

AGENDA

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – August 19th, 2025

Good morning and happy Tuesday. My name is **Marissa Longtain**, Chief Deputy Treasurer and Investment Officer. Today, I'm speaking on behalf of **Tammy Peterson, County Treasurer**, to provide an update to the Finance Committee.

Let's begin with our **Budget Performance Report** as of **August 11, 2025**.

1. **Budget Performance Report:**

- a. Revenues: 60% collected
- b. Expenditures: 46% spent
- c. Status: On track

As of August 11th, revenues in the **Total Current Expense Fund** are at **60% collected** and expenditures are at **46%**, which is right on track for this point in the year.

2. **Statement of Cash Position:**

- a. Current Expense Cash: **\$1,315,397.52**
 - i. Includes \$820,000 in encumbered lands funds
- b. Total Revenues YTD: **\$5,437,860.99**
- c. Total Expenditures YTD: **\$4,222,530.48**

Our **Current Expense cash balance** stands at **\$1,315,397.52**, which includes the **\$820,000** from encumbered lands funds. Total revenues to date are roughly at **\$5.44 million**, with total expenditures at **\$4.22 million**.

3. **Treasurer's Budget:**

- a. Property Tax Budget: **\$1.1 million**
- b. Collected YTD: **\$708,475.03** – on track
- c. PUD Privilege Tax: Legislative allocation change after DOR notification

In our Treasurer's Budget, we anticipated **\$1.1 million** in property taxes and have collected **\$708,475.03** so far—right on target. One notable change: The **PUD privilege tax** allocation shifted due to legislative changes after notification from the Department of Revenue.

4. **Investment:**

- a. Total Investments (County & Junior Districts): **\$19,168,065.00**
- b. County Investments: **\$10,786,950.00**
- c. LGIP Pool Rate: Aug 2025: 4.3916% vs Aug 2024: 5.3955%
- d. Interest revenue:
 - i. Budgeted: \$600,000
 - ii. Received: \$300,666.41
 - iii. Shortfall: ~\$133,333.59

As of August 11th, our total investments for the county and junior taxing districts stand at **\$19.17 million**, with the county portion at **\$10.79 million**. Interest rates have dropped from **5.3955%** last August to **4.3916%** this year. We budgeted **\$600,000** in investment earnings, but have received just over **\$300,000**—an estimated shortfall of **\$133,333.59**.

5. **Criminal Justice funding:**

- a. Aug 2024: \$429,327.75
- b. Aug 2025: \$438,626.23
- c. Quarterly distribution drop: 63% (from \$84,486.26 to \$31,360.29)
- d. Cause: 2024 crime stats reporting errors (only 6 months reported)

Criminal Justice funding has seen a sharp drop. While annual totals are slightly higher so far, our quarterly distribution for the new biennium fell **63%**, from **\$84,486** to **\$31,360**. The cause was a **reporting error**—only six months of crime data were reported for 2024. Due the state’s budget cycle, unfortunately what we receive in the last two quarters of this year will also be what we receive in the first two quarters of next year. This will affect our 2026 budget as well. Per Nancy Morris, the revenue distribution manager, The County Criminal Justice distribution is based on the 2024 crime stats that we get from the Washington Assoc. of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs. She said looking at the crime stats that were reported for Wahkiakum County, she sees that there was a drastic reduction in 2024. Also, there were only 6 months reported for compared to the full 12 months. The treasurer’s office has met with the Sheriff’s department, and they are working diligently to correct the reporting errors and working with the state treasurer to recover the July 31st distribution as well as the remaining three quarters.

6. **Payroll Tracking & Staffing:**

- a. Payroll up over \$1 million in 4 years
- b. Timber revenue: stagnant
- c. Layoffs Implemented
- d. Monthly Savings: ~\$56,500

As discussed, payroll costs have risen over **\$1 million** in four years, while timber revenues have not increased. This imbalance meant our Current Expense Fund could not sustain operations through year-end. The imbalance has caused the county to make the difficult decision of laying off staff. This reduction in staff will save the county approximately \$56,500.00 a month, an estimated total of \$226,000.00 over four pay cycles.

7. As budget season approaches, we are asking all department heads to limit expenditures for the remainder of the year and to carefully review budgets for possible reductions.

If you anticipate any larger-than-normal expenses before year-end, please inform the Treasurer's Office promptly so we can monitor cash on hand. This year has been challenging, and I'm hopeful we can work together through these difficult times, making the adjustments necessary to keep our county on solid financial footing.