



MINUTES

Lincoln County Public Budget Hearing

**Lincoln County Courthouse
225 West Olive Street
Room 110
Newport, OR 97365**

**May 16, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

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1. Call to Order and Introductions by Chair, Kaety Jacobson.

Present were Susan Woodruff, Cristen Don, and John Heath, all members of the Budget Committee. Commissioners Hall, Miller, and Jacobson were present, with Chair Jacobson attending remotely. A quorum was established.

2. Election of Lincoln County Budget Committee Officers

Chair Jacobson welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the Budget Committee Chair has historically been a public member of the committee and the Vice Chair is usually a commissioner. Commissioner Hall nominated and moved to appoint Susan Woodruff to serve as Budget Committee Chair. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried and Chair Jacobson turned the meeting over to Chair Woodruff. Chair Woodruff called for the nomination of a Vice Chair. Commissioner Jacobson nominated Commissioner Miller for the position of Vice Chair. Commissioner Hall seconded the nomination. The motion carried.

3. Welcome – Tim Johnson, County Administrator

Administrator Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone who worked to produce the proposed budget. He spoke briefly about this year's changes to the way the budget is being presented. He pointed out that, with the relaxing of COVID protocols, the meetings can again be held in public, and each Department will be appearing personally to discuss their portion of the budget. The budget document is available in hard copy and electronically and will be shown on two large monitors in the room at these meetings. There will also be an executive summary of the budget to enhance the County's transparency to the public. Johnson touched on some of the important changes in the County within the last year and further stated that he would be coming back to the table with a revised budget due to an arbitrator's ruling that will consume an additional \$750,000 to \$1m. Johnson requested that Commissioner Hall act as the official timer for the budget hearing meetings.

4. **Budget Message from the Board of Commissioners – Commissioner Casey Miller.**
On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Miller gave an overview of the purpose and creation of the budget and its importance to the community. He also reminded the audience that COVID continues to impact the budget.
5. **Budget Overview – Christina Shearer, Finance Director/Budget Officer**
Budget Officer/Finance Director Christina Shearer gave a brief overview of the process for the six Budget Committee meetings. She guided the committee and public to follow along on the online budget book. Reminded of County's mission. Helped them navigate. She stated that the new website on OpenGov was designed to be more organic in terms of organization. Director Shearer closed her overview and introduced the Lincoln County Extension Service District Budget Committee.

Presentation of Service Districts Budgets

Chair Woodruff opened the public hearing at 6:40 p.m.

6. **Meeting of the Lincoln County Extension Service District Budget Committee to present the Budget Message and to take public comment on the Extension Service District Budget for FY 2023-2024 – Presented by: Budget Officer Christina Shearer, Wiley Thompson, Regional Director, and Emily Blume, Office Manager**
Office Manager Bloom distributed and referenced an information sheet with highlights from the district over the last year and future plans and answered questions from the committee. There were no questions from the public.
7. **Meeting of the Lincoln County Solid Waste Disposal Service District Budget Committee to present the Budget Message and to take public comment on the Lincoln County Solid Waste Disposal Service District Budget for FY 2023-2024 - Presented by: Budget Officer Christina Shearer, Roy Kinion, Director, Public Works, and Paul Seitz, Solid Waste Manager**
Solid Waste Manager Seitz opened the presentation with an explanation of the divisions and programs of the Solid Waste District. He gave an overview of the budget in regard to solid waste, including providing information on upcoming recycling efforts. Director Kinion provided more details on the RV abatement program. There were no questions from the public.
8. **Meeting of the Lincoln County Animal Services District Budget Committee to present the Budget Message and to take public comment on the Lincoln County Animal Services District Budget for FY 2023-2024 – Presented by: Sheriff Curtis Landers and Animal Shelter Manager Sara Wynveen**
Sheriff Landers opened with a mention of the new location for the animal shelter. The new shelter is not directly related to the 2023-2024 budget, but the Sheriff thought it was important to acknowledge the recent purchase of the land. The Sheriff and Manager Wynveen gave an overview of the district budget, the successes for the past year, and goals for the future. They shared some statistics, including that they managed 1960 calls for service, increased from 24 to 68 volunteers, and cared for 661 animals. They stated that the shelter's Facebook page is making a huge difference in getting animals back to their owners. Sheriff Landers addressed impacts to the budget and expenses. Manager Wynveen shared information on a new licensing software. There were no questions from the public.

9. **Meeting of the Lincoln County Transportation Service District Budget Committee to present the Budget Message and to take public comment on the Transportation Service District Budget for FY 2023-2024 – Presented by: Budget Officer Christina Shearer and Transit Director Cynda Bruce**
Director Bruce gave a brief history of the program and an overview of the district's proposed budget. She shared statistics, successes and goals. She stated that the biggest challenge today is not funding, but a shortage of CDL drivers. Director Bruce answered questions from the committee about using vehicles with alternative fuel sources. There were no questions from the public.
10. Director Shearer and Administrator Johnson reviewed the agenda for May 17. Hearing adjourned at 8:12.
11. Continue Meeting to May 17, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Lincoln County Courthouse, 225 West Olive Street, Room 110, Newport.