



Ad Hoc Tax Distribution Committee Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2015

10:30 am

Pendleton City Hall – Community Room

Pendleton, Oregon

ATTENDANCE – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jean Eckles, Chair

Mardel James-Bose, Vice Chair

Larry Dalrymple

Blair Larsen

Robb Corbett

Ann Burnside

Erin Wells

CALL TO ORDER

Jean called the Board Meeting to order at 10:36 am.

The committee members introduced themselves. Jean gives a brief history of her involvement with the District and her role as the facilitator for the Ad Hoc Committee. She gave the reason each member had been invited to be a part of the Committee. Robb Corbett, Pendleton, and Blair Larsen, Stanfield, are City Managers. Erin Wells is the Milton-Freewater Library Director. Jean Eckles and Mardel James-Bose have served on the UCSLD Board and represent the Board. Ann Burnside is a community representative. Larry Dalrymple is also a community representative who also was involved with the District in its early years.

The Ground Rules for the Committee's work were set by Jean. Committee members could disagree and any disagreements would stay within the confines of the Committee's work.

Robb Corbett asked why the Committee was established and whether it had to do with a possible tax levy. Jean responded the purpose of the Committee was to review tax distribution and not explore a possible tax levy.

Blair Larsen expressed his desire to develop a tax distribution formula that becomes institutional memory and is flexible as populations change. Jean gave a brief summary of why there's no history of the current tax distribution formula. She acknowledged the District need for a formula that is flexible.

The Committee reviewed the documents included in their information packets – population figures, address points, UCSLD Historical Highlights, and member contact information.

Erin reviewed the State Statistical Report and how the libraries use the information.

Larry talked about equity and population served, along with a brief Hermiston history. He defends the 80/20 split of the original split created in the early 1990s.

Jean acknowledged questions about how the District distributes tax monies that lead to the formation of this Ad Hoc Committee.

Jean asked the Committee members what their fantasy would be for distributing tax monies.

Erin – Tiers are a fair way to start the process.

Blair and Erin want to look at the 80/20 split.

Erin – At her last job in Kansas, Erin commented her library was part of a four county district and had contracted with the district for services, with funding from her County.

The Committee will request a breakdown of District provided services.

Robb Corbett asked how do libraries broaden its revenue sources. A request was made for District staff to explore how other special districts distribute tax funds.

Discussion took place about metro areas who have “gold standard” for distribution of tax revenue. It mentioned there is a difference in thinking between metro/urban areas and rural areas.

Trends were discussed and asking if there is a more effective way of providing services.

The Committee decided they would like to have the work completed by the beginning of budget season. They planned to have six meetings before the beginning of the 2016-2017 budget season.

Three members of the Committee will design a tax distribution formula. Erin proposal from Directors position. Blair will create a proposal from a medium library City Manager position. Larry will prepare a proposal from a community member perspective. The three proposals will be used as the beginning of the discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted by Mardel James-Bose

Signed by Jean Eckles, Chair

Next Ad Hoc Tax Distribution Committee Meeting Date: December 1, 2015

Time: 10:30 am

Place: Bowman Building, Conference Room #355, 17 SW Frazer Ave., Pendleton, Oregon