



**TSCC Regular Business Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 22, 2023
12:05 p.m.**

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

Absent: Commissioner Matt Donahue

REGULAR MEETING

Chair Quiroz 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 for the hearings for Multnomah County and the Multnomah County Library District.

Multnomah County's Budget review and hearing questions

Executive Director gave a high-level overview of Multnomah County's budget, sharing the significant themes in this large three-volume budget. The county is experiencing a considerable increase in resources, driven by the rise in the beginning fund balance in several funds, including the General Fund, and an increase in the Business Income Tax with this budget.

Following the introduction, the commissioners discussed the questions to be asked at the hearing. There had been some suggested revisions to draft questions before the hearing via Google Docs. They reviewed the suggestions and discussed others. During the discussion, they agreed to direct the first question to the newly elected county commissioner chair. They reframed some questions, paired one with another, changed the wording, and changed some to draw out answers to specific subjects. The commissioners also changed one follow-up question to a stand-alone question. They changed another question from a high-level question to a request for more information on a specific topic. They deleted a couple of questions and deleted parts of others. When the discussion on the county's budget ended, they had developed eight questions to ask at the 90-minute in-person hearing on Wednesday, May 31, held in the County Commissioner's Board Room.

Multnomah County Library District Approved Budget review and hearing questions

Ms. Betschart gave an overview of the Multnomah County Library District's Approved budget. She said the budget was status quo except for a few changes. The district is seeing considerable growth in the beginning fund balance due to underspending during the pandemic when the libraries were shut down. The handling of reserve funds is



changing slightly from a set amount to an amount that reflects the need. Staff developed a five-year plan to spend down one-time resource, using these resources on various library one-time expenditures, connected to capital projects.

Following the introductory statements, the commissioners worked on the questions to ask at the hearing. Before the meeting, commissioners suggested revisions to draft 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 seven questions.

Executive Director Willhite will send the revised questions to the Multnomah County and the Multnomah County Library District so they can prepare for the upcoming hearings.

Other Business

Executive Director Willhite has completed the Gresham Barlow School district review and will send it to the commissioners tomorrow. She suggested discussing it at the meeting on June 1, along with Urban Flood Safety & Water Quality District and three other small district budget reviews. She explained that this would eliminate the need for a meeting following the Metro Hearing on June 3rd. Commissioner agreed that this would work for them.

Executive Director Willhite will change the website to reflect this schedule change.

There being no other business, Chair Quiroz adjourned the meeting at 1:11.