



# UMATILLA COUNTY SPECIAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

Strengthening our community libraries

PO Box 1689  
425 S Main Street  
Pendleton, OR 97801

Phone (541) 276-6449

## Minutes Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget Committee Meeting

April 28, 2026, at 5:30 pm  
425 S Main Street and via Zoom  
Pendleton, Oregon

### ATTENDANCE - BOARD

Judy Bracher  
Caty Clifton  
Nick Nash, President  
Kathy Thew, Vice President  
John Thomas

### ATTENDANCE - APPOINTED BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cade Burnette, Hermiston area  
Sue Petersen, Pendleton  
Kathleen Schmidtgall, Athena (via Zoom)  
Darcy Sexson, Stanfield

### ATTENDANCE - STAFF

Heather Estrada, District Director  
Dea Nowell, Technical Services Manager (via Zoom)

### GUESTS

None.

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Board President Caty Clifton at 5:33 pm.

### CALL THE ROLL & ESTABLISH QUORUM

Roll was called by Heather Estrada: all five (5) Board Members present in person: Kathy Thew, Judy Bracher, John Thomas, Nick Nash, and Caty Clifton; and appointed Budget Committee Members Kathleen Schmidtgall present via Zoom, and Sue Petersen, Cade Burnette, and Darcy Sexson present in person. Thus, there was a quorum.

### WELCOME & GROUND RULES & HOUSEKEEPING

Heather Estrada welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for taking their time to be part of the budget process.

### INTRODUCTIONS

The appointed Budget Committee Members were asked to introduce themselves and then the Board Members were introduced.

### ELECTION OF BUDGET COMMITTEE CHAIR

Board President Nick Nash opened the floor for nominations for Budget Committee Chair. Darcy Sexson nominated Nick Nash as FY2026-2027 Budget Committee Chair. Nick Nash accepted the nomination. Caty Clifton seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved (voting for: Kathy Thew, Judy Bracher, John Thomas, Sue Petersen, Darcy Sexson, Nick Nash, Cade Burnette, Caty Clifton, and Kathleen Schmidtgall).

## BUDGET PRESENTATION

Heather Estrada, as Budget Officer, presented the proposed FY2026-2027 budget, reading through the narrative, giving an overview of the four budget funds, including a brief history of the District, and the breakdown of the way the 20% of the withheld taxes received were budgeted and spent on behalf of the libraries, and then presented the proposed budget, explaining each of the funds; as well as explaining specific areas, as necessary. Heather noted that she budgeted for 98% of the total collection rate that the tax assessor's office sent out for next fiscal year. There was a question regarding the previously levied taxes - are they included in the amount for special payments? Heather noted that they are not, though maybe should be. Though they are sent out as part of the 80% of tax receipts that we disburse through the formula to the libraries.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments, as there was no one from the public present and no communication had been received by email or phone.

## DISCUSSION, APPROVAL, SET TAX RATE

Budget Committee Chair Nick Nash asked if there were any questions or discussion. Being none, he entertained motions to approve the budget as presented or revised (whichever is applicable), and to approve the tax rate at the current rate of 0.3682 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value.

John Thomas moved to approve the proposed FY2026-2027 budget as presented. Kathy Thew seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (voting for: Kathy Thew, Judy Bracher, John Thomas, Sue Petersen, Darcy Sexson, Nick Nash, Cade Burnette, Caty Clifton, and Kathleen Schmidtgall).

Kathleen Schmidtgall moved to set the tax rate at the current rate of 0.3682 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. Darcy Sexson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (voting for: Kathy Thew, Judy Bracher, John Thomas, Sue Petersen, Darcy Sexson, Nick Nash, Cade Burnette, Caty Clifton, and Kathleen Schmidtgall).

## ADJOURNMENT

Nick Nash thanked the Budget Committee Members for volunteering their time and service for the Budget Committee.

A motion to adjourn was entertained. John Thomas moved to adjourn the meeting. Judy Bracher seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (voting for: Kathy Thew, Judy Bracher, John Thomas, Sue Petersen, Darcy Sexson, Nick Nash, Cade Burnette, Caty Clifton, and Kathleen Schmidtgall). Nick Nash adjourned the meeting at 6:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Dea Nowell