

MINUTES  
GOVERNING BODY MEETING

GOVERNING BODY  
EAST SALEM SERVICE DISTRICT  
3:02 PM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025  
COMMISSIONERS BOARD ROOM  
MARION COUNTY COURTHOUSE SQUARE

MEETING OPENED: Commissioner Danielle Bethell opened the meeting and noted the following attendance:

ATTENDANCE:

Present:

Commissioners Kevin Cameron and Danielle Bethell  
Toni Whittler and Heather Inyama - Board's Office  
Scott Norris and John Pettifer - Office of Legal Counsel  
Jay Bergmann, Matt Wilkenson, and Jeremy Landers - Sheriff's Office  
Dennis Mansfield, Brian Nicholas, Brian May, Stephanie Pulvers, Ana Najera Sanchez, and Cory Swartwout - Public Works  
Earl Horton, Dave Lindley, Kathy Rogers and Michael Johnson - ESSD Advisory Committee Members

Absent:

Commissioner Colm Willis

Guests:

Ruben G.  
Marilyn Long

PUBLIC HEARING: Commissioner Bethell moved to open the public budget hearing.

Dennis Mansfield presented the FY25–26 budget, previously approved by the Budget Committee on May 27, 2025. No recommended changes were made following committee review. Total proposed resources and requirements are \$3,723,595.

Commissioner Bethell closed the public hearing.

ACTION:

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the January 22, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes. Commissioner

Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the April 30, 2025 Special Meeting minutes. Commissioner Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the May 27, 2025 Special Meeting minutes. Commissioner Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to adopt the FY25–26 Budget and the Resolution making appropriations. Commissioner Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to adopt the FY24–25 Supplemental Budget and the Resolution making appropriations. Commissioner Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the Lighting District Certification for FY25–26. Commissioner Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the Delinquent Sewer Charge Certification for FY25–26. Commissioner Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the Stormwater Fee Certification for FY25–26. Commissioner Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the Law Enforcement Fee Certification for FY25–26. Commissioner Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

#### OPERATIONS UPDATE:

##### **Law Enforcement**

Lieutenant Matt Wilkinson provided a detailed report on law enforcement activity within the East Salem Service District. In May 2025, deputies responded to 1,594 calls for service, with 247 case numbers generated—representing approximately 2% of all county cases during that period. The average response time across call types was nine minutes, with 62% of incidents classified as priority-one (in-progress) calls.

Deputies conducted 137 traffic stops in Hayesville and 167 in Four Corners, with the majority related to speeding and other traffic violations. Commissioners and advisory

members discussed ongoing concerns about speeding, noise, and nighttime traffic in residential areas. Lieutenant Wilkinson confirmed that targeted enhanced traffic enforcement operations are active in these neighborhoods.

The Code Enforcement Unit handled 68 calls in May, with issues primarily involving environmental services, land use, graffiti, and nuisance vegetation. Members noted an improvement in graffiti cleanup response times, and commissioners requested a 12-month summary report of code enforcement activity for the district.

Discussion included a community observation of recent graffiti conflicts linked to gang-related activity. The Sheriff's Office confirmed multiple arrests connected to these incidents and noted that gang activity had increased countywide in recent months. Commissioners suggested inviting the Juvenile Department to a future meeting to provide context and prevention strategies regarding youth involvement and graffiti trends.

Public Works and the Sheriff's Office collaborated to remove three abandoned RVs from ESSD roadways. Commissioners and staff discussed the statewide challenge of RV disposal, including limited recycling and tow capacity and high per-unit removal costs.

Commissioners expressed appreciation for the Sheriff's Office presence and discussed staffing challenges, including the year-and-a-half training process required for new deputies. Despite ongoing recruitment needs, the district continues to maintain dedicated patrol coverage, and residents were encouraged to report concerns directly to dispatch or the graffiti hotline for quicker response.

#### **Parkdale Update**

Dennis Mansfield reported that construction is underway on the Parkdale Park project and is expected to be completed by late June or early July, with a soft opening planned shortly after and a ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled for July 29, 2025.

Discussion followed regarding neighborhood communication and community engagement. Advisory members shared

concerns from nearby residents about a new curb cut and access point off Janice Avenue, and the perception that some neighbors were unaware of project details. Commissioner Danielle Bethell noted that the County had conducted extensive outreach during the planning phase, including multiple community meetings and door-to-door notifications facilitated by the consultant team.

Commissioner Kevin Cameron emphasized that earlier public meetings and notices were posted at the park site and in the surrounding area, but not all residents chose to participate at that time. Commissioners agreed that staff had made good-faith efforts to engage and that the project's final design aligns with ADA accessibility requirements and prior community input sessions.

Kathy Rogers suggested ensuring nearby residents are informed about future projects and offered to help share updates through neighborhood channels. Commissioners supported continued transparency and communication through neighborhood associations and advisory committees.

### **Stormwater Update**

Stephanie Pulvers provided an overview of stormwater operations and maintenance activities for the fiscal year. She reported that the district's street sweeping contractor, now in their eleventh month of service, has adjusted well and is meeting performance expectations. A total of 23.76 miles of roadway are swept twice per month on primary routes, with all other roads swept once per month.

Crews have cleaned 477 catch basins and 372 storm pipes to date, focusing primarily on the southern portion of the service district. Maintenance has included ditch clearing on approximately 12 acres of right-of-way\*\*, supported by Adult In Custody (AIC)\*\* work crews two days per week. Commissioners discussed the potential reactivation of the juvenile work team for summer months to supplement vegetation maintenance and youth workforce development.

Stephanie shared that staff inspected 81 stormwater treatment facilities, with significant work completed along 45th Avenue, where multiple vegetated planters were

replanted and irrigation provided to help new plantings establish. These facilities are designed to improve water quality and reduce pollutants entering local waterways, and the team has observed positive results.

The district continues to address illicit discharge issues, most of which are resolved through education and voluntary compliance with property owners. When necessary, enforcement actions are coordinated with Environmental Services.

Stephanie also announced that Marion County received a grant to update the Stormwater Master Plan, with funding to begin in July 2025. This update will evaluate detention capacity, system mapping, and long-term maintenance needs to reduce flooding risk and improve regulatory compliance.

Commissioners commended the stormwater team for improved coordination, tracking, and communication, noting the progress in system organization and maintenance efficiency.

#### **Other**

Brian Nicholas provided updates on major transportation and road improvement projects within the East Salem Service District. He reported that both Center Street and State Street corridor projects remain on schedule, with Center Street construction expected to begin in spring 2026 following final right-of-way acquisition and permitting. The State Street project is one year behind Center Street and will follow a similar process, with property negotiations and design coordination currently in progress.

Brian noted that the Connecticut Avenue project experienced a delay due to a right-of-way holdout but is anticipated to move forward next summer. Commissioners emphasized the County's continued efforts to maintain positive relationships with property owners affected by road projects while balancing safety, access, and design requirements.

The board also discussed recently adopted resolutions that allow the County to formally maintain certain local roads that had not been previously recorded as county roads, even

though they had long been maintained as such. This change improves consistency in maintenance standards and ensures proper use of road funds.

Commissioners Bethell and Cameron reflected on the challenges of maintaining local infrastructure within limited funding, emphasizing that while urbanization of private streets remains cost-prohibitive, the new program will allow proactive maintenance of key neighborhood roads.

Brian also referenced the County's Traffic Safety Implementation Plan, adopted earlier in 2025, which identifies priority corridors and intersections for safety improvements. The board discussed specific problem areas, including Cordon Road, Hazelgreen Road, and the Lancaster Drive corridor, where lighting and pedestrian safety continue to be top community concerns.

Commissioners and advisory members briefly discussed community engagement opportunities and ongoing programs within Marion County. Updates included continued partnership with the Marion County Juvenile Department on youth work programs and the Master Gardeners' open house hosted at the Marion County Extension Garden. Commissioners emphasized the importance of collaboration between departments and community volunteers in improving livability and maintaining public spaces across the East Salem Service District.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.



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Chair, Governing Body  
East Salem Service District