

# Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, April 26, 2023**

In Person (*and recorded*)<sup>i</sup>

Public Service Building, 2051 Kaen Road, Oregon City, 97045  
BCC Hearing Room, Room 409

Present: Commissioner Tootie Smith, Chair  
Commissioner Martha Schrader  
Commissioner Mark Shull  
Commissioner Ben West  
Citizen Member James Karn  
Citizen Member Wilda Parks  
Citizen Member James Rhodes  
Citizen Member Kenneth Sernach

Absent: Commissioner Paul Savas  
Citizen Member Jan Lee

Staff: County Administrator, Gary Schmidt  
Finance Director, Elizabeth Comfort  
Budget Manager, Sandra Montoya

## **Agenda:**

1. Approve Jan 25, 2023, Meeting Minutes (Recorded Time 1:27)

Motion to approve the January 25, 2023, meeting minutes by Kenneth Sernach and seconded by Commissioner West. The motion passes unanimously, 8-0.

2. Approval of Compensation Board's Recommendation For Elected Officials (Recorded Time 2:43)

Commissioner Shull asks why the Sheriff's compensation is 13% above the adjusted market above, and why is a 2% compression adjustment recommended. In addition, Commissioner Shull asks for the salaried requirements per ORS. Human Resources Sr. Manager, Heather Pedersen, provided an explanation outlining the difference between compression and how that relates to the current market, and how the Compensation Board incorporates ORS salaried requirements.

Commissioner West asks if the salary of elected officials is comparable to other Metro areas, and if so, how to arrive at base salary and/or additional compensation. Melissa Fireside, Chair of the Compensation Board for Elected Officials provides a response outlining the process the Compensation Board undergoes to ensure compensations are specific enough.

James Karn asks about employee retention, specifically if the County is losing employees to other agencies due to salary differences, and where the County fits concerning equitable pay by distinct positions in all departments. Heather Pedersen provides an explanation explaining the role of Human Resources in gathering this information and will share this data with Mr. Karn.

Commissioner Schrader introduces a motion to approve a 4.5% COLA for all elected officials. Wilda Parks seconded the motion.

Commissioner West brings forth an amendment to the first motion to follow the County Administrator's recommendations to not have a 10% increase for the Sheriff's Office but to allow for an increase for all other elected officials. James Rhodes seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously, 8-0.

Motion to approve the recommendation of the Compensation Board Committee to approve the 4.5% COLA for all elected officials, including the District Attorney's 11% COLA increase. The motion passes 6 Ayes, 1 Nay, and 1 Abstention.

3. Cost Allocation Review (Recorded Time 55:13)

A discussion of the cost allocation process.

4. New Business/Questions

**MEETING ADJOURNED (11:30 am)**

Prepared by: [Priscila Montoya](#), Budget Coordinator. The Budget Committee approved these minutes on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.

<sup>i</sup> Recordings will be saved for one year from the meeting date and will be provided upon request.