

AGENDA
Agricultural Extension County Service District
Budget Committee – Review of 2026-27 Proposed Budget
April 15, 2026 4:00 PM
Virtual Meeting
Corvallis, Oregon

1. Call to order
2. Introductions
3. Election of Officers
 - A Chair and Vice-Chair must be elected at the first meeting of each calendar year.
4. Review and Approve 2025-26 Minutes
5. Presentation from Extension staff
6. Presentation of the budget
 - Staff will present details of the budget
7. Committee questions
8. Public Hearing
 - This is the time for citizens to offer comment or questions on the proposed budget and tax levy.
9. Committee deliberations and approval of budget
 - SUGGESTED MOTION: I move that the budget be approved in the amount of \$959,315 the maximum tax rate for the 2026 tax year be set at \$0.08 per 1000 of Assessed Value.
10. Adjourn

**MINUTES OF THE
OSU AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION COUNTY SERVICE DISTRICT
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 4:00 p.m.

Held via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87281607942>

Present:

- **Budget Committee Members:**
 - Commissioners: **Nancy Wyse, Patrick Malone** and **Gabe Shepherd**
 - Citizen Members: **Jackie Thorsness, Roberta Lundeberg,** and **Michael Ahr**
- **Benton County Staff:**
 - **Rick Crager**, Assistant County Administrator; **Jennifer Ficek**, Administrative Supervisor
- **Citizens:**
 - **Carolyn Ashton**, OSU Extension Benton County 4H Director and Liaison; **Richard Riggs**, Regional Director for OSU Extension

1. Call to Order

Past Chair Commissioner Pat Malone (P. Malone) called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Introductions

Group introductions of Budget Committee Members, Benton County Staff, and Citizens.

3. Elections of Officers

Commissioner Gabe Shepherd (G. Shepherd) nominated Commissioner Nancy Wyse (N. Wyse) to serve as OSU Extension Budget Committee Chair and P. Malone to serve as Vice Chair.

P. Malone seconded.

P. Malone: All in favor?

Budget Committee Members: (unanimous) Aye

P. Malone: All opposed?

None opposed.

Commissioner Nancy Wyse has been approved to the Chair position and Commissioner Pat Malone has been approved to the Vice Chair position.

4. Review and Approve 2024-25 Minutes

N. Wyse: Do I hear a motion or any changes?

P. Malone: I'll move to approve the minutes.

Jackie Thorsness (J.Thorsness): Second.

N. Wyse: All in favor?

Budget Committee Members: (unanimous) Aye

N. Wyse: All opposed?

None opposed.

The 2024-25 meeting minutes were approved.

5. Presentation from OSU Ag. Extension

Richard Riggs (R. Riggs) provided an overview of ongoing within the Benton County OSU Extension and an update on faculty and staff.

Carolyn Ashton (C. Ashton) presented PowerPoint slides.

6. Presentation of the Proposed Budget FY 2025-26

Rick Crager (R. Crager) presented the budget: The fiscal year 2025-26 budget request is based off the maximum tax rate of \$0.08 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value for the service district, that is the maximum rate. We're looking at about \$871,000 of collection from that \$0.08 per \$1000. We have an estimated beginning balance (\$85,577), bringing our total resources to \$956,577. The County keeps \$71,305 for materials and services, mostly for facilities, rent space, and central administration charges. The rest is passed down to the extension directly in contractual payments. The remaining balance we have in contingency is \$53,133.

7. Committee Questions

N. Wyse: Any questions before we move into the public hearing?

8. Public Hearing on Proposed 2025-26 Budget

N. Wyse: Hearing none, are there any members of the public who wish to comment at this time?

9. Committee Deliberations and Approval of Budget

N. Wyse: Hearing and seeing none, I will close the public hearing, and we will move into deliberations. Any

comments, questions or motions.

J. Thorsness: I would like to make a motion to approve the budget as outlined.

N. Wyse: In the amount of \$956,577, the maximum tax rate for the 2025 tax year to be set at 8 cents per \$1,000 of assessed Value?

J. Thorsness: Yes

N. Wyse: Do I hear a second?

P. Malone: Second

N. Wyse: All those in favor say, Aye.

Budget Committee Members: (unanimous) Aye

N. Wyse: All opposed?

None opposed.

N. Wyse: Motion passes. Is there anything else for the good of the order?
The 2024-25 proposed Budget and tax rate was approved.

G. Shepherd: I noticed a Scrivener's error. On the front page my last name is spelled incorrectly.

N. Wyse: Apologies, we'll make sure that gets corrected.

10. Adjournment

Commissioner and Chair Nancy Wyse adjourned the meeting at 4:24 p.m.

Recorder: Jennifer Ficek (concluded at 4:24 p.m.)

2026-2027 Proposed Budget

Extension County Service District

For the Fiscal Period
Beginning July 1, 2026
Ending June 30, 2027



Governing Body

Patrick Malone, 2026 BOC Chair
Gabe Shepard, Vice Chair
Nancy Wyse, Commissioner

Citizen Budget Committee Members

Michael Ahr
Roberta Lundeberg
Jackie Thorsness

Benton County Agricultural Extension Services County Service District

ADMINISTRATION: Benton County Financial Services

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: Jennifer Ferrer-Santa Ines

FINANCIAL SERVICES OFFICE LOCATION: 4500 SW Research Way, Corvallis

TELEPHONE: 541-766-6076

BENTON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE: 4077 SW Research Way, Corvallis

TELEPHONE: 541-713-5000

INTERNET ADDRESS: [HTTP://EXTENSION.OREGONSTATE.EDU/BENTON](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/benton)

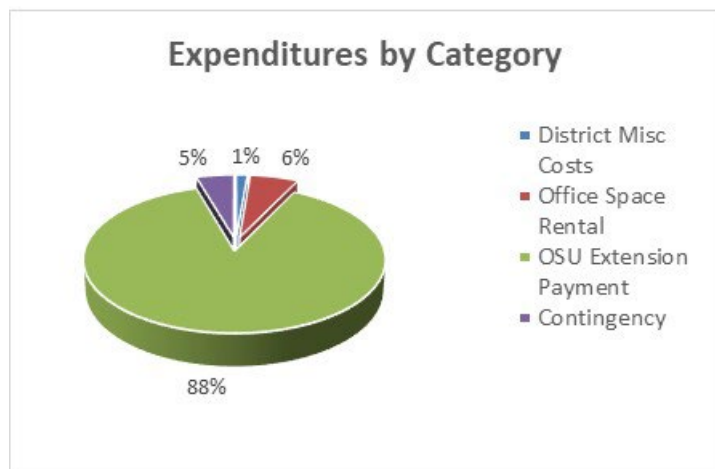
DISTRICT OVERVIEW:

The service district was created by voters on May 16, 2017. Voters also authorized a maximum district tax rate of \$0.08 per \$1000 of assessed value. The rate for FY 2026-27 is based on the levy of the maximum rate of \$0.08 per \$1,000. The district boundary is the same as Benton County.

The service district is an independent municipal corporation. By law, the Benton County Board of Commissioners sits as the Governing Body. Benton County Financial Services provides general administration, financial management and coordinates the annual budget process. The County is reimbursed for these services by district funds.

Benton County prior to district formation, provided funding to the OSU Extension Service from the General Fund budget and other fund sources, such as Title III Forest Payments.

Revenue is all from current and prior year property taxes levied at the maximum rate approved for the district. The contingency budget represents the estimated working capital requirement of the district. District cash is entirely dependent on the tax collection cycle.



**BENTON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICES COUNTY
SERVICE DISTRICT
Budget Summary**

Category Title	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Adopted Budget	2026-27 Proposed
General Revenues	839,462	859,354	871,000	901,538
Current Program Income	839,462	859,354	871,000	901,538
Dedicated Beginning Balance	107,652	126,782	85,577	57,777
Beginning Balances	107,652	126,782	85,577	57,777
Total Resources	947,114	986,137	956,577	959,315
Materials & Services	820,332	901,021	903,444	915,548
Expenditures	820,332	901,021	903,444	915,548
Other: Contingency	-	-	53,133	43,767
Reserves	-	-	53,133	43,767
Total Budget	820,332	901,021	956,577	959,315
Resources to Expenditures	126,782	85,116	-	-
Full-Time-Equivalent (FTE)				
Regular	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-
Total Resources-Total Budget	-	-	-	-

**BENTON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICES COUNTY
SERVICE DISTRICT
District Statement**

Mission and Purpose

The Oregon State University Extension Service engages Oregonians with research-based knowledge to strengthen communities, economies, and the environment. As part of the university’s land-grant mission, its purpose is to provide education in agriculture, natural resources, 4-H youth development, and family health, helping residents solve local challenges and improve their lives.

The OSU Extension Service has existed since 1911. Established through federal legislation—including the Morrill Act of 1862, the Hatch Act of 1887, and the Smith-Lever Act of 1914—Extension works in partnership with Oregon counties to serve as the “front door to OSU.” In Benton County, Extension functions as an integral part of county government.

Faculty based in this office, as well as in surrounding counties and on campus, deliver educational programs to residents in several key areas: commercial agriculture (serving both large and small farms); community horticulture (Master Gardeners); 4-H Youth Development (including 4-H clubs, Natural Resources/Wildlife Stewards school programs, and residential and day camps); family and community health (Master Food Preservers); and forestry and natural resources (including Master Woodland Managers, Oregon Naturalists, and Oregon Season Tracker citizen scientists).

OSU places Extension faculty in counties to deliver education in these key areas where county and other support exists, leveraging additional state, federal and grant funding to pay for these positions and service to residents. In addition, faculty trained **385** volunteers that provided approximately **46,200 hours** of community service annually, which is valued at more than **\$1,607,298 in wages** based on the estimated national value of volunteer hours.

Goals and Actions

1: Promote Health and Well-Being

Provide training, information, and activities to improve key health indicators – such as nutrition, physical activity, and environmental health for youth and families. This will be accomplished through 4-H Youth Development clubs, camps, and school-based programs, as well as family and community health education for high-risk adults and families. Efforts will also include training community volunteers to teach others and partnering with food resource organizations to support a secure, healthy, and affordable food supply.

2: Strengthen Agriculture and Forestry

Support the productivity, profitability, and sustainability of small and large farms, as well as forestry businesses, by providing relevant training and information. Volunteers will be trained in forest, fisheries, and wildlife management practices and supported in sharing this knowledge within their communities.

3: Address Environmental Issues

Provide education and training to help communities respond to key environmental challenges affecting natural resources. Programs will include training Master Gardeners, 4-H Natural Resources/Wildlife Stewards, and other residents to lead community education and environmental enhancement projects.

4: Expand Access to University Resources

Increase access of university-based education and resources to Benton County residents through direct programs, trained volunteers, and media outreach. This includes producing print and digital newsletters and using social media to raise awareness of Extension programs and opportunities.

5. Sustain and Strengthen Local Programs

Maintain and enhance existing Extension programs in Benton County while continuing to serve all residents to the fullest extent possible within available Service District funding.

Outcomes are reported by individual faculty using the following metrics:

1. Number of people contacted/served
2. Number of volunteers trained/supported, including hours contributed, projects completed and people reached or served
3. Increases in participants’ awareness, knowledge, skills and changes in practices
4. Adoption of research-based behaviors that lead to positive long-term outcomes
5. Improvements in youth success related to life skills, workforce skills, and community service engagement
6. Adoption of practices resulting in increased profitability or productivity, reduced costs, or improved environmental, health or community conditions
7. Summary of outcomes and impacts for targeted underserved populations compared to other populations