



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: November 14, 2022

SUBJECT: Approve Document No. 2022-854, an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Judicial Department for Parental Custody Mediation Funds

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move to authorize the County Administrator to sign Document No. 2022-854, an intergovernmental agreement with the Oregon Judicial Department for Parental Custody Mediation Funds.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Each biennium, the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) distributes funds to counties for mediation/conciliation services. These funds come from court filing fees. The Deschutes County Circuit Court (OJD) is responsible for providing Parental Custody Mediation Services to help parents work out cooperative agreements for child custody and parenting time.

Until recently, a Behavioral Health Specialist position in the Health Services Department provided these services on behalf of the Circuit Court. The mediation/conciliation funds for Deschutes County were used to fund this position in the Health Services Department.

The Circuit Court has decided to use a different model to provide Parental Custody Mediation Services. The Court plans to issue an Request for Proposals for individuals and organizations interested in offering court-connected mediation in the community. The responses will be broader than just Parental Custody Mediation Services.

Since the Circuit Court is taking over the responsibility to provide Parental Custody Mediation Services (via a contractor/contractors), it is appropriate to provide the Circuit Court the mediation/consolation funds.

The Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA; County Document No. 2022-854) between Deschutes County and the Oregon Judicial Department on Parental Custody Mediation Funds lays out the terms of the agreement for Deschutes County to transfer

mediation/conciliation funds to OJD to provide Parental Custody Mediation Services.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

If the IGA is approved, staff will return with a budget adjustment.

ATTENDANCE:

Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator

Angie Curtis, Trial Court Administrator, Deschutes County Circuit Court