

Bend-La Pine Schools
Board of Directors Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: April 14, 2020

Meeting Location:

To support Governor Brown's executive orders for social distancing, the Board of Directors conducted the Budget Committee Meeting virtually, through Cisco Webex.

Board Members Present

Julie Craig
Carrie Douglass
Shimiko Montgomery
Caroline Skidmore
Melissa Barnes Dholakia
Amy Tatom
Stuart Young

Budget Committee Members Present

Natasha McFarland
Matt Hillman
Heidi Slaybaugh
Tom Bahrman
Marcus LeGrand
Sharon Bellusci

Budget Committee Members Absent

Rick Olegario

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by Budget Chair McFarland, roll call followed.

Review of Agenda

Budget Chair McFarland reviewed the agenda. There were no changes.

Election of Budget Committee Officers

Tom Bahrman nominated Natasha McFarland to continue to serve as Budget Committee Chair. Julie Craig seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Heidi Slaybaugh nominated Matt Hillman to continue to serve as Budget Committee Vice Chair. Tom Bahrman seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Budget Message

Budget Chair McFarland thanked all for attending virtually and invited Superintendent Mikalson to share his 2020-21 budget message. Mikalson welcomed new Budget Committee members, Marcus LeGrand and Sharon Bellusci, and thanked all Budget Committee and Board members for their willingness to lead during uncertainty,

noting the COVID-19 crisis certainly will have impacts on school district budgets, but to what extent is largely unknown. Mikalson shared a history of the district's budget and current state of spending. He presented the 2020-21 budget message and shared about the district's investment plan for Strategic Investment Account (SIA) dollars and how the investments are closely tied to what was learned through the Excellence and Equity Review. He noted the district did submit our SIA Application to the state earlier this spring. Mikalson clarified, the budget being presented tonight is a pre-COVID-19 budget. The financial impacts of COVID-19 will not be known for some time and as the state and federal resources are determined, the district will continue to monitor and adjust. He noted the district has implemented a hiring freeze and are actively reviewing staffing allocations should the SIA funds, or other resources be negatively impacted.

Review of the Budget Document

Brad Henry thanked all for attending and introduced Leah Bibeau, the district's new Business Manager. Henry shared that Roy Burling retired this spring and thanked Burling for his years of service to Bend-La Pine and help in preparing the budget document. Henry also thanked Cindy Wallskog and Nick Shein for their assistance in preparing the document. Henry led Budget Committee and Board members through the 2020-21 proposed budget document, noting that the information is similar to what has been presented in years past and offered to answer any questions. The next Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for May 12th. He asked that any questions about the proposed budget be sent to him by May 5th and he will have answers prepared to share at the next meeting.

Tom Bahrman clarified if the SIA and Measure 98 funds are included in the proposed budget. Henry answered yes. Henry added, that by law, the budget needs to be adopted by June 30, 2020. A legislative special session will most likely be called to assess financial and budget impacts of COVID-19. The session has not been scheduled yet. After the budget is adopted, district staff will continue to monitor financials and work with board members to revise. The district can spend less than the approved budget without additional approval from the Budget Committee and/or Board.

Budget Chair McFarland thanked Mikalson and Henry for the review and preparation of the 2020-21 budget document during such uncertain times.

Budget Committee Chair McFarland adjourned the budget committee meeting at 6:04 p.m.
Co-Chair Craig said the regular board meeting would begin at 6:10 p.m.

Recorded by: Andrea Wilson

Approved at 5.12.2020 budget committee meeting