



**MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION**

**Deflection Budget Review and Allocation
Minutes**

Tuesday, April 14, 2026, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Commissioners' Boardroom
Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Suite 5231
Salem, Oregon 97301

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner's: Colm Willis, Danielle Bethell and Kevin Cameron.

Board's Office: Alvin Klausen, Jan Fritz, Christ Eppley, Gary White, Matt Lawyer, and Jonathan Sanford.

District Attorney's (DA) Office: Paige Clarkson, Brendan and Murphy.

Health and Human Services: Ryan Matthews.

Sheriff's Office: Nick Hunter

Commissioner Colm Willis called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. Welcome & Introductions

-Commissioner Colm Willis

2. Deflection Budget Update

-Chris Eppley

- Reviewed status of deflection budget tied to House Bill 4002 funding.
- Original budget assumed higher Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) award:
 - Subsequent CJC reduction required significant cuts.
- Restore Court program identified as primary program to eliminate:
 - In order to make budget balance.
- After Restore Court removal and related:
 - About \$194,334.60 remains to be reallocated within deflection budget.
- This is a biennial budget:
 - Unused funds and line items can be adjusted at end of fiscal year.
- Restitution Payments Using Grant Funding:
 - Line item of about \$10,196 reserved to cover restitution in special situations:
 - Participants on disability who can't do work crew but owe restitution.
 - Current program data shows:
 - Those who can collectively earn about \$1,000 more than owed.
 - Those who can't create risk of about \$4,000 in restitution exposure.
 - Some of non-work crew participants have pending actions:
 - Likely result in termination from program.
 - Would leave them owing restitution directly.
 - As the court winds down, restitution risk is trending downward:
 - Initially estimated at \$15,000:
 - Now closer to about \$4,100.

- Recommend to make no immediate budget change to restitution line:
 - Keep current restitution allocation in place.
 - Revisit and true up at year end if actual need is less than budgeted.

3. Reallocation of Funds

-Sheriff Nick Hunter & Ryan Matthews

- \$194,334.60 over biennium to be reallocated following removal of Restore Court.
- Funds should continue to support deflection related activities:
 - Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) and associated services.
- Sheriff's Office:
 - Reexamined its operations and current budget management needs.
 - No effective way to use funds from \$194,334.60 without Making inefficiencies.
 - Voluntarily steps back from requesting any part of the \$194k.
 - \$6,000 training line for Stable Group navigator was questioned:
 - Maintain professional certifications and possibly other relevant training.
 - Certification maintenance itself likely only a few hundred dollars:
 - Trainings and Continuing Education Unit (CEUs) account for higher figure.
 - Detailed breakdown will be obtained to clarify exact use of the \$6,000.
 - Dispatch fees and how their allocated by formula across sheriff's cost centers:
 - About \$20,000 in this budget.
 - About \$1.8M overall for Sheriff's Office with recent increases.
- Health and Human Services (HHS):
 - Fully utilize additional funds to support existing deflection infrastructure:
 - Deflection hotline staffed 24/7:
 - Respond to referrals from law enforcement partners and ineligible LEAD individuals.
 - Treatment and follow-up support for those deflection referrals.
 - Proposed strategy to restructure funding:
 - Some of \$194,334.60 to cover HHS staff doing deflection:
 - About \$97,000 annually.
 - Funded through Behavioral Health Resources Network (BHRN)
 - Shift juvenile focused staff back to BHRN or other appropriate grants:
 - Currently funded by opioid settlement funds after BHRN.
 - Frees up opioid settlement dollars.
 - Opioid settlement funds more flexible:
 - Gives broader options to fund future services and expansion.
 - Charge eligible administrative costs to HB 4002 funds and not under charge:
 - Up to 10%.
 - About \$15,000 in additional administrative costs
 - Potential programmatic uses for freed opioid or 4002 dollars:
 - Additional specialized staff in LEAD/Stable and related deflection work:
 - Junior Navigator roles, juvenile focused positions.
 - Partnership with Center for Hope & Safety for onsite mentoring:
 - Reduce failure rates among individuals in shelter and housing.
 - Expand substance use presence or LEAD style support in juvenile.

4. Revised Budget

-All

- Two budget packets compared:
 - One with a total nearly \$1.992 million:

- Pre-Restore Court removal.
 - One with a total around \$1.798 million:
 - Post Restore Court removal.
- The \$1.992M figure is original budget with Restore Court in place.
- The \$1.798M figure is current/revise budget after subtracting Restore Court costs.
- Date labels on documents were incorrect/misleading and should be ignored:
 - Content, not date, determines which is current.
- The remaining \$194,334.60 must be used within deflection budget:
 - After removing Restore Court and related costs.
- Program is on biennial cycle:
 - Quarterly reporting to CJC allows:
 - Budget supplements.
 - Shift line items in same overall deflection purposes:
 - As long as purpose is consistent.
- Other counties are experiencing similar issues:
 - Overestimated reach and can't serve number of people originally projected.
 - CJC budgeting formula flawed:
 - How participants and meaningful contact defined and counted.
- Restore Court:
 - Required substantial design and startup work from county partners:
 - District Attorney (DA).
 - Court.
 - Sheriff's Office.
 - Addressed both sides of the equation:
 - Offender accountability and victim restitution.
 - Viewed locally as strong, innovative model:
 - Financially unsustainable under current state funding and CJC criteria.

5. Next Steps

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- Budget Reallocation & Reporting:
 - Reallocate majority of \$194,334.60 toward HHS deflection related activities:
 - Aligned with LEAD and House Bill 4002 purposes.
 - Move budget toward fully charging allowable indirect costs to 4002 funds.
 - Update LEAD/deflection budget for April 25th quarterly CJC report submission.
 - Maintain restitution line item for Restore Court close through the fiscal year:
 - Reevaluate once final participant and restitution data is known.
- Data System & City of Salem Partnership:
 - Explore specialized data platform for LEAD and related work that:
 - Captures detailed outcomes and analytics.
 - Successfully in other LEAD programs.
 - Obtain and circulate:
 - Name and description of proposed new data system.
 - Setup costs:
 - Initial estimate around \$35,000.
 - Annual sustainment costs:
 - Estimated \$4,000–\$5,000.
 - Initiate conversation with City of Salem:
 - Police Department (PD) outreach team collect data using platform.
 - Record interactions, unlike current situation with little data captured.
 - Part of \$194,334.60 CJC budget as placeholder for the partnership:
 - Contingent on outcome of discussions with Salem PD.

- Coordination with Salem PD:
 - Contact the Salem Police Chief to:
 - Present the data sharing/data collection concept.
 - Determine interest of their outreach team's participation.
 - Report back:
 - If agreement reached before April 25th reporting deadline:
 - Incorporate budget line for data system and partnership.
 - If no answer received in time:
 - Defer allocation decision to future quarter.
 - Still move ahead with other reallocations to HHS.
- Program & Policy Follow Up:
 - Schedule a future work session to:
 - Review overall use and strategy of opioid settlement funds.
 - Consider expanding LEAD, juvenile roles, or specialized positions.
 - Restore Court outcome data for future advocacy and legislative education:
 - Participants served.
 - Graduations and non-completions.
 - Restitution outcomes for victims.
 - Restore Court's experience and data to inform:
 - CJC's evolving success definition for deflection programs in next biennium.
 - Future state level discussions about funding second tier:
 - Restitution interventions building on LEAD instead of replacing.

Adjourned – time: 2:20 p.m.

Minutes by: Mary Vityukova

Reviewed by: Gary L. White