

AOC ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES



Commissioners, Judges, and Chairs,

Thank you for joining us in Klamath County for the AOC Board of Directors and Legislative Committee retreat. Over the past week I have had the opportunity to reflect on our time together, and our discussions. I feel strongly that it was time well spent, and that progress was made to further strengthen our organization. I would also like to extend our gratitude to President DeGroot and Klamath County for hosting us this year. They made significant contributions to ensure the retreat was available to all members at no cost.

As a recap, the Board retreat included an executive director report, and updates from the Budget and Finance Committee, the Membership Committee, and OACES which focused on key accomplishments over the past year.

Additionally, during the Board retreat we discussed Washington County's partial dues request, the 2024 budget, and General Fund dues structure scenarios. Outcomes included a recommendation from the Board of Directors to freeze dues at the 2023 individual county amount, and implement a 5 percent increase to the 2023 amount for each county in 2024. There was consensus that a committee be formed to further review the General Fund dues structure.

Discussion also occurred regarding the Washington County partial dues request. This resulted in agreement by the Board of Directors to consider a dues deferral. The Washington County members present at the retreat agreed to discuss a deferral option with their board and report back to the AOC Board of Directors in October. The Board of Directors retreat ended with breakout sessions focused on leadership, networking, and connection.

During the Legislative Committee retreat, members joined policy breakout sessions to discuss AOC legislative priorities and engaged in a large group roundtable strategy discussion. The committee agreed to continue the conversation about AOC legislative strategy and priorities at the annual conference in November.

Thank you again for your time and participation. I hope to see you at our [Annual Conference](#) in Eugene, Nov. 14-16.

Best,

Gina Firman Nikkel, Ph.D
Executive Director

