



**TSCC Regular Business Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Friday, May 31, 2024
10:00 a.m.**

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

Absent: Commissioner Lugo Knapp

REGULAR MEETING

Chair Quiroz called the meeting to order at 10:15 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 Port of Portland's Hearing. They will also be considering four smaller districts to certify their budget process. They are Riverdale School District, Multnomah RFPD #10, Sauvie Island RFPD 31J, and Lusted Water District.

Multnomah Rural Fire Protection District #10

Executive Director Willhite reviewed the Multnomah Rural Fire Protection District's Approved Budget and budget process. She said this district collects the taxes and contracts out for the work. The area covers parts of East County, including Maywood Park. They contract with the City of Portland for fire services for Maywood Park and the City of Gresham to provide services to the rest of their district. They are paying extra on their debt and are saving for a fire engine. Other than that, the budget is status quo.

Commissioner Wubbold moved to certify the Multnomah Rural Fire Protection District #10's 2024-25 Approved Budget with no recommendations or objections. Commissioner Donahue seconded the motions which carried with a unanimous vote.

Sauvie Island Rural Fire Protection District #31J

Ms. Betschart gave a high-level overview of the Sauvie Island Rural Fire Protection District's Approved Budget, stating the district has received several grants in the current year and anticipates receiving some in FY25. Without the grants, the budget would look very close to the previous budget. The fire chief is aggressively seeking grant dollars. They purchased a new fire truck with grant dollars. It will be added to their fleet this summer. They have hired a temporary firefighter this summer for three months, which will be paid for with grant dollars. The budget was in great shape this year. Chief Lake is great to work with, always wanting to improve the budget, attends TSCC training to learn more about how to do it right, works with TSCC staff, and sends documents to us to review before publishing. Commissioner Wubbold suggested adding a note in the certification letter about the improvements seen in their budget document. Staff will include a note commending the district for the upgrades made in the budget and the budget process.



Chair Quiroz moved to certify the Sauvie Island Rural Fire Protection District #31J's 2024-25 Approved Budget with no recommendations or objections. Commissioner Wubbold seconded the motion which carried with a unanimous vote.

Lusted Water District

Executive Director Willhite gave an overview of the Lusted Water District's budget. They currently purchase water from the City of Portland, but with the increasing cost, they are looking at other options. They continue to increase rates for their customers to keep up with the rising cost of purchasing water and they will increase water rates in FY25. The contract with the City of Portland expires in June 2026. They may agree to purchase water from the City of Gresham. It is closer to the district. They set aside money for large capital projects, such as digging their wells if they decide to go in this direction.

Commissioner Donahue moved to certify the Lusted Water District's 2024-25 Approved Budget with no recommendations or objections. Chair Quiroz seconded the motion which carried with a unanimous vote.

Riverdale School District

Executive Director Willhite gave an overview of the Riverdale School District Approved budget. Like many of the school district TSCC reviews, they struggle with expenditures increasing faster than resources. They have reviewed how they identify students to ensure they capture the correct classification for each student. The reclassification will guarantee they receive the maximum state funding. They do have out-of-district students who pay tuition. They feel the revenue from this source will decrease in the upcoming budget year. To address the gap between revenues and expenditures, they are hiring a grant writer to acquire more grant dollars and not filling vacancies to reduce personnel expenses. They will also review contracts to see if they can decrease expenditures in this area.

Chair Wubbold moved to certify the Riverdale District's 2024-25 Approved Budget with no recommendations or objections. Commissioner Quiroz seconded the motion which carried with a unanimous vote.

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 the key activities at the Port are the ones the commissioners have seen in the past. Terminal 6 service was planned to be suspended, but a promise of funds from the state will allow them to continue service while they develop a long-term plan to make the terminal sustainable. The budget includes funds for ongoing planned capital projects such as PDX Next. The Commissioners began discussing the questions to ask at the hearing. The first question concerns mass timer manufacturing since this is the second year for the Housing Innovation Campus at Terminal 2. The commissioners added a question. The exchange of ideas resulted in adding follow-up questions, rewording some questions, and adding more specific language. The result was the development of eight questions and one question to send to Port staff about the Port's financial contribution to the Urban Flood Safety and Water District.

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



Other Business

Mt. Hood Community College notified staff that the the Student Equity Center would not be ready for a tour next week, but MHCC staff would be happy to give the commissioners a tour of the Dental Lab if they are interested. The tour will begin at 6:00 for those who want to attend.

With no other business, Chair Quiroz adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.