



PRESS RELEASE

June 13, 2025

Crook County Emphasizes Importance of SRS Funding, Appoints Road Agency Board Member and FY 2026 Budget Committee

PRINEVILLE, Ore. – Crook County is reinforcing its commitment to maintaining safe, reliable infrastructure by planning ahead for the use of Secure Rural Schools (SRS) funding, a crucial source that supports over 1,200 miles of county-maintained roads. These roads are essential for school transportation, emergency services, agriculture, and rural connectivity.

The Crook County Road Agency has appointed Jerry Brummer as the third member of its governing board. He joins City Manager Steve Forrester and County Commissioner Brian Barney in overseeing the strategic use of these funds for local road improvement projects.

Brummer is no stranger to this work. A Crook County native and lifelong public servant, he played a key role in the original creation of the Road Agency and its connection to SRS funding during his time as a County Commissioner. He also served for decades as the City of Prineville's Superintendent of Public Works, is currently a Prineville City Councilor, and remains an active voice in regional transportation through his involvement with the Central Oregon Area Commission on Transportation (COACT).

This appointment follows a significant restructuring of the Road Agency Board earlier this year. In March 2025, an amended intergovernmental agreement (IGA) was signed, transitioning the board structure from three County Commissioners to a three-member board composed of:

- One County representative
- One City of Prineville representative
- One jointly appointed third member

This change strengthens collaboration between the County and City, while ensuring broader representation in transportation decisions.

To assist with financial planning, the Road Agency Board has also appointed three community members to serve on the FY 2026 Road Agency Budget Committee: Casey Kaiser; Russ Deboodt; and Lori Hooper.

These individuals will work alongside County staff to help shape the upcoming year's road agency's budget. The Road Agency is funded by Title I SRS funds, which are a critical revenue stream that supports chip sealing, road grading, surface treatments, and long-term infrastructure maintenance, making a visible difference for residents across Crook County.

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Upcoming Public Meetings:

Road Agency Budget Committee Meeting

Monday, June 16 at 2:00 p.m.

County Annex Meeting Room – 320 NE Court Street, Prineville

Road Agency Board Meeting

Monday, June 30 at 2:00 p.m.

County Annex Meeting Room – 320 NE Court Street, Prineville

Both meetings are open to the public, and community members are strongly encouraged to attend. These meetings are a great opportunity to learn more about how SRS funds are used and why continued investment in rural infrastructure is vital.

With the future of the SRS program still being tracked at the federal level, Crook County leaders remain engaged with developments in Washington, D.C., advocating for sustainable, long-term funding solutions.

For more information about the Road Agency and its work, please visit

<https://co.crook.or.us> or contact the Crook County Administrative Office at (541) 447-6555.

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