



**TSCC Regular Business Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday April 12, 2023
12:15 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

Chair Quiroz called the meeting to order at noon.

District Budgets to be considered

Executive Director Willhite said the commissioners were scheduled to discuss the City of Portland's Childrens Local Option Tax Levy hearing review and two Approved Budgets at this meeting, Burlington Water District and TriMet. However, Burlington water district revised its budget calendar to gather more information on the timing of the capital project and the debt it will acquire. So they will be reviewed at a later meeting.

Portland's Children's Local Option Levy review and questions

Executive Director Willhite summarized the levy, stating there were no changes with this levy. This year will be the 20th year of the local option tax levy. There is an agreement with the Portland Parks to send them the tax revenue they lose because of this levy. They continue to carry a considerable fund balance which was discussed.

After the brief overview, the commissioner discussed the questions they would ask at the tax levy hearing.

They added some questions, rearranged the order of a couple, replaced one, added follow-up questions, and settled on the nine to be asked at the hearing, including a wrap-up one, which invites the city to share any information about the tax measure they wish with TSCC and the public.

TriMet's Approved Budget review and hearing questions

Executive Director Willhite reflected on TriMet staff's concern about the venue and possible security concerns at the hearing. After advising commissioners on what to do if situations over demonstrations arise and suggesting Chair Quiroz to limit comments to one minute if many people are signed up to give testimony, the commissioners moved to the questions since they had no questions on the budget.

Commissioners revised some of the prepared questions submitted before the meeting. During the discussion, the commissioners changed, eliminated, consolidated, and repositioned some. They added follow-ups, linked some to other questions, changed wording on some, and ended up with 11 questions to ask at the 90-minute hearing.



Executive Director Willhite will prepare and assign the final questions for each hearing, emailing them to the commissioners and the appropriate jurisdiction so everyone is ready for the upcoming hearings.

Other Business

Commissioner Wubbold asked if masks would be required at the hearing. Executive Director Willhite said Multnomah County is no longer requiring masks. She has not heard of any district that will require them. It is an individual's choice. If anyone feels they need to use a mask, they certainly can.

Executive Director asked if it would be possible to change the Regular Meeting on May 3rd to discuss small districts to 11:00 a.m. instead of noon. Commissioners said this would work for them. She will update the invitations to reflect this change.

Commissioner Norton mentioned that the appointment of a TSCC representative on the Arts Tax Committee is the TSCC commission's choice. Her term to serve on the committee will term out at the end of 2023. She stated she would first ask if the commissioner wanted to continue the seat on the committee since they do not serve on any other committee. And if commissioners feel they should still have a representative on the committee who would be willing to fill the position. Commissioner Norton and Wubbold thought it was important to maintain a seat on this committee. Commissioner Wubbold volunteered to serve in this role. Commissioner Norton will relay this information to the committee.

The last item for discussion was the Op-ed/Article. Commissioner Ofsink reported on this saying it is moving forward. He is working on tracking down options, but it looks like the most probable avenue will be the Op-ed. The Oregonian publishes these on Sunday and Wednesday. Commissioner Ofsink will complete this work soon.

With no other business, Chair Quiroz closed the Regular Meeting of the TSCC.