

**OREGON CASCADES WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**BUDGET COMMITTEE Minutes**  
**May 16, 2019**  
**1:00 pm**

**MEMBERS:** Mayor Sharon Konopa, Albany; Mayor Biff Traber, Corvallis; Mayor Jim Lepin, Millersburg; Commissioner Pat Malone, Benton County; Commissioner Claire Hall, Lincoln County; and Commissioner Annabelle Jaramillo, Benton County and Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation Chair.

**VIDEO:** Deputy Director Rachael Maddock-Hughes, Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG).

**VIA PHONE:** Commissioner Anne Schuster, Benton County.

**OCWCOG STAFF:** Executive Director Fred Abousleman; Finance Director Sue Forty; Senior and Disability Services Director Randi Moore; Community Services Program Director Jennifer Moore; and Administrative Assistant Janet Hughes.

The OCWCOG's Budget Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair Sharon Konopa at 1:08 pm at the Cascades West Center in Albany.

**1. Public Comment**

No comments.

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Commissioner Claire Hall made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2019 OCWCOG Budget Committee minutes. Mayor Jim Lepin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020 Work Program & Budget Review**

Finance Director Sue Forty said there were no changes to the *Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020 Work Program & Budget (Budget)*, other than a few minor adjustments, such as a few subtle changes in the Finance Budget pages. Staff added two contracts with Coastal communities that came in since the original document was published. Finance Staff also increased contract revenue, and a one-time increase for supplies and computers.

Finance Director Forty stated that the *Budget* is stable, however there is not any growth moving forward. Staff needs to find more revenue sources.

Chair Konopa asked if there were any layoffs. Executive Director Fred Abousleman replied that no; there were no staff layoffs.

Executive Director Abousleman noted that the organization is rapidly hiring approximately 25 full-time employees, specifically in Senior and Disability Services (SDS) and *RideLine*. Executive Director Abousleman commented that SDS Director Randi Moore has managed these hires well, and soon the SDS program will be one of the largest regional SDS programs in the State.

Chair Konopa asked about the status of the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), and its impact on the SDS program. Finance Director Forty noted that all Title 19 monies and this *Budget* are at a higher tier this year. OCWCOG has a PERS Reserve, which is funded by indirect returns. The Board has to authorize the use of this Reserve.

Finance Director Forty stated that Staff will present a supplemental *Budget* in July. Additions that need to be made include: *Stand by Me*, a new program; *Foster Grandparent* and *Senior Companion Programs* have received more/new funds; Additional funding for the Benton County Veterans Services Office; among others.

Executive Director Abousleman discussed the *Stand by Me* program, a lifelong financial empowerment program that the State of Delaware has been promoting. The Program embeds financial coaches in local community organizations (HeadStart, Veterans' Offices, Senior Centers, etc.) who then provide one-on-one coaching to program participants. It is open to all residents in the State of Delaware. Community and Economic Development Director Phil Warnock, SDS Director Moore, and Deputy Director Maddock-Hughes traveled to Delaware to learn more about the program. OCWCOG are looking to start the program, with a smaller geographical footprint. If successful, Staff will look to launch Region-wide. This is a powerful tool. Commissioner Malone stated that Delaware has been doing this for some time, no other region across the States has signed up. He thinks it will be a great program for here.

Mayor Lepin made the motion to recommend approval of the *Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020 Work Program & Budget* to the Board of Directors. Mayor Biff Traber seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hall made the motion to approve *Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020 Work Program & Budget*, and recommend adoption of Resolution #19-05-3 to the Board of Directors. Mayor Lepin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**4. Other Business**

None

**5. Adjournment**

No further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:24 pm.

*Meeting notes taken by Janet Hughes.*