BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO: 16-08-23-04

IN THE MATTER OF ADJUSTING APPROXIMATE PERCENTAGE OF DISTRIBUTION BETWEEN THE LANE COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE AND YOUTH SERVICES FROM 91% SHERIFF’S OFFICE, 9% YOUTH SERVICES TO APPROXIMATELY 79% SHERIFF’S OFFICE, 21% YOUTH SERVICES OF THE FIVE YEAR PUBLIC SAFETY LOCAL OPTION LEVY

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2013 the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to refer to Lane County voters a five (5) year Public Safety Local Option Levy to provide a minimum of two hundred and fifty-five (255) local jail beds and critical youth services consisting of eight (8) youth detention beds and eight (8) youth treatment beds; and,

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2013 the Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to refer to Lane County voters a rate of the five year Public Safety Local Option Levy of fifty-five (55) cents ($0.55) per thousand dollars ($1,000) of assessed valuation; and,

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2013 and by BO #13-02-12-06 the Board of Commissioners ordered that approximately ninety-one percent (91%) of the amount collected from the five (5) year Public Safety Local Option Levy be dedicated to jail operations and approximately nine percent (9%) of the funds collected be dedicated to critical youth services; and,

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2013 Lane County voters approved a five (5) year Public Safety Local Option Levy at fifty-five cents (.55) per thousand dollars of assessed value for the Fiscal Years 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018; and,

WHEREAS, due to higher than projected jail revenues and lower than projected expenditures, the Sheriff’s Office portion of the levy funds resulted in a larger than needed reserve to provide the service levels promised for the five year levy period; and,

WHEREAS, Lane County Sheriff Byron Trapp indicated in his March 2016 budget meeting with Lane County Administrator Steve Mokrohisky that he was interested in exploring a reduction in the levy rate assessed on future property tax bills; and,

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2016, Sheriff Trapp proposed to the Lane County Budget Committee that there be a reduction in the rate of five (5) year Public Safety Local Option Levy assessed on future property tax bills; and,

WHEREAS, on May 19, 2016 the Lane County Budget Committee voted unanimously to lower the five year Public Safety Local Option Levy rate from fifty-five cents (.55) per thousand dollars of assessed value to thirty-eight cents (.38) per thousand dollars of assessed
value for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 with thirty (30) cents for jail services and eight (8) cents for critical youth services; and,

WHEREAS, in order to allocate the rate pursuant to Budget Committee direction, an adjustment must be made in the approximate ratio of ninety-one percent (91%) of the amount collected from the option levy being dedicated to jail operations and approximately nine percent (9%) of the funds being dedicated to critical youth services; and,

WHEREAS, the rate of thirty (30) cents for jail services and eight (8) cents for critical youth services results in change in the distribution to approximately seventy-nine percent (79%) of the amount collected from the local option levy being dedicated to jail operations and approximately twenty-one percent (21%) of the amount collected from the local option levy to critical youth services; and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County and was the desire of the 2016 Lane County Budget Committee to allocate thirty (30) cents to jail operations and eight (8) cents to critical youth services; and,

WHEREAS, the 2016 Lane County Budget Committee approved the decrease in rate and change in distribution based upon financial projections for a two year period covering budget years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018, although the 2017 Budget Committee will make the final decision on the 2017-2018 rate and distribution as part of that budget process; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County recognizes that the change in the distribution of the amount collected from the local option levy to dedicated to jail operations and critical youth services represents the best estimate by staff of the ratio necessary to maintain the stable level of funding for critical youth services in Board Order 13-02-12-06, but may need to be adjusted in the future to maintain the same stable level of funding for critical youth services;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County ORDERS as follows:

1. That the approximate ratio of distribution of the amount collected by the five (5) year Public Safety Local Option Levy be changed to approximately seventy-nine percent (79%) of the amount collected to be dedicated to jail operations and approximately twenty-one percent (21%) of the funds collected to be dedicated to critical youth services for the fiscal year 2016-2017.

2. That the change in ratio distribution noted above will continue in fiscal year 2017-2018 if approved by the 2017 Lane County Budget Committee.

ADOPTED this 23rd day of August, 2016.

Faye Stewart, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners

(00107155;1) Revised 2/26/14