



**TSCC Regular Business Meeting
Minutes
Monday, April 28, 2025
11:03 a.m.**

Chair Harmony Quiroz, Commissioners Donahue, Lugo Knapp and Moore were present, as were Executive Director Allegra Willhite and Budget Analyst Brittanie Abayare, all via Zoom meeting. Commissioner Burton was absent.

REGULAR MEETING

Chair Quiroz called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

District Budgets to be considered

Executive Director Willhite said the commissioners were scheduled to discuss the 2025-26 Approved Budget for Corbett Fire District as well as the Bond hearing for Portland Public Schools.

Corbett Budget Review

Budget Analyst Brittanie Abayare presented highlights of Corbett's FY 2025-26 budget, noting a 6% increase to a total of \$5.7 million. She emphasized that a significant portion of the spending is dedicated to bond-funded capital projects. No compliance issues were identified during the review. Chair Quiroz motioned to certify; Commissioner Moore moved, and Commissioner Donahue seconded; all voted in favor of certifying the budget.

Portland Public Schools (PPS) Bond Measure

The commission held an extensive discussion regarding the upcoming PPS bond measure, which is significantly larger than previous bonds. The Commissioners discussed a number of topics including the district's planning and communication, the overall cost of the measure, and declining student enrollment. Commissioners also discussed the potential impact of the bond on the district's credit rating and the commitment by the district to maintain the current tax rate. The Commissioners also discussed received written comment for the PPS hearing and the potential for verbal testimony. Questions were prepared in advance of the PPS hearing, with a focus on questions related to community engagement, cost management, enrollment projections, and accountability for implementation of past bond measures.

TriMet and MHCC Hearings Recap

The commission reflected on the recent TriMet hearing, particularly noting the uncertainty around potential changes to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) policies in light of federal funding constraints. Commissioners reaffirmed the importance of transparency and accountability in all public agencies, especially those receiving significant public funding.

Public Comment and Community Engagement

There was a continued emphasis on the value of public comment and the role of TSCC in

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facilitating community engagement throughout the budget review process. Commissioners discussed best practices for handling public testimony during hearings and perspectives on public comment that does not align with hearing or agenda topics.

Upcoming Meetings

The next meetings were confirmed, including the PPS tax hearing and discussion meetings.

Closing Remarks

Chair Quiroz concluded the meeting by expressing appreciation for the TSCC update and recognizing its ongoing role in keeping the public informed. The meeting adjourned with a reminder of the upcoming schedule and associated tasks.

There being no other business, Chair Quiroz adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.