



# North Santiam Sewer Authority

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P.O. Box 256  
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Mill City, OR 97360

## NSSA Board Meeting #98

December 2, 2024, at 6:00 pm  
Mill City, City Hall

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86874219981>

Meeting ID: 868 7421 9981

- A. Roll Call and Declarations of Conflicts of Interest
- B. Announcements
- C. Public Comment

### Old Business

- D. Consent Agenda
  - Approval of November 4<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Summary Notes
  - Approval of November 18<sup>th</sup> Budget Board Meeting Summary Notes

### New Business

- E. Treasurer’s Report (Evans)
- F. Staff Report (Conroy)
- G. County Update (Einmo)
- H. Agency Updates (DEQ, Business Oregon, Regional Solutions Coordinator)

### Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location
12/02/2024	NSSA Regular Board Meeting	Mill City, City Hall and Zoom
01/06/2025	NSSA Regular Board Meeting	Mill City, City Hall and Zoom



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**NSSA Board Meeting #96 Summary Notes**

November 4, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Mill City, City Hall and Zoom

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.

**A. Roll Call and Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

**Present:** Tim Kirsch, Chair, Mill City; Janet Zeyen-Hall, Secretary, Mill City; Ron Evans, Treasurer, Gates; Denny Nielsen, Detroit, Communications Chair; Tony Morones, Idanha; Emily Scofield, Vice-Chair, Gates

**Marion County:** Chris Einmo, Tsigereda Woldegiorgis, Brian Nicholas

**DEQ:** Mary Camarata

**COG Staff:** Laura Conroy, Deza'Rae Collins

No conflicts of interest were declared.

**B. Announcements:** None

**C. Public Comments:** None

**Old Business:**

**D. Consent Agenda**

**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda** by Nielsen, seconded by Zeyen-Hall; Unanimous Motion passed.

**In favor:** All present. **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None.

**New Business:**

**E. Treasurer's Report (Evans)**

Ron Evans presented the Treasurer's Report, emphasizing the need to adjust the budget to accommodate a transfer of \$15,000 from reserves to the current budget and \$5,000 from reserves to the legal fund. These changes were due to previous accounting inaccuracies. Budget adjustments will be presented in an upcoming

supplemental budget hearing.

**F. Staff Report (Conroy):** See memo attached to agenda packet.

**G. County Update (Einmo):** See video on YouTube Channel for update.

**H. Agency Updates (DEQ, Business Oregon, Regional Solutions):**

**DEQ:** See video on YouTube Channel for discussion.

**Business Oregon:** No updates.

**Regional Solutions:** No updates.

**Meeting Adjourned: 6:40p.m.**



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**NSSA Supplemental Budget Meeting Summary Notes  
November 18, 2024 12:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Called to Order** at 12:05 p.m.

**Roll Call and Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

**Members Present:** Tim Kirsch, Denny Nielsen, Emily Scofield, Ron Evans

**COG Staff Present:** Deza'Rae Collins, Laura Conroy

**Conflicts of Interest:** None declared.

**Presentation of Budget by Budget Officer Laura Conroy and Treasurer Ron Evans**

**Public Hearing of the 2024-25 Fiscal Year Budget:** opened at 12:12 p.m.

No one from the public was in attendance either online or in-person.

The Public Hearing was closed at 12:13 p.m.

**Motion to Approve Proposed 2024-25 Supplemental Budget**

Motion to **approve the 2024-25 Supplemental Budget** by Nielsen and seconded by Scofield.

Motion passed. **In favor:** Kirsch, Nielsen, Scofield, Evans.

**Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None. **Absent:** Zeyen-Hall, Morones

**Meeting Adjourned** at 12:15 p.m.



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**Date:** November 26, 2024  
**To:** NSSA Board  
**From:** Laura Conroy, Project Manager and Budget Officer  
**Subject:** November Staff Report

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## Introduction

This memo provides an overview of staff activities for November in support of the NSSA. COG staff are monitoring the permitting and rule change processes being undertaken by the DEQ, planning for the 2025 legislative session as an opportunity for additional funding for Detroit/Idanha and to secure a permitting pathway for sewer infrastructure in the canyon, and supporting the NSSA Treasurer in amending the budget in response to a declination from Marion County Commissioners to fund NSSA except through the project funding and advisement from Marion County PW that NSSA cannot be funded by the project.

## Communications

COG staff is continuing coordinate communications with Marion County to inform interested parties about the Santiam Sewer Project by attending bi-weekly project team meetings, creating content for the NSSA website, and frequent calls with interested parties eg. City of Salem, Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde and Marion County project staff.

## Permitting Pathway Meetings

COG staff attended virtually the EQC's hearing to consider Marion County's petition to amend the three-basin rule. The EQC initiated rule making. COG staff will engage in the rulemaking process with DEQ including participation in the rule advisory committee. COG staff are also assisting in the rule making process by reaching out to groups that commented on the petition and hosting meetings with the aim of establishing common understanding about the

topographical, geological and hydrological circumstances as well as the capabilities of the small batch reactor and ground infiltration technologies.

Now that EQC has initiated rule-making, COG will suspend efforts with the lobbyist for the City of Salem, the Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde, the COG and the County aimed at finding support for a bill with the 2025 legislature to provide a statutory solution for the three basin rule. COG will continue, however, to support efforts to find additional funding to complete the Gates-Mill City phase of the project and full funding for the Idanha-Detroit phase.

### **Residential Septic Grants**

The deadline for applying for residential septic grants has been extended to December 1. All funds must be obligated by December 15, 2024. COG sent a direct mailing out to over 600 individuals in Marion County the week of October 21<sup>st</sup> as a final effort to ensure property owners are informed of the opportunity of a reimbursement grant. An additional 20 applications were received. COG is on track to deliver over \$1M in reimbursement funds to low-income residents in Marion County for septic repair and replacement.

### **Budget**

COG staff supported the NSSA in a supplemental budget process to align the budget with available funds by taking the following actions: drafting a proposed supplemental budget for the board's discussion and consideration, publishing notice of the supplemental budget meeting to the Statesman Journal and NSSA website on November 11<sup>th</sup>, posting notice of the NSSA board meeting and Supplemental Budget Hearing and staff that meeting on 11/18, drafting the minutes and resolution for Chair Kirsch to sign for the record.