



**TSCC Regular Business Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 24, 2023
12:03 p.m.**

Chair Harmony Quiroz, Commissioners, Ofsink, Norton, Wubbold, and Donahue were present, as were Executive Director Allegra Willhite and Budget Analyst Tunie Betschart, all via Zoom meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

Vice Chair Ofsink called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

District Budgets to be considered

Executive Director Willhite said the commissioners were scheduled to discuss the approved budget reviews and questions to be asked at the Metro and the Port of Portland hearing.

Metro review and hearing questions

Executive Director gave a high-level overview of Metro's approved budget, sharing the significant themes and changes from last year's budget. The agency is experiencing a considerable beginning fund balance, with the supportive housing dollars coming in higher than expected and the Parks Bond dollars. Visitor venues are improving in the revenue area, and transit lodging tax is increasing.

Following the introduction, the commissioners discussed the questions to be asked at the hearing. There had been some suggested revisions to the questions provided before the hearing via Google Docs. They reviewed the suggestions and discussed other changes. During the discussion, they added follow-up questions, changed the wording of some questions, deleted a couple and replaced them with revised questions. They split out one question, added a portion as a follow-up question, added stronger language to a couple, and changed some to encourage thorough answers. When the discussion on Metro's budget ended, they had developed nine questions to ask at the 90-minute in-person hearing on Wednesday, June 1, held at the Metro Regional Center in the board room.

Port of Portland Approved Budget review and hearing questions

Executive Director Willhite gave an overview of the Port of Portland's Approved budget. She explained some of the key activities at the Port. There has been an increase in passengers over last year's numbers. The Port did receive the federal grant around mass timber manufacturing to go towards the Mass Timber Manufacturing facility at P2. There has been an increase in personnel costs over FY 23. She added that the Port is increasing security positions.

Following the introductory statements, the commissioners moved to the questions to ask at the hearing. Before the meeting, commissioners suggested revisions to some questions



using Google Docs. The questions and proposed revisions were discussed. The exchange of ideas resulted in adding follow-up questions, rewording some questions, and adding more specific language. The result was the development of ten questions.

The audit finding of the Port's over-expenditures in the FY 22 budget and the wording for the Certification Letter were considered. Executive Willhite will send it to the commissioners.

Executive Director Willhite will send the finalized questions to Metro and the Port of Portland so they can prepare for the upcoming hearings.

Other Business

Executive Director Willhite discussed the circumstances with Reynolds School District, explaining that she has been attempting to reach them. She received word that the CFO is leaving, and his replacement will begin in July. So the district has asked to move to a limited membership, with no review and certification this year. Staff will reach out to the district's staff during the summer to provide suggestions to improve their budget.

Executive Director Willhite reported that she sent out the TSCC Budget to Actuals report before this meeting and asked if the Commissioners had any questions. They did not.

Executive Director Willhite told the commissioners recent draft minutes of the budget review discussions have been posted on TSCC's website. She said she posts the draft copy to the website and sends a link to the commissioners. If she receives any corrections, she makes them at that time. The recordings of the hearings are also posted, acting as the minutes until the written minutes are available later this summer. Commissioners had no objections to these practices.

There being no other business, Chair Quiroz adjourned the meeting at 1:41.