

# Clackamas County Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

**May 23-24, 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  
Commissioner Paul Savas  
Commissioner Martha Schrader  
Commissioner Mark Shull  
Commissioner Ben West  
Citizen Member Wilda Parks, Chair  
Citizen Member James Karn  
Citizen Member Jan Lee  
Citizen Member James Rhodes  
Citizen Member Kenneth Sernach

Staff: County Administrator, Gary Schmidt  
Finance Director, Elizabeth Comfort  
Budget Manager, Sandra Montoya  
Clerk to the Board, Anthony Mayernik

**CALL TO ORDER (8:30 am)**

**INTRODUCTIONS (8:30 am)**

**Tuesday, May 23, 2023**

**1. MOTION: Nominations for Budget Committee Chair** (Recorded Time 3:11)

Chair Smith: I will now open the floor for nominations for Chair.

Commissioner West: Chair Smith, I move we nominate Kenneth Sernach to the Chair of the Budget Committee.

Chair Smith: Kenneth Sernach has been nominated for Chair. Do I hear a second?

Commissioner Savas: Second.

Chair Smith: Are there any other nominations for Chair?

Jan Lee: I nominate Wilda Parks.

James Rhodes: Second.

Chair Smith calls the roll for Kenneth Sernach. The motion fails, 4-6.  
Chair Smith calls the roll for Wilda Parks. The motion passes, unanimously.

**2. MOTION: Nominations for Budget Committee Secretary** (Recorded Time: 7:33)

Commissioner West: I nominate Kenneth Sernach as Secretary of the Budget Committee.

James Rhodes: Second.

Chair Parks calls the roll to approve Kenneth Sernach as Secretary of the Budget Committee.  
The motion passes, unanimously.

**3. MOTION: Approval of the April 26, 2023, Meeting Minutes** (Recorded Time: 11:54)

Chair Smith: I move we approve the meeting minutes from the April 26, 2023, Budget Committee meeting.

Kenneth Sernach: Second.

Chair Smith calls the roll to approve the April 26, 2023, meeting minutes. The motion passes, 9-0-1.

**4. MOTION: Nomination for Budget Committee Vice Chair** (Recorded Time: 12:55)

Commissioner Shull: I nominate James Rhodes as Vice Chair.

Commissioner Savas: Second.

Wilda Parks: Are there any other nominations?

Commissioner West: I move to nominate Chair Tootie Smith as Vice Chair.

Commissioner Schrader: Second.

Chair Smith: James Rhodes, would you like to serve as Vice Chair?

James Rhodes: Yes, I would be happy to.

Chair Smith: I withdraw my nomination.

Commissioner West: I withdraw my nomination.

Chair Parks calls the roll to approve James Rhodes as Vice Chair. The motion passes unanimously.

**BUDGET MESSAGE (8:50 am)**

**DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION (9:30 am)**

General Fund and Other Revenue Sources/Forecast Review/Reductions by Department or Office/Budget Summary by Fund and Revenue – Expense by Department/Fund (9:30 am)

Central Service Departments/Offices (General Fund/Cost Allocated): County Administration/County Counsel/Finance/Human Resources/Public & Government Affairs/Treasurer’s Office (10:00 am)

Internal Service Departments (General Fund/Cost Allocated): Capital Projects/Facilities/Technology Services (11:15 am)

Operating Departments/Office – Primarily Funded by General Fund: Assessment & Taxation/Disaster Management/District Attorney/Juvenile/Sheriff (1:00 pm)

Operating Departments – Primarily Funded by Fees and Grants: Department of Transportation and Development/Health, Housing & Human Services (1:00 pm)

Self-Funded Departments – No General Fund: Clackamas 911/County Clerk’s Office/Justice Court/Law Library/Tourism (2:45 pm)

**COMMENTS BY ELECTED OFFICIALS WHO LEAD OFFICES (3:30 pm)**

**MEETING RECESSED AT 5:00 pm**

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY (6:00)**

**Wednesday, May 24, 2023**

**RECONVENE (8:30 am)**

- 1. MOTION: Elimination of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) program from budget** (Recorded time 45:00)

Commissioner Shull: I move that the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion program in the County Administration department, in the amount of \$828,403 be moved to the Board of County Commissioners office, and that the 3.8 FTE and the funding for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion be stricken from the FY23-24 budget.

West: Second.

- 2. MOTION: Continue the EDI program elimination discussion further discussion for a Policy Session** (Recorded time: 57:04)

Chair Smith: I motion we table this motion for future discussion.

Schrader: Second.

*The motion to table the discussion would succeed the previous motion.*

Chair Parks calls the roll. The motion passes 9-1.

- 3. MOTION: Alternate funding for Children of Incarcerated Parents program**  
(Recorded time: 1:10:26)

Administrator Schmidt: In hearing comments by this committee yesterday about the Children of Incarcerated Parents there seems a willingness to reinstate it. I could do so if that's your direction.

Commissioner Savas: So moved.

Commissioner West: I second.

Chair Parks calls for the roll. The motion passes unanimously.

- 4. MOTION: Recommend a full financial performance audit of the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office and bring in a mediator.** (Recorded time: 2:33:44)

Chair Smith: I make an advisory motion from this body to initiate a full financial performance audit of the financial systems of the Sheriff's Office and bring in a mediator to initiate this process.

Commissioner West: I second.

Chair Parks calls for the roll. The motion passes, 8-0-1.

*\*Funding for a financial performance audit of CCSO will come from the County Administrator's operating budget.*

**5. MOTION: Approval of the FY23-24 Proposed Budget as presented.**

Chair Smith: I move that the committee approve the FY23-24 budget for Clackamas County in the amount of \$1,266,794,474, with appropriations in the amount of \$1,144,391,844, and impose the permanent tax rates of \$2.4042 per \$1,000 in assessed value for Clackamas County – City and \$2.9766 per \$1,000 in assessed value for Clackamas County - Rural, and a public safety local option levy tax rate of \$0.368 per \$1,000 in assessed value, and the amount of \$5,559,000 for General Obligation bond debt service.

Commissioner Schrader: Second.

Chair Parks: It has been moved and seconded that the committee approve the 2023-2024 budget for Clackamas County in the amount of \$1,266,794,474, with appropriations in the amount of \$1,144,391,844, and impose the permanent tax rates of \$2.4042 per \$1,000 in assessed value for Clackamas County – City and \$2.9766 per \$1,000 in assessed value for Clackamas County - Rural, and a public safety local option levy tax rate of \$0.368 per \$1,000 in assessed value, and the amount of \$5,559,000 for General Obligation bond debt service. Is there any further discussion? Seeing none, I will now ask the Clerk to call the poll.

The motion passes unanimously.

Prepared by: Priscila Montoya, Budget Coordinator. The Budget Committee approved these minutes on Wednesday, April 24, 2024.

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