



OMA Annual Membership Meeting

October 15, 2026 | 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Salem Convention Center | 200 Commercial St SE, Salem, OR 97301 | Rm:
Willamette Ballroom B

AGENDA

A. Welcome (<i>Tamie Kaufman</i>)	-
B. Consent Calendar* (<i>Tamie Kaufman</i>)	1
1. Minutes of the October 2, 2025, Annual Membership Meeting	-
2. Current Financial Report	-
C. Election of Officers and Directors for 2027* (<i>Tamie Kaufman</i>)	-
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1. 2027 OMA Spring Workshop – Seaside	-
2. 2027 OMA Summer Conference – Canyonville	-
3. 2027 OMA Fall Workshop – Bend.....	-
E. General Updates (<i>Tamie Kaufman and Steve Wright</i>)	-
F. Roundtable Discussion about the OMA (<i>Tamie Kaufman</i>)	12
G. Recognition of Outgoing Board Members (<i>Tamie Kaufman</i>)	-
H. Adjournment (<i>Tamie Kaufman</i>)	-

* Agenda items denoted with an asterisk indicate a motion is recommended.



Oregon Mayors Association Annual Membership Meeting

October 2, 2025 | 11:00 a.m. – 11:53 a.m. | Marriott Riverfront, Portland, Oregon

MINUTES

Board Members:

- Henry Balensifer III, Warrenton – Present
- Jim Trett, Detroit – Present
- Rod Cross, Toledo – Present
- Tamie Kaufman, Gold Beach – Present
- Christine Morgan, Canyonville – Present
- Cathy Clark, Keizer – Present
- Susan Wahlke, Lincoln City – Present
- Steve Wright, Seaside – Present

Staff Present:

- Angela Speier, LOC Chief Operating Officer (departed early)
- Patty Mulvihill, LOC Executive Director
- Jayne Pierce, LOC General Counsel (departed early)
- Robin Klein, LOC Assistant General Counsel (departed early)
- Lisa Trevino, LOC Member Engagement Director (departed early)

Members Present:

Alex Johnson II	Albany
Rachel King	Amity
Tonya Graham	Ashland
Angelica Ceja	Aumsville
Liane Welch	Bay City
Isaac Hodges	Brookings
Joe Benetti	Coos Bay
Katie Findling	Garibaldi
Crystal Martin	Glendale
Doug Primmer	Hermiston
Kate Schwarzler	Independence
Sherrie Rininger	John Day

Carol Westfall	Klamath Falls
Jeannine Earls	La Pine
Hilary Malcomson	Lafayette
Lisa Batey	Milwaukie
Scott Keyser	Molalla
Cecilia Koontz	Monmouth
Luke Dillon	Myrtle Creek
Jan Kaplan	Newport
Jessica Engelke	North Bend
Denyse McGriff	Oregon City
Keith Harra	Paisley
McKennon McDonald	Pendleton

Al Muelhoefer	Phoenix
Ed Fitch	Redmond
Charles McNeilly	Rockaway Beach
Pam VanArsdale	Rogue River
William Worman	Siletz
Jason Freilinger	Sisters

Frank Bubenik	Tualatin
Robbie McCoy	Veneta
Shawn O’Neil	Wilsonville
Frank Lonergan	Woodburn
Craig Berdie	Yachats

A. Welcome

President Henry Balensifer called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

B. Consent Calendar

It was moved by Mayor Warman of Siletz and seconded by Mayor McGriff of Oregon City to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion passed unanimously (43-0).

C. Election of Officers and Directors for 2026

President Balensifer thanked the Nominating Committee for its work and noted that the OMA Board of Directors met on October 1, reviewed the slate of candidates recommended by the Nominating Committee, and unanimously supported the following slate:

- Tamie Kaufman, Gold Beach – President-Elect,
- Angelica Ceja, Aumsville – Director, 1-Year Term, and
- Ed Fitch, Redmond – Director, 3-Year Term.

President Balensifer called for any nominations from the floor; no such nominations were made.

It was moved by Mayor Cross of Toledo and seconded by Mayor Koontz of Monmouth to approve the slate of candidates as recommended by the OMA Board of Directors. The motion passed {42 Yeah (Balensifer, Trett, Cross, Kaufman, Morgan, Clark, Wahlke, Wright, Johnson, King, Graham, Ceja, Welch, Hodges, Benetti, Findling, Martin, Primmer, Schwarzler, Rininger, Westfall, Earls, Batey, Keyser, Koontz, Dillon, Kaplan, Engelke, McGriff, Harra, McDonald, Muelhoefer, Fitch, McNeilly, VanArsdale, Worman, Freilinger, Bubenik, McCoy, O’Neil, Lonergan, and Berdie), 1 No (Malcomson), and 0 Abstain}.

D. Proposed Amendments to OMA Constitution & Bylaws

President Balensifer advised there were two amendments before the body, the first was provided to the membership in their packet and deals with how complaints against members of the Board are to be handled, which includes a specific process for investigating complaints and the actions that can be taken against a member of the Board for verified complaints – ranging from reprimands to removal from the Board. The second amendment is a new amendment from the Board, that seeks to modify the process for electing Board members – attempting to align and mirror the process used by the League of Oregon Cities, including: (1) adding two alternatives to the Nominating Committee; (2) requiring the Nominating Committee to conduct interviews of applicants; (3) prohibiting double candidacy; (4) forwarding the Nominating Committee’s slate directly to the membership instead of first sending it to the Board; and (5) eliminating nominations from the floor. The two proposals were handled separately, although neither proposal had any comments or feedback from the membership.

It was moved by Mayor Kayser of Molalla and seconded by Mayor Johnson of Albany to amend the Constitution and Bylaws regarding complaints against members of the Board as proposed by the OMA Board of Directors and more specifically described in the packet associated with the 2025 OMA Annual Membership meeting on October 2, 2025. The motion passed unanimously (43-0).

It was moved by Mayor McNeilly of Rockaway Beach and seconded by Mayor Cross of Toledo to amend the Constitution and Bylaws regarding the Nominating Committee and nominations from the floor as proposed by the OMA Board of Directors and presented during the 2025 OMA Annual Membership meeting on October 2, 2025. The motion pass unanimously (43-0).

E. Overview of the OMA Mobile App

President Balensifer discussed the OMA Mobile App. He asked members to check their profile on the App to make sure the information is correct, and if not, to work with LOC staff to make appropriate updates. President Balensifer explained that the chat function on the app is quite useful, and that some members have created group chats, for example the Legislative Committee and Coastal Caucus. He then walked members through some of the App features, encouraging larger use of the tool.

F. 2026 Conference and Workshop Schedule

President Balensifer reviewed the 2026 Conference and Workshop Schedule, generally noting the Spring Workshop will be in April in Pendleton, the Summer Conference will be in August in Ashland, and the Fall Workshop will be October in Salem.

G. General Updates

President Balensifer, President-Elect Trett, and Immediate Past President Cross all presented information to the membership.

President Balensifer advised the membership of the following:

- The Legislative Committee was constituted in 2025 and allowed the OMA to take a targeted approach to supporting or opposing legislative proposals during the session on behalf of Oregon's mayors. The committee worked on securing changes to public meeting notice requirements, and while they weren't successful, it is expected the committee will bring forward the proposal again.
- The OMA is looking at some funding challenges and to solve those challenges mayors should expect some changes to the summer conference format as the organization looks to cut costs.
- He encouraged members to apply for committees and the Board, noting that the OMA is what the members make of it.
- Asked members that if there is a mayor in their region who is not a member of the OMA, they contact that mayor and encourage their participation.

President-Elect Trett said that he is looking forward to his tenure as President in 2026 and hopes to continue to raise the visibility of the OMA in the Legislature and around the state.

Immediate Past President Cross noted that he will soon be starting a series of virtual, quarterly, regional meetings of mayors. The meetings will not be recorded, and AI notetaking features will not be permitted. These meetings will be an opportunity for mayors to come together to network, discuss matters of the day, and help each other as needed. Immediate Past President Cross noted that he will be sending Doodle Polls out to each region in the coming weeks and hopes to begin the meetings in the near future.

H. Roundtable Discussion about the OMA

The members broke into small groups, discussed two questions, and then reported them out to the full room of attendees.

The reports from the small groups provided the following information:

- What do you find most valuable about your OMA membership?
 - Networking and the listserv.
 - The organization is a safe space for open dialogue.
 - Education and collaboration.
 - Networking.
 - Networking.
 - Networking.
 - Networking.
 - Listserv and networking.
 - Networking (need space for both new and veteran members) and experiencing Oregon cities first-hand, in-person, at conferences throughout the state.
 - Committees and listserv.
- Identify one to three legislative priorities you would like the OMA to advance?
 - Repeal HB 3115, while also trying to find solutions to solve and address the state's homelessness crisis.
 - TLT reform and revenue reform in general.
 - Oppose unfunded mandates and protect home rule.
 - Secure infrastructure funding investments and address land use policies that make it difficult to operate for cities (it should not take six years for plans to be approved).
 - TLT reform and protect home rule.
 - Educate legislators on what cities do, prioritize cities in funding allocations, protect home rule, allow for greater land use and UGB expansion flexibility, and oppose unfunded mandates.
 - Fix OGE's rules and interpretations related to serial meetings, TLT reform, and secure transportation stability which is to include sensible oversight of ODOT.
 - Restructure and reimagine ODOT with a heavier focus on maintenance and the entire state.
 - Eliminate the inheritance tax as it is causing people to leave Oregon, pause or cease all the "innovative" housing laws and let cities identify what works and what does not work, and oppose any one-size-fits-all pieces of legislation.
 - OGE reforms, protect home rule, and oppose unfunded mandates.

I. Recognition of Outgoing Board Members

President Balensifer and President-Elect Cross recognized the outgoing board members.

J. Adjournment

President Balensifer adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.



To convene, network, train, and empower Mayors

TO: OMA Membership

FROM: Claire Wilson, OMA Staff Liaison & LOC Project & Affiliates Coordinator

SUBJECT: Current Financial Report

DATE: October 5, 2026

To date, the OMA has received \$95,536.89 in income this year. The bulk of this revenue comes from three sources:

1. Membership dues;
2. Conferences/workshops; and
3. Sponsorship dollars.

The OMA received \$30,835 in membership dues. It has raised \$24,125 from registration fees for the summer conference and the spring workshop. In addition, the Conference Planning Committee raised \$28,500 in sponsorship dollars.

The two largest expenses are the summer conference and League of Oregon Cities (LOC) services. The summer conference costs were \$41,598.07, which included the venue rental, food & beverage, and expenses related to providing scholarships for mayors who would not be able to attend otherwise. The other major expense is related to the staff support the OMA receives from the LOC. The OMA paid LOC \$30,319 for staff support this year. OMA's total expenses are \$85,696.65, making this a profitable year for the OMA.

Attached herein you will find a Budget vs. Actual document.

Oregon Mayors Association

Budget vs. Actuals: OMA Budget FY 2026 - FY26 P&L

January - December 2026

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income				
4-4001 Membership Dues	30,835.00	34,880.00	-4,045.00	88.40 %
4-4605 Mayor's Board Function		0.00	0.00	
4-4660 Silent Auction Scholarships	9,001.89	8,000.00	1,001.89	112.52 %
4-4661 LOC Foundation Scholarships		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
4-4662 Misc. Scholarships		4,000.00	-4,000.00	
4-4700 OMA Spring Workshop	3,075.00	3,000.00	75.00	102.50 %
4-4753 Fall Workshop	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00	0.00 %
4-4754 Summer Conference	24,125.00	30,000.00	-5,875.00	80.42 %
4-4760 Mayor's Sponsors	28,500.00	20,000.00	8,500.00	142.50 %
Total Income	\$95,536.89	\$105,880.00	\$ -10,343.11	90.23 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$95,536.89	\$105,880.00	\$ -10,343.11	90.23 %
Expenses				
4-5000 Cost of Events				
4-5012 New Mayor Training		0.00	0.00	
4-5301 OMA Summer Conference				
4-5302 Summer Conference LOC Staff Expenses/Fees	2,688.49	1,000.00	1,688.49	268.85 %
4-5304 Summer Conference Activity Fees	3,556.03	3,000.00	556.03	118.53 %
4-5307 Venue Rental	9,510.00	11,500.00	-1,990.00	82.70 %
4-5308 Food and Beverage	21,011.95	25,000.00	-3,988.05	84.05 %
4-5309 Hotel Expenses		500.00	-500.00	
4-5313 Speakers	949.92	1,000.00	-50.08	94.99 %
4-5314 Postage / Printing	259.95	250.00	9.95	103.98 %
4-5390 Conference Scholarships	3,621.73	4,000.00	-378.27	90.54 %
Total 4-5301 OMA Summer Conference	41,598.07	46,250.00	-4,651.93	89.94 %
4-5350 Spring Workshop Expenses				
4-5357 Spring Workshop Venue Rental	500.00	500.00	0.00	100.00 %
4-5358 Spring Workshop Food & Beverage	833.94	1,500.00	-666.06	55.60 %
4-5359 Hotel Expense		400.00	-400.00	
4-5360 Speaker Fees	544.16	1,000.00	-455.84	54.42 %
Total 4-5350 Spring Workshop Expenses	1,878.10	3,400.00	-1,521.90	55.24 %
4-5400 Fall Workshop				
4-5404 Venue Rental		500.00	-500.00	
4-5405 Food and Beverage		4,500.00	-4,500.00	
4-5406 Hotel Expenses		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
4-5407 Speakers Fall Workshop		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
Total 4-5400 Fall Workshop		7,000.00	-7,000.00	
Total 4-5000 Cost of Events	43,476.17	56,650.00	-13,173.83	76.75 %
4-6000 Operating Expenses				
4-6013 Directory/OMA App	5,580.00	5,660.00	-80.00	98.59 %
4-6017 LOC Services	30,319.00	30,319.00	0.00	100.00 %
4-6018 Mayor's Board Expense	444.03	2,500.00	-2,055.97	17.76 %

Oregon Mayors Association

Budget vs. Actuals: OMA Budget FY 2026 - FY26 P&L

January - December 2026

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
4-6023 Mayor's Contest	2,700.00	2,700.00	0.00	100.00 %
4-6025 Miscellaneous	53.97	500.00	-446.03	10.79 %
4-6028 Newsletter		0.00	0.00	
4-6030 Postage	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4-6031 Copy, Fax, Printing		0.00	0.00	
4-6033 Supplies / Marketing	471.88	1,000.00	-528.12	47.19 %
4-6040 WEB	867.67	1,600.00	-732.33	54.23 %
4-6041 Listserv	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.00 %
4-6042 Insurance	500.00	500.00	0.00	100.00 %
4-6043 LOC Associate Membership	680.00	685.00	-5.00	99.27 %
4-6044 Miscellaneous Board Travel Expense		0.00	0.00	
4-6045 Credit Card Fee	603.93	1,500.00	-896.07	40.26 %
4-6050 Contingency		4,000.00	-4,000.00	
Total 4-6000 Operating Expenses	42,220.48	51,214.00	-8,993.52	82.44 %
Total Expenses	\$85,696.65	\$107,864.00	\$ -22,167.35	79.45 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$9,840.24	\$ -1,984.00	\$11,824.24	-495.98 %
NET INCOME	\$9,840.24	\$ -1,984.00	\$11,824.24	-495.98 %



To convene, network, train, and empower Mayors

TO: OMA Membership

FROM: Tamie Kaufman, OMA President & Mayor of Gold Beach, Oregon

SUBJECT: Election of 2027 OMA Board of Directors

DATE: September 22, 2026

The OMA Board of Directors is comprised of nine members, three of whom are officers.

Officers include the: President, President-Elect, and Past-President. All officers serve one-year terms. The President-Elect automatically assumes the position of President and the President automatically becomes the Past-President.

The remaining six positions are classified as Director positions. Each Director position is a three-year term.

Pursuant to the OMA Constitution and Bylaws, persons interested in serving on the OMA Board of Directors is to submit an application to the OMA Nominating Committee. This year, all such applications were due on September 4, 2026. The Nominating Committee held a virtual meeting where all candidates were invited on October 1, 2026. During this meeting all applications were reviewed, and the committee presented a recommended slate of candidates to the OMA membership for approval. Included herein is the Memorandum from the Nominating Committee to the membership outlining the Committee's proposed slate of candidates (Attachment 1).

The OMA Membership will be meeting on October 15, 2026, to review and approve the slate of candidates recommended by the Nominating Committee.



To convene, network, train, and empower Mayors

TO: OMA Board of Directors

FROM: OMA Nominating Committee

SUBJECT: Approval of 2027 Slate of Candidates

DATE: October 2, 2026

The OMA Nominating Committee received four applications, listed in the table below to fill three available 3-year board positions. Retiring board members include:

- Director Beach Pace, Mayor, Hillsboro (1-year)
- Director Cathy Clark, Mayor, Keizer (3-year)
- Director Angelica Ceja, Mayor, Aumsville (1-year)

Applicants:

Name	City	Population	Region	Position Sought
Alex Johnson II	Albany	57,897	4	Director
Jessica Engelke	North Bend	10,402	6	Director
Cathy Clark	Keizer	39,540	3	Director
Angelica Ceja	Aumsville	4,279	3	Director

The OMA Nominating Committee met on October 1 to review applications. In keeping with prior board discussions, the Committee wished to advance a slate of candidates who would offer greater diversity on the board in terms of city size, history with the OMA, and geographic diversity. After careful deliberation, the Nominating Committee is recommending the following slate of officers.

President-Elect:

- Mayor Steve Wright, Seaside – consecutive terms as President (2028) and Past-President (2029)

Directors:

- Mayor Cathy Clark, Keizer (expires December 31, 2029)
- Mayor Alex Johnson II, Albany (expires December 31, 2029)
- Mayor Jessica Engelke, North Bend (expires December 31, 2029)

Continuing Members:

Name	City	Population	Region	Position
Tamie Kaufman	Gold Beach	174	6	President
Steve Wright	Seaside	7,334	1	President-Elect
Henry Balensifer	Warrenton	6,506	1	Past-President
Susan Wahlke	Lincoln City	10,162	5	Director
Scott Keyser	Molalla	10,491	3	Director
Ed Fitch	Redmond	38,199	9	Director

Suggested Motion:

“I move to approve the slate of candidates as recommended by the Nominating Committee.”



To convene, network, train, and empower Mayors

TO: OMA Membership

FROM: Claire Wilson, OMA Staff Liaison & LOC Project & Affiliates Coordinator

SUBJECT: 2027 Conference and Workshop Schedule

DATE: September 22, 2026

The OMA will host two workshops and one annual conference in 2027.

Date	Event	Location
April 1-2	OMA Spring Workshop & LOC Spring Conference	Seaside Convention Center
August 12-14	OMA Summer Conference	Seven Feathers, Canyonville
October 7-9	OMA Fall Workshop, Annual Membership Meeting & LOC Annual Conference	Riverhouse on the Deschutes, Bend



To convene, network, train, and empower Mayors

TO: OMA Membership

FROM: Claire Wilson, OMA Staff Liaison & LOC Project & Affiliates Coordinator

SUBJECT: Roundtable Discussion Questions about the OMA

DATE: October 2, 2026

The Oregon Mayors Association (OMA) was established in 1972 as a voluntary association of Oregon mayors and is a recognized affiliate of the League of Oregon Cities. OMA's mission is to convene, connect, train, and empower mayors across the state.

Each year, OMA provides professional development and networking opportunities through its annual conference and two workshops. During OMA's Annual Conference the association acknowledges mayors across the state by awarding leadership awards typically to a mayor in a small, medium and large city. Members can also connect year-round through the OMA App, which includes the mayor directory and facilitates communication among mayors statewide. Additional resources are available on the OMA website, including the *Oregon Mayors Handbook* and *25 Survival Tips for Newly Elected Mayors*.

As OMA continues to evaluate and strengthen the value it provides to members, the OMA Board of Directors is seeking feedback from the membership. OMA President Tamie Kaufman will lead a discussion and gather input on several topics identified by the Board.

1. How long have you been a Mayor
2. When do you join the OMA and why?
3. What has been a value to you from the OMA?
4. What should we do as mayors in this organization do for the new mayors that are elected next month?
5. For the mayors that have not joined, what do you suggest the board do to encourage membership?
6. Would you like to be part of a membership drive in 2027?