



Wednesday, June 17th, 2026

**Board of Directors of the Hood River County Transportation District
Public Hearing – FY26-27 Budget Hearing**

**224 Wasco Loop, Board Conference Room
Hood River, OR 97031
4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**

Meeting Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

Megan Ramey called the Board of Directors Meeting to order at 4:08 PM.

2. Roll Call

Tiah took roll call: Greg Pack - Board Chair, Megan Ramey - Board Vice Chair, Gisela Ayala—Echeverria, Jim Klass

Absent: Tamra Taylor - Board Secretary/Treasurer, Matt Althoff

Staff: Amy Schlappi, Tiah Mayhew, Jeff Acciaioli, Tim Ravins

Public: Ben Mitchell, Swen Carlson

3. Public Comment

No public comment was made.

4. FY26-27 Budget Hearing

Amy reviewed and provided clarification on a few items in the budget message. She explained that while the budget message noted a 1.6% decrease in benefit costs, employee benefits comprise both healthcare and retirement expenses. Although the District's healthcare costs are projected to decrease by 1.6%, retirement contribution expenses are increasing due to annual wage adjustments. As a result, the overall employee benefits budget reflects an increase despite the reduction in healthcare costs.

Amy also explained that due to reimbursement processing delays, Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) funding for the 2025-2026 seasonal Gorge-to-Mountain Express service that was anticipated to be received in FY26 is now expected to be received in FY27. This change is reflected in the "Updated" column of the LB-20-30.

The update reduces the Unallocated Beginning Fund Balance by \$111,426 (from 1,300,000 to \$1,188,574) on Line 2 and increases Federal Grant Revenue by \$111,426 (from \$3,655,586 to \$3,767,012) on Line 6. Because the reduction in the starting balance is perfectly offset by the deferred grant revenue, there is a net \$0 impact on the total FY26-27 Budget.



Staff recommended that the Board discuss and vote to adopt the Tax Rate and FY2026-2027 Budget, incorporating the two staff-recommended adjustments. There was no discussion.

5. Adjournment

Motion: Gisela made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Greg.

Approved by: Greg, Megan, Gisela, and Jim

Opposed by: None

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15.

The Hood River County Transportation District Board of Directors meeting minutes are prepared and presented in summary form. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Ravins tim@catransit.org, or call (541) 386-4202.

Please note that due to technical difficulties the Budget Hearing was not recorded.

Prepared by: Tim Ravins, Administrative Assistant

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Ravins", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Approved by: Tamra Taylor, Secretary-Treasurer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tamra Taylor", with a stylized flourish at the end.