

# CROOK COUNTY WORK SESSION

Administration Conference Room  
203 NE Court Street, Prineville, OR

Tuesday **August 31, 2021** at 9 a.m.

## Discussion Items

	<i>Requester's Name</i>	<i>Matter</i>	<i>Docs in Packet?</i>
1	Matt Smith	Impacts of Health Care Worker Vaccine Mandate	✓
2	April Witteveen	Law Library Biennial Disbursement: Partial Transfer of Funds for Mediation/Conciliation Services	✓
3		Oregon Department of Veteran Affairs Pass-Through Funds Application	✓
4		Letter of Support for City of Prineville Railway Application	✓

## Executive Discussion Items

	<i>Requester's Name</i>	<i>Matter</i>	<i>Docs in Packet?</i>
Exec #1		ORS 192.660(2)(h) Consulting with Counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed	✓

*Items placed on the Work Session agenda are intended for discussion only, without making decisions or finalizing documents unless an emergency exists.*

*\*The Court may add additional items arising too late to be part of this Agenda. Agenda items may be rearranged to make the best use of time.*

*\*The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. If additional accommodations are required, please submit your request 48 hours prior to the meeting by contacting County Administration at 541-447-6555.*

*Requests to be placed on the Work Session agenda are  
due at **5 p.m. on Thursday** before the Work Session*

**August 31, 2021 Work Session Agenda Items**



# CROOK COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

Est. 1884

Subject: Impacts of health care worker vaccine mandate

August 20, 2021

Oregon Fire Service Coronavirus Response Taskforce:

I am very concerned that the Governor's vaccination mandate for health care workers will have a negative impact on Crook County Fire and Rescue's ability to provide service to our community. My comments are not in regard to the vaccine's effectiveness or safety.

Crook County Fire and Rescue operates a fire district that covers approximately 450 square miles and an ambulance service area that covers approximately 3,000. We serve a population of 23,000 residents and have an average call volume of 3,400 calls a year. We have 21 career staff assigned to 3 shifts with 25 volunteer and part time employees that partner to staff our three fire stations.

Many of our career, part time and volunteer responders have chosen to be vaccinated and many have not. Our staff has been provided with excellent information and easy access to vaccination. Members are well educated and understand how to make risk/benefit decisions. Our emergency responders make this type of decision daily and have an excellent safety record. Our members are also trained in how to refuse risk properly. In this case, I believe that those who have chosen not to be vaccinated are doing exactly that.

We must all admit that local, state and federal "experts" have not been consistently accurate with anything during this pandemic. Change and update has been the rule. To now mandate compliance in the face of an excellent safety record for both the responder and patient safety, is for some, too much to ask. My experience with those that have not chosen to vaccinate is that they will not be swayed by mandate. I have heard from our group that they will strongly consider ending their service due to the mandate and lack of trust in what they are told regarding the vaccine. I must stress that this is not an uneducated position or is it articulated by unreasonable people. Just writing them off goes against how we are trained as firefighters. We tell our firefighters and EMS personnel that it is their obligation to identify safe alternatives for completing an assignment that is felt to be unsafe. In this case, I believe there are many safe alternatives. We also train them as supervisors and leaders to seriously consider the concerns brought forward. Please seriously consider the concern regarding the effect a health care worker vaccination mandate will have. Please also reflect on what could result if these effects come to fruition and compare that to the objective the Governor is trying to accomplish. My view is that the risks far out ways any benefit. I believe that at least 20% and possibly more of the emergency responders in our organization will choose to leave, than to comply with the health care worker vaccine mandate if that decision is forced.

The loss of just one of our responders can have the effect of leaving one of our rural stations unstaffed and significantly impact our ability in providing inter-hospital transport or emergency response. The loss of several responders would cripple the district's daily response and capacity to meet emergency call volume for a geographic area of 3,000 square miles.

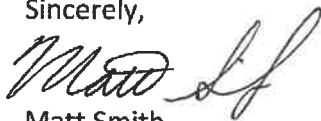
The indirect impact to our district is also very real. We live in an area of limited services. Our local hospital is already having difficulty adequately staffing its positions. When hospital staffing is low requests for transfers increase. Our ability to transfer patients is the first service that is impacted when our staffing is low. It is very easy to see the cascading effect this can have. The mandate has the potential to severely impact Crook County's ability to provide basic health care to our community including adequate EMS response.

An impact to our fire suppression is also anticipated. Any reduction in our number of responders will directly impact our ability to provide fire suppression in a timely and effective manner. Additionally, if our partners at Oregon Department of Forestry and Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office have a reduction in capacity due to the state employee vaccine mandate, it will immediately impact our ability to provide adequate fire service during a time of much heightened risk. This impact effects all functions of emergency response, local, state and federal.

Our responders have risen to the challenge of COVID to keep themselves safe and provide excellent and safe service to our community. As you are aware the challenges are many regarding donning and doffing the correct PPE in the dynamic and pressure filled environment of emergency services. Our District has not had any COVID transmissions that were call or station related. Having responded to over 3,000 EMS calls since the beginning of the pandemic, I believe our safety practices have proven to be effective and adequate.

The potential for the direct and indirect impacts of a vaccine mandate are very real. I implore the Governor and her advisors to give serious consideration to the impacts to our district and others. I encourage the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office and Oregon Fire Chiefs Association to provide clarity to the Governor. The impacts of a vaccine mandate for health care workers are both real and imminent. The cascading effect of any reduction in the capacity in EMS and fire service in Crook County could be very significant and tragic.

Sincerely,



Matt Smith

Fire Chief

Crook County Fire and Rescue

Crook County Fire Defense Board Chief



**OREGON JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT  
Office of the State Court Administrator**

August 10, 2021  
(SENT BY EMAIL)

County of Crook  
County Treasurer  
200 NE Second St  
Prineville, OR 97754

Re: 2021-23 Distribution of Funds to County by OJD

I am writing to inform you of the 2021-23 biennium (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023) state distributions from the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) that were legislatively funded for certain county provided programs including the County Law Library, County Mediation/Conciliation, and Local Court Facility Security programs. Currently, your county will receive the following amounts from OJD for each program for the 2021-23 biennium.

**Law Library Distribution (2021 HB 5012, Section 7): \$43,502**

The amounts provided in your distributions for Law Library services are based on revenues received from filing fees collected during the 2019-21 biennium in civil actions commenced in the circuit court for the county. You will receive two annual distributions, the first of which will be distributed in August 2021 and the second distribution will be made in August of 2022.

In addition, Oregon Laws 2017 Chapter 725, section 19, allows the governing body of the county, after consultation with the Presiding Judge of the circuit court, to use up to one half of the Law Library distribution for the purpose of providing the court's county funded mediation and conciliation services.

Finally, the State of Oregon Law Library is available to work with your county to identify cost-effective means of providing law library services. If your county is interested in discussing that topic, please contact State of Oregon Law Librarian Cathryn Bowie at 503.986.5921 or at [Cathryn.E.Bowie@ojd.state.or.us](mailto:Cathryn.E.Bowie@ojd.state.or.us)

**Mediation/Conciliation Distribution (2021 HB 5012, Section 6): \$34,954**

You will also receive two annual distributions for Domestic Relations Mediation/Conciliation services based on your county's 2019-21 mediation/conciliation distribution. The first of distribution will be made in August 2021 and the second distribution will be made in August of 2022.

**Local Court Security Distribution (2021 SB 5533, Section 20(2)): \$16,238**

You will continue to receive court security funds from both the Oregon Judicial Department and any justice or municipal courts in your county, ORS 153.645(4). Your state funding will be sent in monthly distributions from OJD pursuant to ORS 1.178 and is based on historical funding in

your county from circuit court proceedings. Local courts – justice and municipal courts – will continue to send the portion of local court fines that support local court security plans directly to the county. Any funds from those local courts should, by statute, be deposited into the county Local Court Facility Security Account pursuant to ORS 1.182.

If you have any questions, please email me at [David.T.Moon@oid.state.or.us](mailto:David.T.Moon@oid.state.or.us).

Sincerely,

David Moon  
Director, Business and Fiscal Services Division

cc: Nancy Cozine, State Court Administrator  
Presiding Judge (of Circuit Court in County)  
Trial Court Administrator (of Circuit Court in County)



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Veterans' Affairs

700 Summer St NE

Salem, OR 97301-1285

800-828-8801 | 503-373-2085

[www.oregon.gov/odva](http://www.oregon.gov/odva)

8/18/2021

Seth Crawford  
Crook County Judge  
203 NE Court St  
Prineville, OR 97754

Dear Judge Crawford:

The mission of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) is to serve and honor veterans through our leadership, advocacy and strong partnerships. We recognize that we cannot carry out our mission without the hands-on work that the County Veteran Service Officers perform.

Enclosed is an application for the county to receive ODVA pass-through funds for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 to expand and enhance county veteran services. When identifying carry forward amounts, ODVA is considering the statutory requirements around the appropriation of these dedicated funds and their uses.

The following documents should be submitted to ODVA via email: [ODVA CVSO-NSOFunding@odva.oregon.gov](mailto:ODVA_CVSO-NSOFunding@odva.oregon.gov) no later than August 31, 2021:

- Completed application for ODVA pass-through funds, signed by a County Commissioner or County Judge.
- A copy of the approved budget for the County Veteran Services Office for FY 2022 (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022), including any unspent Veteran Services funds carried forward from FY 2021 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021).
- If changes have been made to the prior fiscal year since submitting the FY 2021 4th quarter report, provide actual revenue and expenditures. This only needs to be included if significant changes have occurred since you submitted the fourth quarter report.
- If the county contracts for the provision of veteran services, a signed copy of the contract (see section on contracting below).

Fund distributions are made quarterly, upon receipt of expenditure and activity reports submitted no later than the last business day of the month following the end of the quarter. All forms must be signed by an individual authorized by the county. Quarterly reports will be due:

- October 31, 2021
- January 31, 2022
- April 30, 2022
- July 31, 2022

Received

AUG 25 2021

ODVA Conservatorship



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Veterans' Affairs

700 Summer St NE

Salem, OR 97301-1285

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County Contracting for Veteran Services. A county may contract for veteran services. The written contract must include specific deliverables that meet the criteria in ORS 406.450 and ORS 408.410. A county may only use state pass-through funding for a purpose listed in statute. Any such contract must be sent to ODVA within 30 days of its execution.

Brenna Bandstra, Statewide Veteran Services, will be assisting the organizations with this process. Please feel free to contact Brenna at (503) 373-2090 or at [Brenna.BANDSTRA@odva.oregon.gov](mailto:Brenna.BANDSTRA@odva.oregon.gov).

We thank you for the invaluable services you provide to our veterans and their families, and we look forward to our continued partnership.

Sincerely,

Sheronne Blasi  
Director, Statewide Veteran Services

Enclosure: Application to Receive ODVA Funds



**OREGON DEPARTMENT  
of VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

**COUNTY APPLICATION FOR ODVA FUNDS  
FY2022: JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022**

*This is a fillable form. Save the form to your computer, complete the form, print, sign, scan and send electronically.*

A county must complete and submit this form along with the required documents listed below to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs **no later than 8/31/2021** in order to receive state funds for the county's Veteran Services Office. Please submit the documents to: [ODVA\\_CVSO-NSOFunding@odva.oregon.gov](mailto:ODVA_CVSO-NSOFunding@odva.oregon.gov).

**SUBMIT TO:** [ODVA\\_CVSO-NSOFunding@odva.oregon.gov](mailto:ODVA_CVSO-NSOFunding@odva.oregon.gov)

TIME PERIOD

July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Statewide Veteran Services  
700 Summer St NE Salem, OR 97301-1285  
For questions, please call: (503) 373-2090

COUNTY

Crook

**Budgeted Revenue for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022**

ITEM	AMOUNT
County Funds	\$
*Carry forward of unspent budgeted funds from previous fiscal year (if applicable)*	\$ 55,578
ODVA Funds for 2021-22	\$ 91,567
Other Funds (Identify source)	\$
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	\$

**Budgeted Expenditures for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022**

**TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES** \$

(NOTE: Budgeted expenditures should match budgeted revenue)

**Required Documents**

- ☐ A copy of the approved budget for county Veteran Services Office for the fiscal year 2022.
- ☐ A copy of the actual revenue and expenditures for the prior fiscal year, **if changed since submission with fourth quarter report.**
- ☐ \*A description of the planned use of the carry-forward funds from FY 2021, if applicable.\*
- ☐ If the county contracts for the provision of veteran services, attach a signed copy of the contract.

**CERTIFICATION**

By my signature below, I hereby certify the following: the county is applying for funds for the county Veteran Services Office from the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs; the county will use these funds only as provided in ORS 406.310 and ORS 406.450 – 406.460; the county will comply with the Oregon Administrative Rules in Chapter 274, Division 030 that govern these funds; and the county will submit quarterly reports of activities and expenditures to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs no later than the 30<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the end of each quarter.

Printed Name of County Commissioner/Judge (or designee)

Signature of Authorized County Representative named above

Date Signed

Title of Signer

Email Address

Telephone Number

ODVA APPROVED FOR FUNDING

Authorized Signature

Date



## Crook County

Mailing: 300 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Street • Prineville, Oregon 97754  
 Physical: 203 NE Court Street • Prineville, Oregon 97754  
 Phone (541) 447-6555

August 31, 2021

Mr. Gerick Kransky  
 Air Quality and Transportation  
 Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600  
 Portland, OR 97232-4100

Dear Gerik:

The City of Prineville has applied for a grant under the Diesel Emissions Mitigation Grant Program through the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for the purpose of repowering a diesel switcher locomotive with a zero-emission lithium ion engine. Legacy diesel switcher locomotives are major sources of pollution that cause respiratory illness and contribute significantly to the formation of greenhouse gases. These harmful diesel emissions from locomotives disproportionately affect vulnerable communities including those in rural areas.

The City of Prineville Railway's application to convert one of its uncontrolled emissions, diesel-power switcher locomotives to zero-emission battery electric propulsion will significantly mitigate the exposure of unhealthy diesel emissions in Central Oregon's underserved rural populations, particularly in and around Prineville, Crook and Deschutes Counties, can spur the broader statewide adoption within the State of Oregon's locomotive fleet, and compares favorably on a cost effectiveness basis with mitigation strategies deployed in the State's most populated counties. Using the EPA Quantifier, the Prineville program at \$4 M has a 39X return for local health benefits as compared to a \$750 K Municipal bus. The successful deployment of this technology will demonstrate that such clean off-road transportation technologies are available, cost effective and greatly impactful on public health as a replacement strategy for problematic, highly polluting old diesel locomotive engines.

While considered a rural area, 90% of Prineville's 11,000 residents live in an urban setting within the city limits and in close proximity to the City's Enterprise Zone where Prineville Railway's routes to the Redmond area originate. A vast majority of the City's population live and work within 5 miles of the railroad – schools, hospitals, multi-unit dwellings, private homes, and workplace locations – all impacted by the diesel emissions of the locomotives that roll past on a regular basis.

It is our hope that the City of Prineville receives serious consideration for this application given the positive health and environmental impact it will create for the community. This project will be the tip of the spear to break the cycle of using polluting diesel to power short haul locomotives. Speaking for myself as an elected official, and as a resident of Prineville, I support this application and urge its approval.

Thank you very much for your public service to better Oregon's environment.

Sincerely,

Seth Crawford, County Judge