ Arts, Entertainment, Culture, and History
- ☐ Food and Agriculture
- ☐ Lifelong Learning and Education
- ☒ N/A

**Explain Focus Areas and Vision Selection \*** n/a

## Item Recommendations and Motions

---

**Staff** Approve the 2023 membership fees.  
**Recommendations \***

**Meeting Motions \*** I move to ...  
...approve the 2023 Association of Oregon Counties 2023 membership fees of  
\$39,800.60

## Attachments, Comments, and Submission

---

### Item Comments and Attachments

---

#### Attachments

Upload any attachments to be included in the agenda, preferably as PDF files. If more than one attachment / exhibit, please indicate "1", "2", "3" or "A", "B", "C" on the documents.

9.1

161.74KB

Inv#\_DUES2023BEN\_from\_Association\_of\_Oregon...

#### Comments (optional)

If you have any questions, please call ext.6800

#### Department

JOE KERBY

#### Approver

1.

## Department Approval

---

Comments

Signature



Joe Kerby

2.

## County Administrator Approval

---

Comments

Signature



Joseph Kerby

3.

## BOC Final Approval

---

Comments

Signature



Amanda Makepeace

| Bill To                                                                   | Date     | Invoice #   | Terms  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|--------|
| Benton County<br>Chair Nancy Wyse<br>P.O. Box 3020<br>Corvallis, OR 97339 | 1/1/2023 | DUES2023BEN | Net 30 |

| Description: 2023 County Dues                      | Amount    |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| AOC General Fund Dues                              | 38,519.17 |
| CFTLC (Council of Forest Trust Land Counties) Dues | 629.85    |
| CFTLC Special Voluntary Assessment Dues            | 651.58    |

---

**Total** \$39,800.60**DUES DESCRIPTIONS****AOC General Fund Dues (required for membership)**

General fund dues support legislative advocacy and policy development, educational opportunities and meetings, member communications, and technical assistance, as well as AOC's core operational expenses including finance, insurance, utilities, and supplies.

Dues are calculated using a tiered base fee determined by population. The remaining dues are divided in half, with 50 percent allocated towards the county's share of assessed value, and 50 percent allocated towards the county's share of population. Figures used to determine these calculations are obtained from the Department of Revenue and Portland State University (PSU) Population Research Center (updated by AOC every three years). The formula is capped so no county will pay more than 20 times the lowest base fee. Dues increase annually by 3 percent. Increases of 3.1 percent to 5 percent can be implemented annually with approval from the AOC board of directors. Increases of 5.1 percent or more require approval from the AOC membership. In 2023 dues have been increased by 7.5 percent as approved by the AOC membership in November 2022.

**Council of Forest Trust Land Counties (CFTLC) Dues (required for voting privileges)**

CFTLC dues finance the activities of the Council of Forest Trust Land Counties (CFTLC), created to represent the interests of the 15 Oregon counties that contain forest lands administered by the State Department of Forestry. These dues support advocacy and professional services to promote and protect the counties' interests in Oregon's forest trust lands. Dues are based upon an approved budget and comparative forest trust land acreage by county. In 2023 dues have been increased by 5 percent as approved by CFTLC members in November 2022.

**Council of Forest Trust Land Counties (CFTLC) Special Voluntary Dues**

CFTLC special voluntary assessment dues enables CFTLC to retain critical specialized contract services to protect counties' interests in the forest trust lands. The assessment is based on the CFTLC dues formula described above. In 2023 dues have been increased by 5 percent as approved by CFTLC members in November 2022.

|                                                                                                 |                                                                                               |                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Please direct inquiries to:<br>Fiscal Services<br>accounting@oregoncounties.org<br>503.585.8351 | Remit Checks to:<br>Association of Oregon Counties<br>1212 Court Street NE<br>Salem, OR 97301 | Wire/ACH:<br>Bank Name: Wells Fargo Bank<br>Account#: 88431689<br>Routing# (ABA #): 123006800 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## BOC Agenda Checklist Master

## Agenda Placement and Contacts

**Suggested Agenda Date** 01/17/23

View [Agenda Tracker](#)

**Suggested Placement \*** BOC Tuesday Meeting

**Department \*** Finance

**Contact Name \*** Rick Crager

**Phone Extension \*** 6246

**Meeting Attendee Name \*** Rick Crager and Shurisa Steed

## Agenda Item Details



**Item Title \*** American Rescue Plan Act Funding Review

**Item Involves \***

Check all that apply

- ☐ Appointments
- ☐ Budget
- ☐ Contract/Agreement
- ☐ Discussion and Action
- ☒ Discussion Only
- ☐ Document Recording
- ☐ Employment
- ☐ Notice of Intent
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- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 1st Reading
- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 2nd Reading
- ☐ Proclamation
- ☐ Project/Committee Update
- ☐ Public Comment
- ☐ Special Report
- ☐ Other

**Estimated Time \*** 30 minutes

**Board/Committee Involvement \***

☐ Yes

☒ No

Advertisement\*

☐ Yes

☒ No

Item Issues and Description

**Identified Salient Issues \***  
Financial Services will provide an update on all funds allocated for the \$18.1 million of funds received by the County through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

This will include projects allocated to a variety of projects, initiatives, and governmental services, as well as the resources allocated to Community Organization through last year's Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

**Options \***  
Not Applicable - Discussion and Update Only.

**Fiscal Impact \***  
☐ Yes ☒ No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

**Mandated Service? \*** ☐ Yes ☒ No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

Describe how this agenda checklist advances the core values or focus areas of 2040, or supports a strategy of a departmental goal.

To review the initiative, visit the website [HERE](#).

### Values and Focus Areas

Check boxes that reflect each applicable value or focus area and explain how they will be advanced.

#### Core Values \*

Select all that apply.

- ☒ Vibrant, Livable Communities
- ☒ Supportive People Resources
- ☒ High Quality Environment and Access
- ☒ Diverse Economy that Fits
- ☒ Community Resilience
- ☒ Equity for Everyone
- ☒ Health in All Actions
- ☐ N/A

#### Explain Core Values Selections \*

ARPA resources have been allocated with a focus on the 2040 vision and goals

#### Focus Areas and Vision \*

Select all that apply.

- ☒ Community Safety
- ☒ Emergency Preparedness
- ☒ Outdoor Recreation
- ☒ Prosperous Economy
- ☒ Environment and Natural Resources
- ☒ Mobility and Transportation
- ☒ Housing and Growth
- ☒ Arts, Entertainment, Culture, and History
- ☒ Food and Agriculture
- ☒ Lifelong Learning and Education
- ☐ N/A

#### Explain Focus Areas and Vision Selection \*

Projects funded through ARPA are very broad and focus on a variety of areas that touch on all focus areas.

## Recommendations and Motions

---

### Item Recommendations and Motions

---

**Staff** Acceptance of report.  
**Recommendations** \*

**Meeting Motions** \*  
 I move to ...  
 Not Applicable

## Attachments, Comments, and Submission

---

### Item Comments and Attachments

---

**Attachments**

Upload any attachments to be included in the agenda, preferably as PDF files. If more than one attachment / exhibit, please indicate "1", "2", "3" or "A", "B", "C" on the documents.

|                                                |          |
|------------------------------------------------|----------|
| BOC - ARPA Plan Update 011723.pptx             | 1.24MB   |
| summary_of_grant_awards_may_22_pages_2_-_4.pdf | 120.48KB |

**Comments (optional)** If you have any questions, please call ext.6800

**Department Approver** RICHARD CRAGER

|                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1.</p> <p><u>Department Approval</u></p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <p><i>Rick Crager</i></p>            | <p>4.</p> <p><u>BOC Final Approval</u></p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <p><i>Amanda Makepeace</i></p> |
| <p>2.</p> <p><u>Counsel Approval</u></p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <p><i>Vance H. Chesney</i></p>          |                                                                                                            |
| <p>3.</p> <p><u>County Administrator Approval</u></p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Signature</p> <p><i>Joseph Kerby</i></p> |                                                                                                            |



# American Plan Rescue Act

## ARPA Funding Review

Rick Crager, Chief Financial Officer

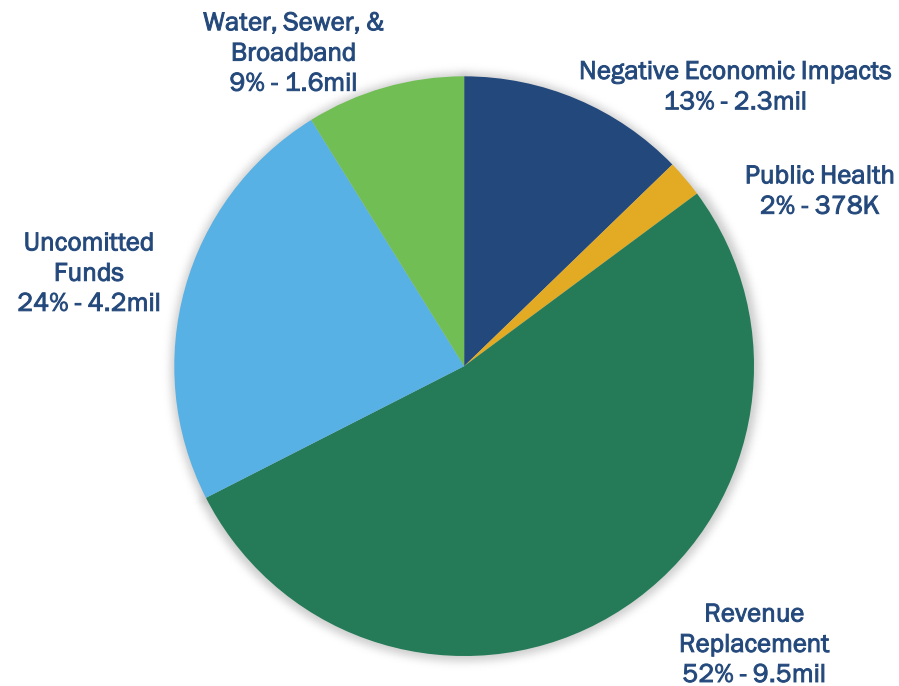
January 17, 2023

# Background

- In May 2021, Benton County was awarded \$18,086,520 of funding from the U.S. Treasury authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).
- The funding is available to eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal Governments in addressing the impacts of the pandemic
- Funding is aimed to meet the following purposes:
  - ✓ Support urgent COVID-19 response efforts to continue to decrease spread of the virus and bring the pandemic under control;
  - ✓ Replace lost public sector revenue to strengthen support for vital public services and help retain jobs;
  - ✓ Support immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses; and,
  - ✓ Address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to the unequal impact of the pandemic on certain populations
- All funds must be obligated no later than December 31, 2024.

# Benton County's ARPA Funds Plan

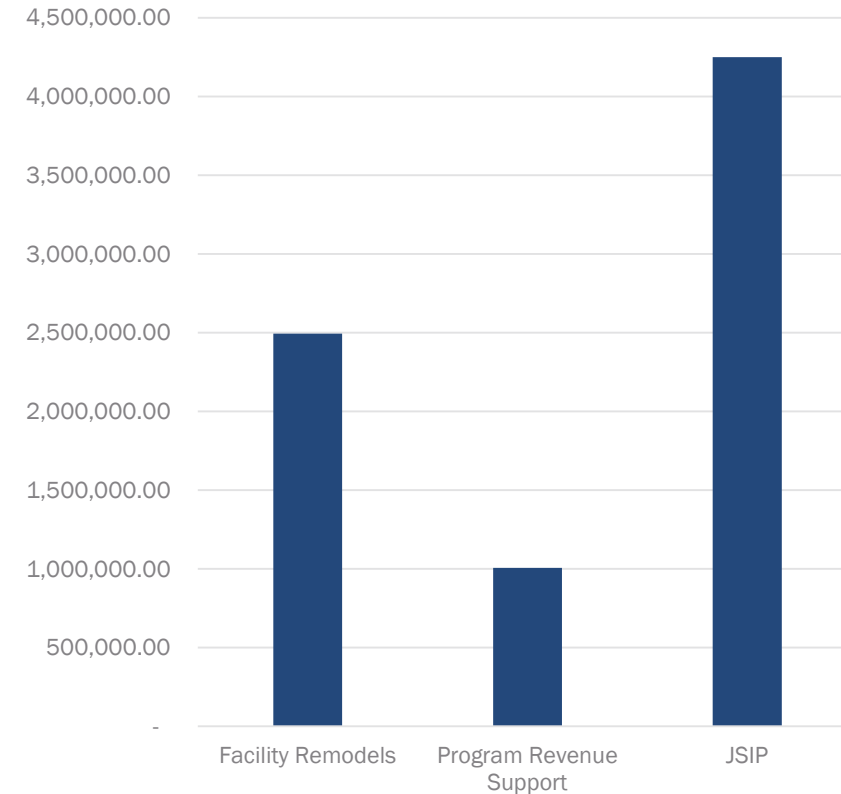
- Benton County has allocated all funds provided by ARPA to projects throughout Benton County and into the community in the form of Grants.
- 51.29% of all funds have been expended.
- 24% Uncommitted Funds planned to be granted to the community



# Benton County Loss Public Revenue

Totaling \$9,522,208

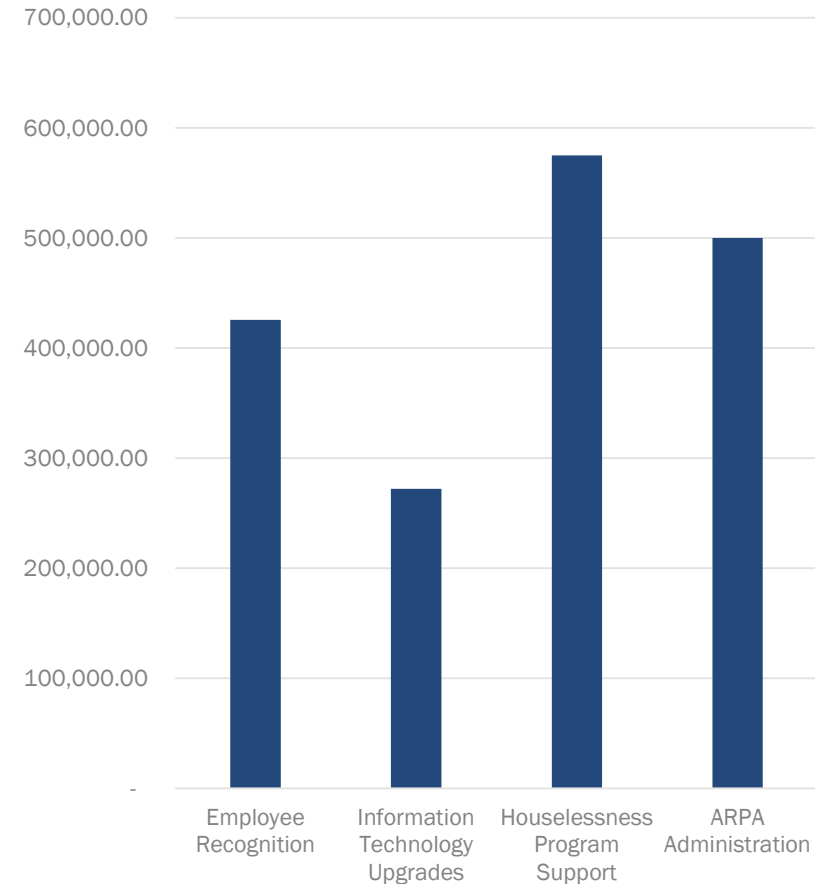
- **Facility Remodels: \$2,494,101**
  - Facilities within the County that were in need of updating to provide enough space for productive and efficient public service.
- **Program Revenue Support: \$1,005,725**
  - Programs that suffered from loss of revenue during the pandemic are NAPE, Benton Area Transportation (BAT), and Fleet.
- **JSIP Land Acquisition: \$4,250,000**
  - This will be the future site of the Justice Service Campus.



# Benton County Loss Public Revenue

Totaling \$9,522,208

- **Employee Recognition: \$425,382**
  - To recognize and compensate the additional time and effort of County employees throughout the pandemic.
- **Information technology Upgrades: \$272,000**
  - Upgrades to the County network and website for better and consistent service.
- **Houselessness Program Support: \$575,000**
  - HOPE and Corvallis Housing First are working toward reducing houselessness and increasing local supports.
- **ARPA Administration: \$500,000**
  - Covers costs associated with accountability and oversight for ARPA Funding.



# Water, Sewer, & Broadband

- \$1,600,000
- Surveys have been completed around Benton County to assess the Water/Sewer infrastructure.
- Resulting in upgrades around \$2.2 million
- County staff are prioritizing projects to complete while looking for additional funding sources to cover the gap.

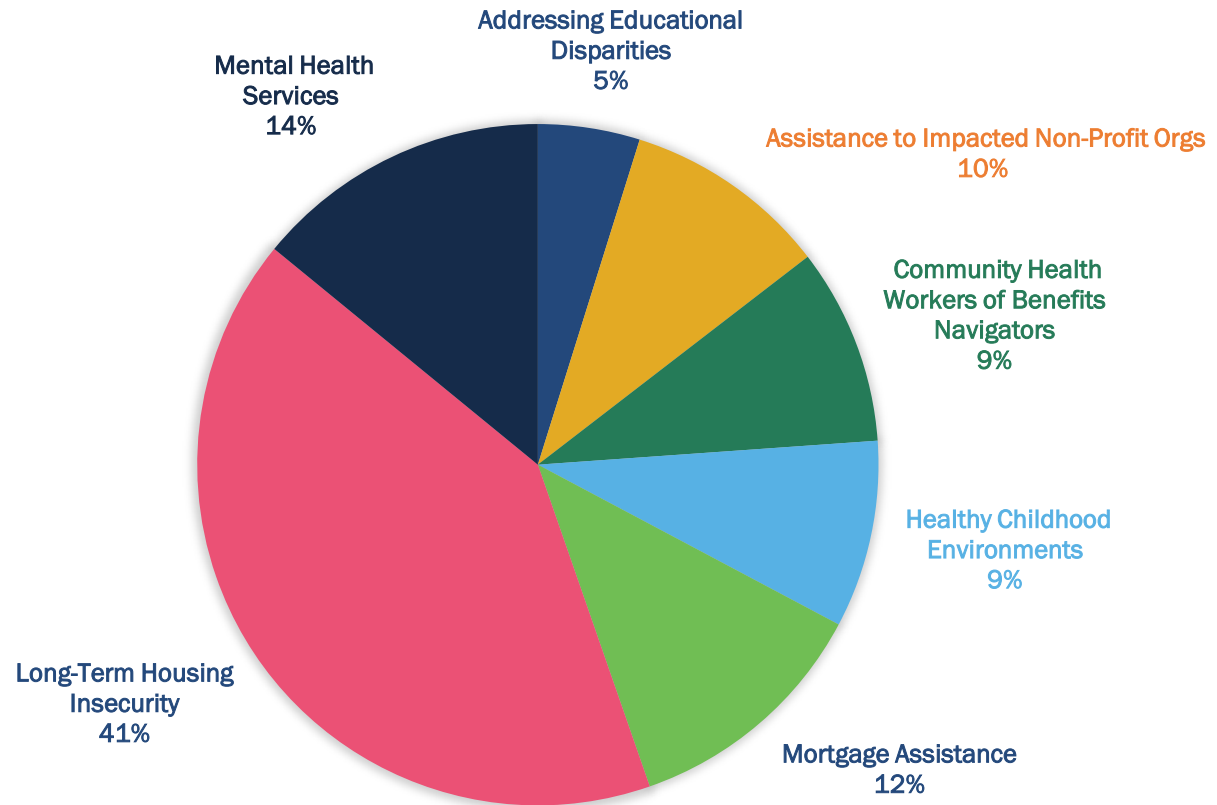
# 2022 Distribution to Community Grants

Total Allocation - \$2,685,320

## 2022 Awarded Grants

19 Grant Awards in the amount of \$2,685,320 with the understanding that if funding is not fully committed, the staff return to the Board to consider funding of additional Tier II Awards.

Of the granted amount only **23.31%** has been expended by the community based on reporting through today.



# Success Story – Corvallis Sustainability

- **Below are some programmatic highlights:**
  - Met 63% of the demand by awarding \$43,844.15 in gift cards
  - 882 individuals have asked for 7,382 meals or a total of \$70,382.00.
  - 51 unique locally owned restaurants, farmers, and food businesses supported through \$37,723.43 in spent gift cards by 882 unique users.
  - Created seven new partnerships with Benton County organizations
    - (Philomath Farmers Market, Corvallis Albany Farmers Market, Ten Rivers Food Web, Corvallis Daytime Drop in Center, 509j Foundation, Pathfinders Clubhouse, Hispanic Advisory Council)
  - Hosted three giveaway events to support local nonprofit farmers markets
    - (Philomath Farmers Market: August 28, 2022 and September 18, 2022; Fill Your Pantry event hosted by Ten Rivers Food Web, in partnership with Corvallis Albany Farmers Market: November 6, 2022).

# Success Story – Unity Shelter

- **Unity Shelter provides shelter and transitional housing to houseless members of our community. Benton County ARPA funding is supporting two Unity Shelter programs:**
  - SafePlace transitional housing
  - Non-congregate shelter at Third Street Commons
- **Both above mentioned programs provide:**
  - Individual living spaces, shared cooking, and other facilities.
  - Access to case management services and support connecting to a broad range of community services in service of helping people transition into more permanent housing.
  - A sense of dignity and belonging, community and welcome, which is so critical to recovery from the trauma of houselessness.
- **Since July of 2022, SafePlace and Third Street commons have:**
  - Served 44 and 41 people respectively, with
  - Moved 12 people into permanent housing, and another 10 being served in medical respite rooms at Third Street Commons.
- **Benton County funding has been critical to providing the skilled staffing required to support our houseless neighbors as they move forward in their lives!**



At your service,  
*every day.*



/BentonCoGov



@BentonCoGov



@BentonCoGov



/BentonCountyGov



Benton County

## Summary of Grant Awards, May 2022

### **ABC House**

Provides funding for the expansion of services to address the increasing number of Benton County children in the Trauma Counseling Program. Services include abuse assessments, medical consultations and family support services. Programming ensures children receive the expert, timely care they need to have the best chance of overcoming their trauma.

### **Arc of Benton County, The**

Funding will support the development of the physical club location to provide support services to people with developmental disabilities in gaining a sense of belonging, developing resilience, and recovering from isolation after the pandemic.

### **Boys & Girls Club of Corvallis**

K-8 Child Care & Enrichment is an existing program that combines the successful experience serving youth during pandemic school closures with a point-proven strategy of equitable support, academic enrichment, social-emotional learning, reduced fees and scholarships, nutrition, and access to medical/dental/mental-health services in an on-site youth-centric medical home. This funding will be used to provide subsidy support for low-income youth and their families.

### **Casa Latinos Unidos**

Funding will be used to develop a culturally-appropriate community health worker program to support the Latinx community from within and comprehensively, by building resilience and capacity to prioritize needs and find solutions. The program will strengthen the current Enlaces Community Health Worker program by adding additional staff and retaining the current team working in Benton County.

### **CASA Voices for Children**

Funding will enable the development of a framework for a pilot program that works with marginalized communities and at-risk families by fostering belonging through the Independent Living Program and Cultural Advocate Partners and participation in All Children-All Families.

### **City of Corvallis**

Provides funding for six strategies focused on a Revolving Loan Fund focused on businesses that were forced to close due to the pandemic, as well as businesses, industries and populations that were most severely impacted by the pandemic.

### **Community Outreach, Inc.**

Provides funding to maintain the capacity of existing non-profit organizations with negatively economic impact due to increased wages in the post-pandemic labor condition. Current services help meet the basic needs of vulnerable people in Benton County through a transformational housing program by providing families and individuals who are experiencing homelessness with wrap-around services to ensure success as they transition from temporary or chronic homelessness to stable housing. Services include medical and dental care, substance abuse and mental health counseling, food and kitchen facilities, information and referral services, workforce development, and life skills classes.

### **Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center**

Funding will maintain and expand existing services of providing basic needs, navigation, street outreach, employment supports, and data collection. It will also enable the part-time hire of a new Basic Needs Navigator who would specifically focus on supporting people of color in the population served.

### **Corvallis Housing First**

Funding will provide for expanded and additional case management services at Unity Shelter Sites (including Third Street Commons) to focus mainly on getting more individuals housed. This is complemented with \$118,390 of funding for temporary rent support, deposits, application fees, and move in expenses.

### **Corvallis Sustainability Coalition**

Funding will provide additional support to community members living with low or no-income by providing gift cards to receive food assistance either through local food business owners, local food producers, and/or cooperatively managed independent grocery stores.

### **DevNW**

Funding will provide rent, mortgage, and utility assistance for low-income residents impacted by reduced income and/or increased expenses caused by the pandemic and subsequent health measures. In addition, resources will support providing resident services to individuals and families in affordable housing units to help recover from the isolation and impacts of the pandemic. This would include a variety of social opportunities, including spring gardening, pizza and movie nights, and programming for young people.

### **Jackson Street Youth Services**

Funding will expand existing capacity to support mental health services and staff training across the continuum of services for Benton County youth ages 10-24. The service expansion will be for the current 24/7 shelter for youth; outreach program; and transitional housing and job/skill training program for young adults.

# Summary of Grant Awards, May 2022 continued

## **Oregon State University**

Provides funding to support a combination of summer camps and an Outreach Leadership Initiative that will work with youth in Benton County from grades 3 to 12 to help develop leadership skills and self-confidence, as well as provide supports as they recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

## **Oregon Valley Futbol (OVF) Alliance**

Funding provides support and access to free programming (TOP Soccer, after school programming, and rural soccer camps) for Benton County youth that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

## **Pathfinder Clubhouse**

Provides for the acquisition of a 15-passenger van and an ADA-compliant wheelchair accessible sport utility vehicle (SUV) to increase equitable access for adults living with mental illness that were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic

## **Philomath Youth Activities Club**

Funding will increase capacity to existing after school and summer childcare programs and for those children with additional behavioral health needs. In addition, the funding will be used to increase personnel cost in order to maintain staffing.

## **Trillium Family Services**

Funding will support the establishment of a position to address healthcare workforce shortages that supports mental and behavioral health through a more aggressive recruitment strategy that includes a focus on diversity and equity. The position will be a dedicated recruiting professional who can engage passive candidates with Trillium's mission of building brighter futures.

## **Unity Shelter**

Funding will support the staffing and operational costs of two programs – SafePlace and Third Street Commons – that have developed and rapidly expanded as a direct response both to the ongoing crisis of homelessness in Benton County and the impact of the pandemic. These programs provide non-congregate shelter to men and women experiencing homelessness in the County and provides supportive services to include trauma-informed case management, food supports, referral, and navigation support for connections to services.

## **Vina Moses Center**

Funding will provide financial assistance and material goods to low-income and underserved communities that have been impacted by the pandemic. Assistance will be in the form of financial assistance with utilities, rental, food, and other basic needs for low-income and underserved populations.

## BOC Agenda Checklist Final Approval

### Agenda Placement and Contacts

**Suggested Agenda Date** 01/17/23

View [Agenda Tracker](#)

**Suggested Placement \*** BOC Tuesday Meeting

**Department \*** Board of Commissioners

**Contact Name \*** Amanda Makepeace

**Phone Extension \*** 5417665509

**Meeting Attendee Name \*** Joe Kerby

### Agenda Item Details



**Item Title \*** Discussion Regarding Transition Planning for Carrying out County Administrator Duties

**Item Involves \*** Check all that apply

- ☐ Appointments
- ☐ Budget
- ☐ Contract/Agreement
- ☒ Discussion and Action
- ☐ Discussion Only
- ☐ Document Recording
- ☐ Employment
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- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 1st Reading
- ☐ Ordinance/Public Hearing 2nd Reading
- ☐ Proclamation
- ☐ Project/Committee Update
- ☐ Public Comment
- ☐ Special Report
- ☐ Other

**Estimated Time \*** 10

**Board/Committee Involvement \*** ☐ Yes  
☒ No

**Advertisement\***

☐ Yes

☒ No

**Page 68 of 73**

## Issues and Fiscal Impact

---

### Item Issues and Description

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**Identified Salient  
Issues\***

Joe Kerby, Benton County Administrator will be departing in approximately 60 days after accepting a position in Colorado; the discussion is to guide the next steps in determining an Interim County Administrator, a transitional plan, and conducting a search for his replacement.

**Options\***

n/a

**Fiscal Impact\***

- ☐ Yes  
☒ No

## 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

### 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative

Describe how this agenda checklist advances the core values or focus areas of 2040, or supports a strategy of a departmental goal.

To review the initiative, visit the website [HERE](#).

**Mandated Service? \*** ☐ Yes ☒ No

### Values and Focus Areas

Check boxes that reflect each applicable value or focus area and explain how they will be advanced.

#### Core Values \*

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Vibrant, Livable Communities
- ☐ Supportive People Resources
- ☐ High Quality Environment and Access
- ☐ Diverse Economy that Fits
- ☐ Community Resilience
- ☐ Equity for Everyone
- ☐ Health in All Actions
- ☒ N/A

**Explain Core Values Selections \*** n/a

#### Focus Areas and Vision \*

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Community Safety
- ☐ Emergency Preparedness
- ☐ Outdoor Recreation
- ☐ Prosperous Economy
- ☐ Environment and Natural Resources
- ☐ Mobility and Transportation
- ☐ Housing and Growth
- ☐ Arts, Entertainment, Culture, and History
- ☐ Food and Agriculture
- ☐ Lifelong Learning and Education
- ☒ N/A

**Explain Focus Areas and Vision Selection \*** n/a

## Recommendations and Motions

---

### Item Recommendations and Motions

---

|                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Staff</b>             | n/a           |
| <b>Recommendations</b> * |               |
| <b>Meeting Motions</b> * | I move to ... |
|                          | n/a           |

## Attachments, Comments, and Submission

---

### Item Comments and Attachments

---

**Attachments**

Upload any attachments to be included in the agenda, preferably as PDF files. If more than one attachment / exhibit, please indicate "1", "2", "3" or "A", "B", "C" on the documents.

**Comments (optional)** none

If you have any questions, please call ext.6800

**Department  
Approver**

JOE KERBY

1.

## Department Approval

---

Comments

Signature



Joe Kerby

2.

## County Administrator Approval

---

Comments

Signature



Joseph Kerby

3.

## BOC Final Approval

---

Comments

Signature



Amanda Makepeace

At the opening of the January 17, 2023 Board Meeting,

### **III. Review and Approve Agenda**

Chair Malone added:

**Item 6.4: Discussion and Approval of Letter of Support for Greenbelt Land Trust Regarding Community Paths Grant: Pathway for North Benton County** - *Joe Kerby, County Administrator*

**Item 6.5: Renewal of National Association of Counties 2023 Dues in the Amount of \$1,712.00** - *Joe Kerby, County Administrator*



Board of Commissioners

Office: (541) 766-6800

Fax: (541) 766-6893

4500 SW Research Way  
Corvallis, OR 97333

[co.benton.or.us](http://co.benton.or.us)

January 17, 2024

Oregon Department of Transportation  
355 Capitol Street NE, MS 11  
Salem, OR 9731-3871

Re: Community Paths Grant: Pathways for North Benton County Communities

To Whom It May Concern,

The Benton County Commissioners strongly support the proposal "Pathways for North Benton County Communities" put forward by Benton County for ODOT's Community Paths Project Refinement Grant.

At the heart of this project is creating and maintaining community connections and transportation through inclusive, multi-use paths that have been prioritized in regional transportation and recreation plans.

North Corvallis is an area where these connections are needed most. These neighborhoods comprise the five highest scoring Transportation Disadvantaged Index communities in the greater Corvallis area. Combined with the current efforts underway by multiple stakeholders and landowners at Owens Farm, the result will be a separated path (and trails!) network serving these communities for both transportation and recreation. A safe and complete path network – reliant upon two bridges - has long been envisioned and is expected to facilitate increased access to employment centers, schools, recreation, retail, and medical resources.

A bridge-focused refinement plan would answer important questions that previous plans were not designed to address. At this time, project partners are unable to apply for construction funds for the bridges – key linchpins for the regional path network – due to the lack of refinement. An expansive vision of connected trails in north Corvallis hinges on the financial support through a Community Paths grant.

As County Commissioners we understand the importance of partnerships. It is with this in mind that we would like to emphasize that this proposed project includes community partners representing the City of Corvallis, Greenbelt Land Trust, and

Samaritan Health. In addition, our own Benton County Health and Natural Areas, Park, and Events Departments have also been instrumental.

Thank you for your consideration and support for the Pathways for North Benton County Communities grant application.

Sincerely,

Benton County Commissioners



Please remit payment to:  
National Association of Counties  
PO Box 38059  
Baltimore, MD 21297-8059  
Phone: 888.407.NACo (6226)  
EIN# 53-0190321

For ACH payments or questions, please  
contact NACo at [membership@naco.org](mailto:membership@naco.org)

**Bill to:**

Benton County  
Attn. Xanthippe Augerot  
205 Nw 5Th St  
PO BOX 3020  
Corvallis, Oregon 97330

**Invoice**

|            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| Date       | 10/15/2022   |
| Invoice #  | 202216724    |
| Customer # | 41003        |
| Terms      | Upon Receipt |
| Balance    | \$1,712.00   |

Our LockBox address has changed to PO Box 38059

| Item                                                     | Amount     | Total      |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| COUNTY DUES - for the period of 01/01/2023 to 12/31/2023 | \$1,712.00 | \$1,712.00 |

Thank you for your membership! NACo Membership extends to  
all elected officials and staff.

**Total** \$1,712.00

**Please include your state and membership number with  
your payment.**

**Payments/Credits** \$0.00

We appreciate your partnership.

**Balance Due** \$1,712.00

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**PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN BOTTOM PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT**

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