



Deschutes County Legislative Update

A conference call was held on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 7:30 a.m. in the Deschutes County Allen Room as a part of a weekly scheduled event during this 2016 Legislative Session. Acting Chair Commissioner Tammy Baney called the meeting to order.

1. Introductions

Deschutes County			
✓	Commissioner Alan Unger, <i>Via phone in Salem</i>	✓	Commissioner Tammy Baney, Acting chair
✓	Commissioner Anthony DeBone	✓	County Administrator Tom Anderson
✓	Deputy County Admin. Erik Kropp	✓	Legal Counsel David Doyle
✓	Management Analyst Judith Ure	✓	Public Info. Officer Whitney Malkin
✓	Finance Director Wayne Lowry	✓	District Attorney John Hummel
✓	Assessor Scot Langton	✓	Health Dept. Director Jane Smilie
✓	County Forester Ed Keith	✓	Public Works Director Chris Doty
✓	Comm. Devel. Director Nick Lelack	✓	Internal Auditor David Givans

Central Oregon Legislation			
✓	Representative Gene Whisnant	✓	Representative John Huffman
✓	Representative Mike McLane	✓	Representative Knute Buehler
✓	Senator Ted Ferrioli	✓	Senator Tim Knopp
	Senator Doug Whitsett		

2. Central Oregon Legislators' Update and 2016 Priorities: Commissioner Baney inquired if each legislator would give a report on their priorities and asked how Deschutes County could assist them in their work for this session. The major issues for this session include affordable housing, minimum wage, cap & trade. They fully expect to see evening and weekend sessions. One request is for the County to stimulate proposals for housing options.

Questions were raised if the increase in minimum wage would affect the County; however, the County's wages are based on the CPI index. The main short list includes cap & trade, minimum wage, renewables, affordable housing, and PERS. HB4001 relating to housing is poorly written and would be one to avoid. The right to farm vs the marijuana bills will be reviewed.

3. **Deschutes County Commissioners' 2016 Priorities:** The bill summary report will be reviewed by the Commissioners at the Wednesday, February 3, 2016 Work Session to plan the next steps for the 2016 legislative session.

Judith Ure will provide a daily alert to the commissioners regarding the latest actions on the bills that will be tracked and supported. A short list of housing bills will be provided to the commissioners this afternoon. A list of developable land will be requested.

4. Deschutes County Department 2016 Priorities


- *District Attorney's Office:* SB1550 relating to the recording of grand jury proceedings. Input from the DA's office will be prepared and sent to Salem.
- *Health Department:* Bills of interest include those relating to retail tobacco licensing, SB1551 mental health reporting relative to firearm issues, HB4124 relating to prescription drugs, SB1515 relating to child welfare, and HB4075 school safety tip line
- *County Forester:* SB1520 relating to forest resources to attempt state forester entry into federal Good Neighbor Authority agreement which now includes woody biomass to types of renewable energy. Suggestion to contact Chair Edward's office with a request for a public hearing and talking points will be submitted this afternoon.
- *Community Development Department:* SB1563 relating to on-site septic system financing – authorizing the Environmental Quality Commission to develop low interest loan program for on-site septic systems.
- *Road Department:* HB4055 relating to transportation modifying a list of low carbon fuels that may be used to meet low carbon fuel standards.
- *Assessor's Office:* SB1565 relating to property tax benefits. Would inquire on having a seat on a possible committee regarding SJR201 regarding property tax assessments.
- *9-1-1 Operations:* SB1555 relating to polygraph tests for pre-employment screening for law enforcement and requests this also pertain to 9-1-1 operators

5. Bill Review and Prioritization Process

- Commissioner Unger expressed the importance of watching the legislative schedule as everything seems to be moving very quickly.
- Commissioner DeBone inquired if the commissioners should split the time spent in Salem. Discussion held on the Public Affairs Counsel and providing them with a list of issues the County would like them to lobby.

6. **Next Conference Call/Meeting:** is scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at 7:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,


Sharon Ross, Administrative Assistant - BOCC

DATED this 17th day of February 2016 for the
Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.

Alan Unger

ALAN UNGER, Chair

Tammy Baney

TAMMY BANEY, Vice Chair

Anthony DeBona

ANTHONY DEBONE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Bonnie Baker

Recording Secretary