

## **POLICY 4.3 NOTICE AND LOCATION OF MEETINGS**

ADOPTED: FEBRUARY 1, 2013

REVISED: OCTOBER 15, 2024

### **A. APPLICATION**

This policy applies to all meetings of the Board of Directors of the District, and to any meetings of subcommittees or advisory groups appointed by the Board if such subcommittees or advisory groups normally have a quorum requirement, take votes, and form recommendations as a body for presentation to the Board of Directors.

### **B. COMPLIANCE WITH LAW**

All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the Oregon Public Meetings Law, ORS 192.610-192.705.

### **C. LOCATION OF MEETINGS**

All meetings shall be held within the geographic boundaries of the District, except for training sessions held without any deliberations toward a decision. No meeting shall be held in any place where discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin or disability is practiced. All meetings shall be held in places accessible to the handicapped.

### **D. MEETINGS HELD BY ELECTRIC MEANS**

All meetings of the Board, excluding executive sessions, must provide to members of the general public, to the extent reasonably possible, an opportunity to:

- (a) Access and attend the meeting by telephone, video or other electronic or virtual means;
- (b) If in-person oral testimony is allowed, submit during the meeting oral testimony by telephone, video or other electronic or virtual means; and
- (c) If in-person written testimony is allowed, submit written testimony, including by electronic mail or other electronic means, so that the governing body is able to consider the submitted testimony in a timely manner.

### **E. REGULAR MEETINGS**

The Board shall hold regular monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of each month. Such meetings shall be held at the main fire station, 189 N. Main Jefferson, OR at 5:30 pm, or at such other places and times as the Board may designate from time to time.

### **F. SPECIAL MEETINGS**

The Board may hold special meetings at the request of the President; the Vice-President in the absence of the President; or any three members of the Board. No special meeting shall be held upon less than 24 hours' public notice.

### **G. EMERGENCY MEETINGS**

Emergency meetings may be held at the request of persons entitled to call special meetings, upon less than 24 hours' notice in situations where a true emergency exists. An emergency exists where there are objective circumstances which, in the judgment of the person or persons calling the meeting, create a real and substantial risk of harm to the District which would be substantially increased if the Board were to delay in

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order to give 24 hours' notice before conducting the meeting. The convenience of Board members is not grounds for calling an emergency meeting.

At the beginning of any emergency meeting, the Director or Directors calling such meeting shall recite the reasons for calling such meeting, and the reasons the meeting could not have been delayed in order to give at least 24 hours' notice, which reasons shall be noted in the minutes. The Board shall then determine if the reasons are sufficient to hold an emergency meeting and, if not, shall immediately adjourn such meeting. Only business related directly to the emergency shall be conducted at an emergency meeting.

### H. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

See Board Policy 4.1, Preparation for Board Meeting, section B.

### I. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Notice for meetings called only to hold executive sessions shall be given in the same manner as notice for regular, special and emergency meetings set forth above, except that the notice need only indicate the general subject matter to be considered at the executive session, but it shall also set forth the statutory basis for calling the executive session. A sample "Notice of Executive Session" is contained in the Appendices to this Manual in the "Outline of the Oregon Public Meetings Law."

### J. INTERPRETERS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED

The District shall comply with ORS 192.630(5) regarding the provision of interpreters for the hearing impaired at Board meetings, in accordance with the following rules:

1. The District shall make a good faith effort to have an interpreter for hearing impaired persons provided at any regularly scheduled meeting if the person requesting the interpreter has given the District at least 48 hours' notice of the request, provided the name of the requester, the requester's sign language preference, and any other relevant information which the District may require. "Good faith efforts" shall include contacting the Oregon Disabilities Commission, or other state or local agencies that maintain a list of qualified interpreters.
2. If a meeting is held upon less than 48 hours' notice, the District shall make reasonable efforts to have an interpreter present.
3. The requirement for an interpreter does not apply to emergency meetings.
4. The chief executive officer shall be responsible for developing and maintaining a list of qualified interpreters and is responsible for arranging for attendance of an interpreter at any meeting for which an interpreter is requested.

**Commented [KH1]:** This section was different from Board Policy 4.1, B. To minimize confusion it is suggested we just reference Board Policy 4.1 for the distribution and posting of the Board Agenda's.