



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
Livestream: <http://facebook.com/BentonCoGov>  
**Tuesday, January 16, 2024**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Present:**      **Xanthippe Augerot**, Chair; **Nancy Wyse**, Commissioner; **Pat Malone**, Commissioner; **Vance Croney**, County Counsel; **Rachel McEneny**, County Administrator

**Elected**  
**Official:**      **Jef Van Arsdall**, Sheriff

**Staff:**          **Rick Crager**, Finance; **Cory Grogan**, Public Information Officer; **April Holland**, Health; **Amanda Makepeace**, BOC Staff; **Erika Milo**, BOC Recorder; **James Morales**, Records & Elections; **Gary Stockhoff**, Public Works

**Guests:**        **John Harris**, Horsepower Productions; **Mark Yeager**, resident

**1.      Opening:**  
         **1. Call to Order**

Chair Augerot called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**2. Introductions**  
         **3. Announcements**

Augerot noted that most staff are working from home due to icy weather, and thanked everyone for being flexible.

**2.      Review and Approve Agenda**

The following item was added under **8. Other:**

**8.1      Storm Forecast** – *Jef Van Arsdall, Sheriff*

**3.      Comments from the Public**

No comments were offered.

**4.      Work Session**

**4.1      \*Monthly Public Health Update** – *April Holland, Health Services*

Holland reported that 242 Oregonians were hospitalized with COVID-19 as of January 9, 2024. The whole country is experiencing a COVID-19 surge, driven by Omicron sub-variant JN.1, which is estimated to account for 60% of circulating variants in this area. JN.1 is distantly related to XBB.1.5, the variant for which the latest COVID-19 booster was formulated. While JN.1 is causing a large increase in hospitalizations, extensive population immunity mitigates its severity. Higher levels of vaccination would help even more.

The COVID-19 testing positivity rate in Benton County is around 11%; wastewater data shows more increases. This means that elevated hospitalizations will likely continue through January 2024. Instead of counting individual cases, Health staff look at Emergency Room visits,

wastewater samples, hospitalizations, and outbreaks. Almost all wastewater sampling detected some SARS-CoV-2.

Hospitalization rates for COVID-19 in Oregon are about 3.7 per 100,000 people of all ages, which is lower than in the past due to population immunity. Everyone should continue to protect people aged 65 and older, whose COVID-19 hospitalization rate is 12.6 per 100,000 people.

Influenza season continues. About 70% of wastewater sampling for influenza detected some amount; about 40% have an increase or a sustained increase. Statewide testing positivity is about 11%. Staff expect several more weeks of increases in Oregon before a plateau is reached.

Cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) are holding steady in Oregon, with about 50% of wastewater sampling sites detecting some level. Hopefully cases will peak soon. RSV is a significant cause of hospitalizations among the very young and elderly. Hospitalization rates are 2.4 per 100,000 people of all ages, but in people aged 0-4, the rate is 23 per 100,000, and 4.4 for people aged 65 and older.

From November 2023 to January 2024, just under 6% of Emergency Department visits in Oregon were for these three respiratory illnesses.

The updated fall 2023 COVID-19 vaccine is protective against severe illness and is available for all people aged 6 months and up. According to Oregon Health Authority, Benton and Hood River Counties have the highest vaccination rates in Oregon, with 18% of all populations up to date with the fall 2023 vaccine.

There have been supply problems with the RSV vaccine for infants. Additional doses have been issued, so the vaccine is available and recommended for the populations listed. It is not too late to get the influenza vaccine, which is widely available for low or no cost. People should get up to date on vaccines this month and stay home when sick with any illness. Check with your provider for home tests and antivirals.

There are six measles cases in southwest Washington state; Benton's Communicable Disease team is ready to assist if cases increase.

Augerot requested an update on snow and ice and emergency sheltering.

Holland replied that contractor Faith Hope & Charity (FHC) activated overflow sheltering on January 12, 2024, and will work through tonight. FHC uses a mix of hotel and congregate sheltering for those who cannot access other sheltering. The number of people served per night varied, but over 20 hotel rooms were used, and the congregate site at First Christian Church was full each night, except the night of January 12, 2024, when it was closed. Many sites and some staff volunteered to provide daytime warming. Holland thanked Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center and Director Allison Hobgood for that service, and thanked Unity Shelter for increasing its operating hours. Holland also thanked the Health Department Harm Reduction and Healthy Communities Team and Emergency Management staff.

Malone commented that while Benton is at the top of vaccination rates in Oregon, 18% is still not high. Malone asked if this is due to people thinking COVID-19 is over, and asked about ways to get community attention.

Holland replied there is a lot of fatigue around the pandemic and disruptions. Health makes the impacts of COVID-19 as clear as possible in all communications. Staff would like to see a much higher vaccination rate. Vaccination rates across the country are much lower, so Holland expressed gratitude for the Benton community's willingness to be vaccinated. Numerous studies show that fully vaccinated people have less severe illness and lower rates of long COVID-19. Health focuses on communities at highest need and highest risk; the County immunizations program and home-visiting nurses not only vaccinate, but also conduct outreach to long-term care facilities and skilled nursing facilities, sharing information and connecting the facilities with pharmacies. Staff continue to conduct outreach and vaccine marketing, which is refreshed regularly.

Malone asked how the COVID-19 vaccination rate compares to the influenza vaccination rate.

Holland replied that uptake of the initial primary series of COVID-19 vaccination was close to 80% in Benton County. Holland did not have influenza vaccination rates for today. Benton holds second place in the state for overall influenza vaccination at 27.5% of the population, and over 50% of people aged 65 and older. The most recent COVID-19 booster is not getting the traction that initial vaccines did. There is widespread illness. Staff continue to practice vaccine confidence and continue vaccination uptake.

### **{Exhibit 1: Respiratory Virus Update Slideshow}**

#### **4.2 Recognition of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday – *Xanthippe Augerot, Board Chair***

Augerot explained that yesterday was a holiday celebrating King's contributions, but many local events had to be cancelled due to inclement weather. The life's work of King and his colleagues has been greatly on Augerot's mind as election season begins. King's focus on equal rights before the law and in practice is as important as ever, given that the United States lacks a constitutional clause guaranteeing every citizen over age 18 the right to vote in presidential and congressional elections, as some countries have. Everyone must be vigilant to protect voting rights for all. King's emphasis on economic rights also reverberates today; much partisan wrangling is rooted in economic inequality and cultural differences, but reshoring manufacturing and increasing union power helps. Still, distribution of wealth in the United States remains extremely high, the highest in the Group of Seven countries. The COVID-19 era programs for Universal Basic Income and expanded child tax credits demonstrated that people have the tools to change this equation. There is a lot of work to do to achieve the vision that King laid out in the 1960's, before he was so unfortunately assassinated. There is a lot of work to do to foster the creation of what King called beloved community. Oregon State University is hosting many events so that people can share in further commemorations of King's life and mission.

#### **4.3 \*Discussion of Proposed Revisions to Benton County Code (BCC) Chapters 4, 5 and 6 – *James Morales, Records and Elections***

Morales explained that Chapter Four guides the filing of candidates for County offices, Chapter Five concerns measures, and Chapter Six concerns the voters' pamphlet. The goal is to clarify Code due to confusion over which elections were referred to. Staff removed references to precinct committee positions, which are addressed by Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS). Ranked-choice voting (RCV) and the nomination and election of County offices was addressed. Wyse provided feedback in an email (exhibit 2) which adds clarity. The Commissioner filing date was corrected to align with ORS. In Chapter 5, staff clarified that explanatory statements are a voters'

pamphlet filing, not a judicial review. The Benton County Clerk conducts an explanatory review process. Staff clarified that if RCV is not used in the election for County positions, the candidate receiving the most votes is also elected.

Wyse noted that on page 22 of the packet, section 5.375 “Cost and Election Date for Advisory Measures” states that advisory measures shall be limited to election dates which are not even year Primary and General Elections. Wyse asked if that was new.

Morales shared that only Benton County has the option for advisory measures or RCV advisory measures; ORS does not address that. Morales was concerned about physically fitting an RCV advisory measure on the ballot. To preserve space on the ballot, Morales established the limit.

Wyse asked what happens if there is too much material for a one-page ballot.

Morales replied that a second page would be needed, which makes it harder to audit the election. Morales sought to avoid this if possible, based on an experience during a General Election in 2000. The County may be better equipped now, but the first experience was a shock.

Wyse commented that made sense. Wyse asked whether the other Commissioners supported limiting an election.

Malone was comfortable with the change. Malone asked if Benton had used the advisory measure option yet.

Morales replied there have been yes/no advisory measures, but not RCV advisory measures. An RCV advisory measure also must occur in a district fully contained within the County, since neighbor counties cannot process RCV ballots.

Malone supported this change. If a real problem arises, it can be dealt with then.

Augerot noted that if and when the State shifts some State offices to RCV, there probably will be multi-page ballots, at which point the Board may consider this clause. The technology may also be better by then. Augerot supported this clause now, but flagged it for consideration later to be in accord with the latest ballot auditing technology.

Wyse requested that staff contact the cities about this change so there are no surprises.

Morales will do so.

Augerot asked whether the Board should proceed with the first reading today, given that Wyse’s edits were in an unpublished email, or hold the Public Hearing and continue it so everyone could see the changes first.

Counsel stated that Wyse’s email goes into the public record. Wyse’s edits do not differ substantially from typical verbal edits during a meeting. Morales’ initial edits are more substantial and have been published. The decision is up to the Board. Also, Morales wants to complete these revisions in time to be effective for the next election cycle.

Augerot suggested that staff put Wyse’s content on a slide to be shared onscreen during the Public Hearing, for full transparency.

Wyse concurred and was comfortable delaying the Public Hearing if time allowed.

Morales noted that it should work if the Public Hearing and first reading occurred next week, because the second reading would be February 6, 2024.

Counsel recommended opening the Public Hearing today and continuing it to next week.

Wyse asked if Augerot and Malone were comfortable with the other changes proposed in Wyse's email.

Malone and Augerot confirmed.

**{Exhibit 2: Wyse email}**

## **5. Consent Calendar**

### **5.1 Approval of the November 28, 2023 Tuesday Board Meeting Minutes**

Augerot noted that although the version of Item 5.1 in the packet still had 'draft' in title, the minutes were complete.

Wyse noted two corrections:

- On packet page 36, the phrase 'Wyse wanted to ask [Republic Services] if there was evidence that the high-volume discount is effective or causes people to throw more recycling into the garbage' should read, 'Wyse wanted to ask [Republic Services] if there was any evidence that doing away with the high-volume discount is effective or if it causes people to throw garbage into the recycling.'
- 'Wyse directed Nichols to inform [Republic Services] that she could not approve the increase without speaking to a representative' should read, 'Wyse informed Nichols that she could not approve the increase without first hearing from a representative of [Republic Services].'

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to approve the Consent Calendar of January 16, 2024 with the noted corrections. Malone seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

## **6. Public Hearing**

### **PH 1 First Reading of Ordinance 2024-0322 Proposing Revisions to Benton County Code (BCC), Chapters 4, 5, and 6 – James Morales, Records and Elections**

Chair Augerot opened the Public Hearing at 11:00 a.m.

#### **Staff Report**

Morales summarized changes to BCC Chapters Four, Five, and Six (see Item 4.3). Voters' pamphlet space is now measured by wordcount, not inches; voter requirements was updated to include electronic photo submission; language about gender and the availability of translated election materials were added. Morales incorporated Wyse's email suggestions, which improved clarity and grammar.

#### **Public Comment**

Mark Yeager, resident, inquired about the process used to develop these changes, for instance: was an outside advisory committee or State elections personnel involved, or was the County making these changes on its own without input from the public or other election officials.

#### Staff Response

Morales explained that while correcting the filing date for Commissioner, staff saw the opportunity to shorten and clarify the code language; staff had struggled in the past to understand some of the code. Morales, Elections Manager Darla Rush, and Counsel reviewed these chapters to add clarity to existing processes. The one larger change was in the advisory measures section, which is unique to Benton County. Morales sought to make clear that any city or district that requests an advisory measure must bear the cost for doing so, and that the times an advisory measure could be submitted be limited to elections other than the General and Primary Election, ensuring that a two-page ballot is not needed. Morales felt that a two-page ballot could be confusing for voters and difficult for staff to determine number of votes, number of voters participating, and ballots returned.

Wyse asked for an example of a hypothetical advisory measure.

Morales provided an example of a Jail measure; an advisory RCV process could present several options to the electorate to gauge interest in the size and cost of the Jail and the services included in the measure.

Responding to a question from Wyse, Morales confirmed that if Benton County or a city wanted to put a question to voters, people could rank their options in a way that is non-binding.

Augerot stated that given the importance of public involvement in the Public Hearing process, and given Wyse's proposed edits, the Board would continue this Public Hearing so more people can be aware of the changes and so there are not multiple versions of the changes. Addressing Yeager's comments, Augerot noted that only County staff participated in the revision process because Benton is a home-rule county, and unless a decision is prescribed by the State, it is up to Board and County voters.

Responding to a question from Augerot, Morales confirmed that there are no advisory councils or bodies for the County Elections Office.

Augerot added that the County has been cleaning up this language since residents approved RCV several years ago. The goal is to use plain English and modernize.

Chair Augerot continued the Public Hearing to 11:00 a.m., January 23, 2024, both virtually and in person, at the Holmes-Shipley Meeting Room at 4500 Southwest Research Way. Both versions of the text will be available to review. Public testimony remains open.

Wyse asked whether her email would appear in the packet, or would there be one document with all the changes.

Augerot stated a preference for one document.

Wyse requested that both versions appear in the packet.

Augerot asked that everything be clearly labeled. The goal is for meeting packets to be published the Wednesday before the meeting, which is tomorrow. That may not be feasible due to the ice storm, but staff will do their best.

## **7. Departmental Reports & Requests**

### **7.1 Approval of Application for Oregon Parks and Recreation Local Government Grant – Tomi Douglas, Jesse Ott; Natural Areas, Parks, and Events (NAPE)**

In the absence of NAPE staff, Augerot proposed moving ahead with the item.

McEneny explained that the County was working on this with partners. McEneny had been briefed by Douglas and Crager to move forward. The process will take about a year and a half.

Augerot added that this is a local grant which the County looked at previously; the grantor has increased the amount that the County can apply for. Funds would be used to improve restrooms at Hubert K. McBee Memorial Campground. Readying the site for use is a high priority. The Board has discussed this with Douglas and Ott at previous work sessions.

**MOTION:** Malone moved to approve the Natural Areas, Parks, and Events Department request to apply for the 2024 Oregon Parks and Recreation Local Government Grant. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

### **7.2 Approval of Submission of Street Name Recommendations to the City of Corvallis for the New Courthouse/District Attorney's Office Facility – Gary Stockhoff, Public Works**

Stockhoff discussed the naming of the collector street the County is building as part of the new Courthouse/ District Attorney's Office (DAO) / Emergency Operations Center (EOC) project. The City of Corvallis directed the County to submit three prioritized names which include the word 'Drive.' Stockhoff thanked Communications staff for conducting the naming poll. The top three choices were Champinefu Drive, Carson Drive, and Moore Drive. This road will tie into the ring road around HP, Incorporated, then emerge at Circle Boulevard. The road is part of Corvallis's Transportation System Plan. Once the Board confirms the name ranking, staff will submit an application to Corvallis. The names have been reviewed by the Fire Marshal.

Augerot noted that Champinefu honors the Kalapuya band's ancestral homelands here, Carson is for Black pioneer Leticia Carson, and Moore is for Harriett Moore.

Grogan added that Moore served in the Army Medical Corps, contributed to the Oregon State University library and archives, and was committed to historical accuracy and helping students.

Wyse asked if the poll was for Benton County community members.

Grogan confirmed. The poll was posted on Nextdoor, other social media, and local media.

Wyse noted there is a park with a name similar to Champinefu.

Stockhoff commented that there was only a four-vote difference between the top two choices, Champinefu and Carson.

Augerot did not have a strong preference. Augerot liked acknowledging the Kalapuya band, but had a concern about pronunciation and ambiguity. It could be initially challenging to direct emergency services, though that could be overcome. All of these names have great emotional resonance for the community. Augerot preferred Champinefu Drive or Carson Drive.

Wyse felt the pronunciation was a valid point, but people could learn to pronounce Champinefu. Wyse was fine with that option.

**MOTION:** Wyse moved to approve submitting Champinefu Drive, Carson Drive, and Moore Drive as the preferred street names for the new collector street for the Courthouse/District Attorney's Office facility. Malone seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

Malone asked for any other news on the new Courthouse.

Stockhoff replied that EOC schematic drawings were sent out on January 12, 2024. Hopefully contractors can work on the EOC at the same time as the DAO and new Courthouse.

## **8. Other**

### **8.1 Storm Forecast – *Jef Van Arsdall, Sheriff***

Augerot asked Van Arsdall to provide an update on the storm forecast.

Van Arsdall reported that an additional quarter inch of freezing rain, with accumulation up to about half an inch, was expected that afternoon between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Van Arsdall will consult with Human Resources Director Tracy Martineau, McEneny, and on-duty Corvallis Police Department supervisors, and will also contact Public Works and coordinate with Lee. Anyone who does not have to go out should not go out. The Emergency Room is tied up with fall-related injuries. Warm air will arrive tonight and tomorrow. Jail personnel brought several people back from NORCOR Corrections due to continued bad weather on the Columbia Gorge.

Malone noted that he might have difficulty traveling to the meeting at 8:30 a.m. tomorrow due to challenging roads.

Augerot suggested holding the meeting remotely.

Van Arsdall and Wyse concurred.

McEneny asked if electrical outages had improved.

Arsdall replied there were about 1,200 outages in the County yesterday. Some south Corvallis and downtown residents (including the Jail and the Sheriff's Office) lost power. That is probably no longer an issue since Lee did not mention it in today's update.

Malone noted that freezing rain may bring down more tree limbs, which could cause more electrical outages.

Van Arsdall observed that once the ice melts, there will be some flooding. This was discussed with Undersheriff Don Rogers. Van Arsdall will discuss the forecast with Lee tomorrow to be prepared. Lee did a good job of communicating with Natural Areas, Parks, & Events. There will be an after-action review with Lee next week to discuss areas to improve.



Wyse asked to verify that tomorrow's meeting would be all virtual.

Augerot confirmed, subject to power outages. Any updates to tomorrow's meeting process should come by text.

Malone thanked the Sheriff and crew, Holland, Lee, and everyone involved for helping the County get through this challenging weather.

McEneny praised the County team and partners for fluid communication, competence, and leadership.



Wyse agreed there was great coordination and commented that this makes her feel good about being a Commissioner in Benton County.

Malone suggested releasing some information after the event to let the public know what the County was doing during the emergency.

Chair Augerot recessed the meeting at 10:13 a.m. and resumed at 11:00 a.m.

## **9. Adjournment**

Chair Augerot adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Xanthippe Augerot, Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Erika Milo, Recorder

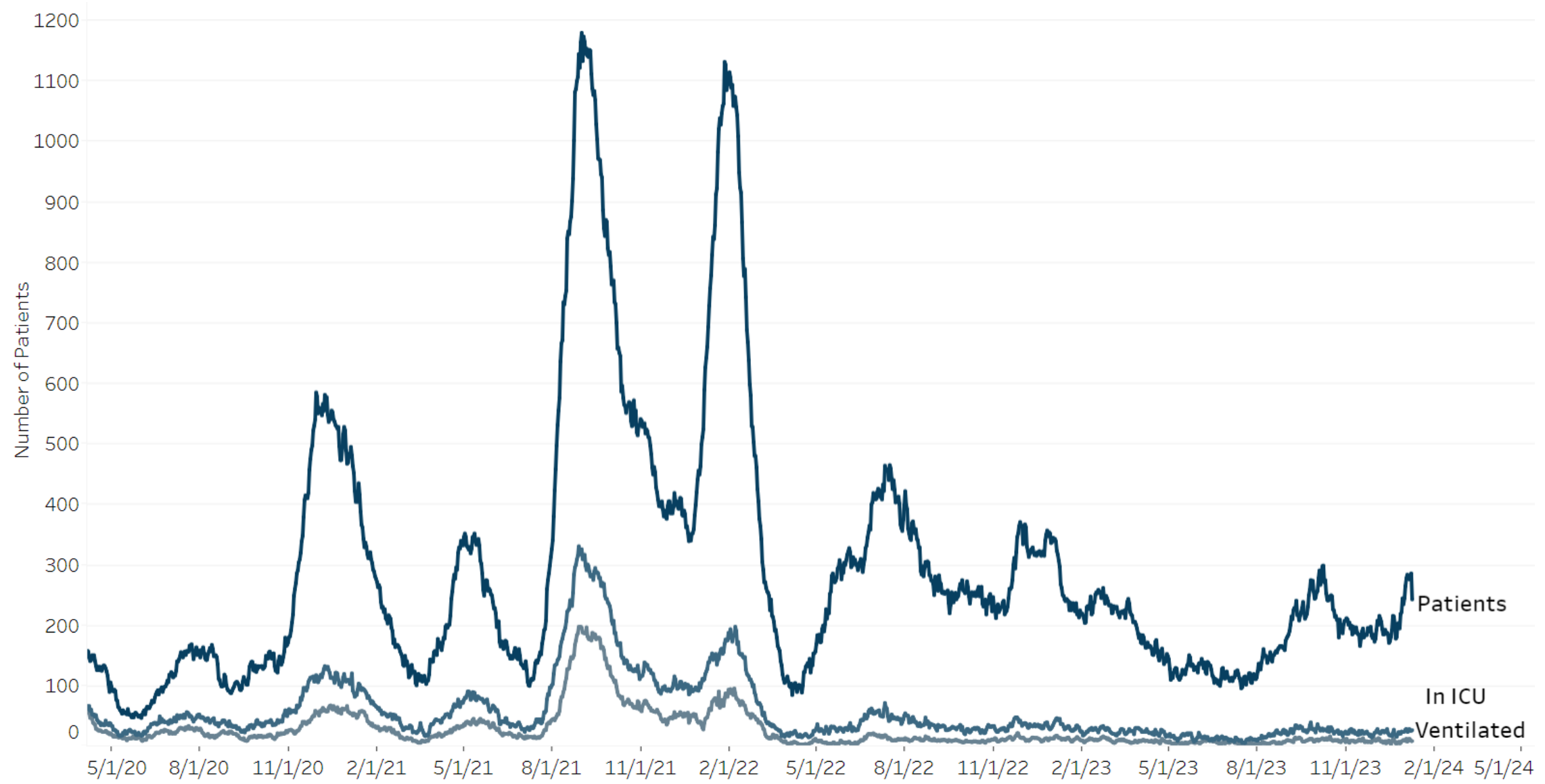
*\* NOTE: Items denoted with an asterisk do NOT have accompanying written materials in the meeting packet.*

# Health Update: COVID-19 and other respiratory illness

1/16/2024

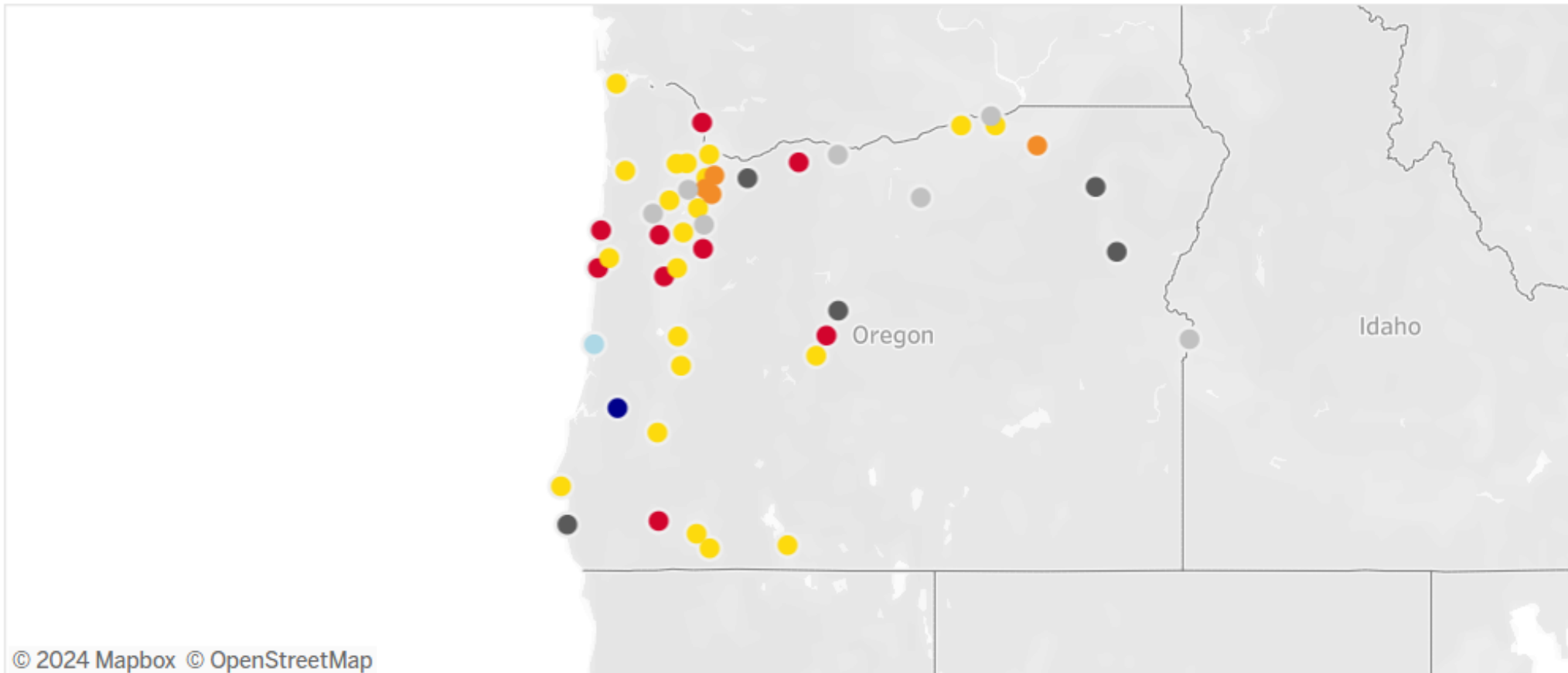


# Statewide COVID-19 Hospitalizations

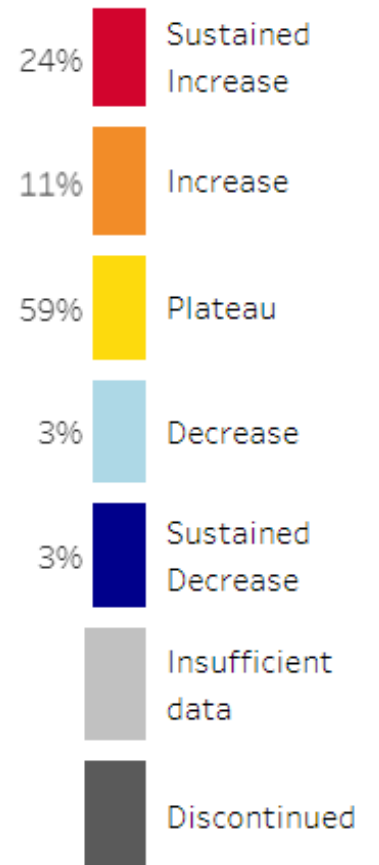


# Wastewater - SARS-CoV-2

SARS-CoV-2 Map



Trend categories:

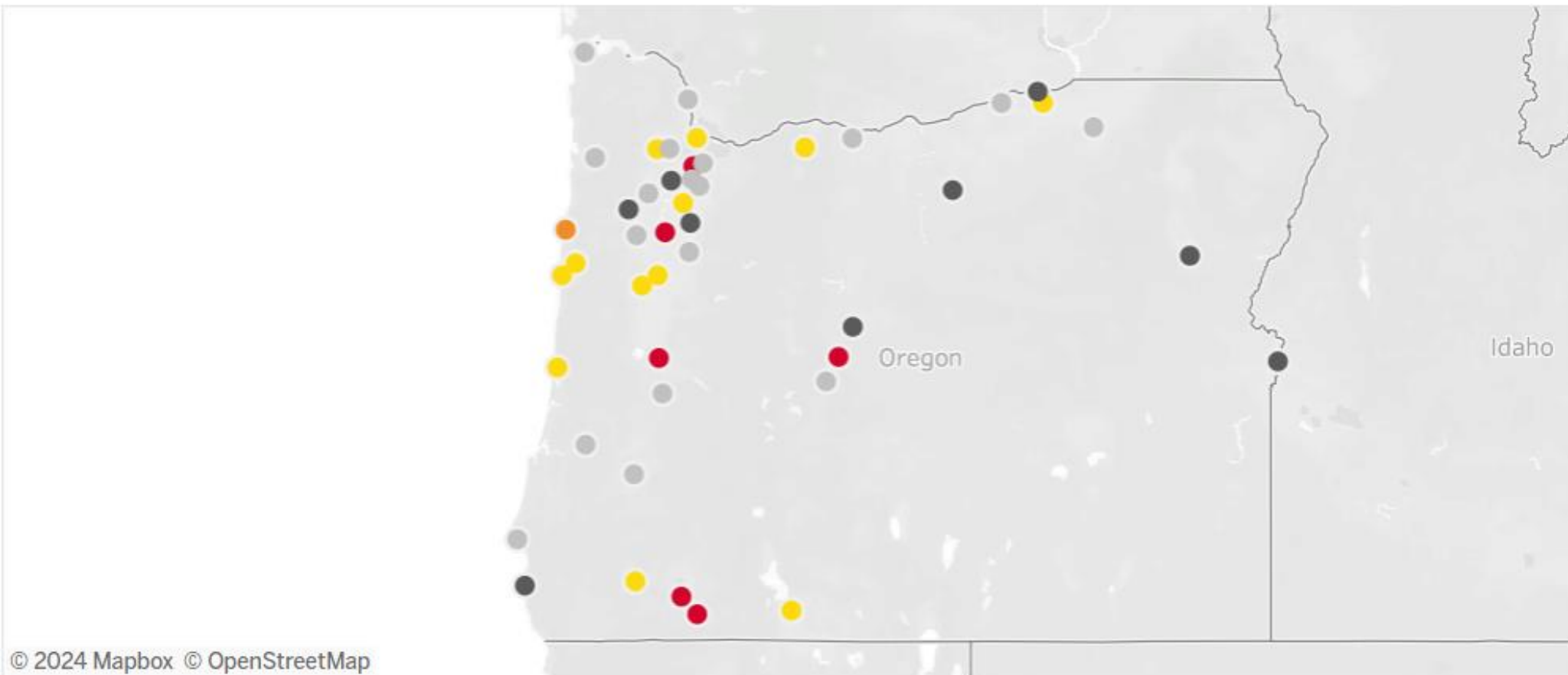


Positive on most recent sample: 96%

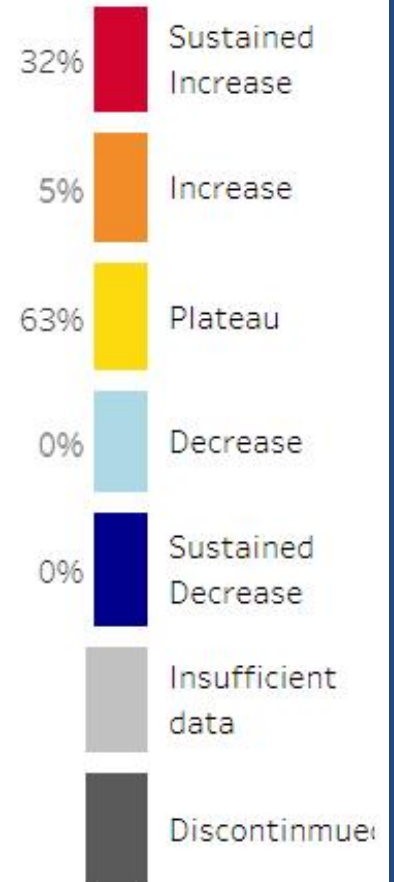
Negative on most recent sample: 4%

# Wastewater - Influenza

Flu Map



Trend categories:

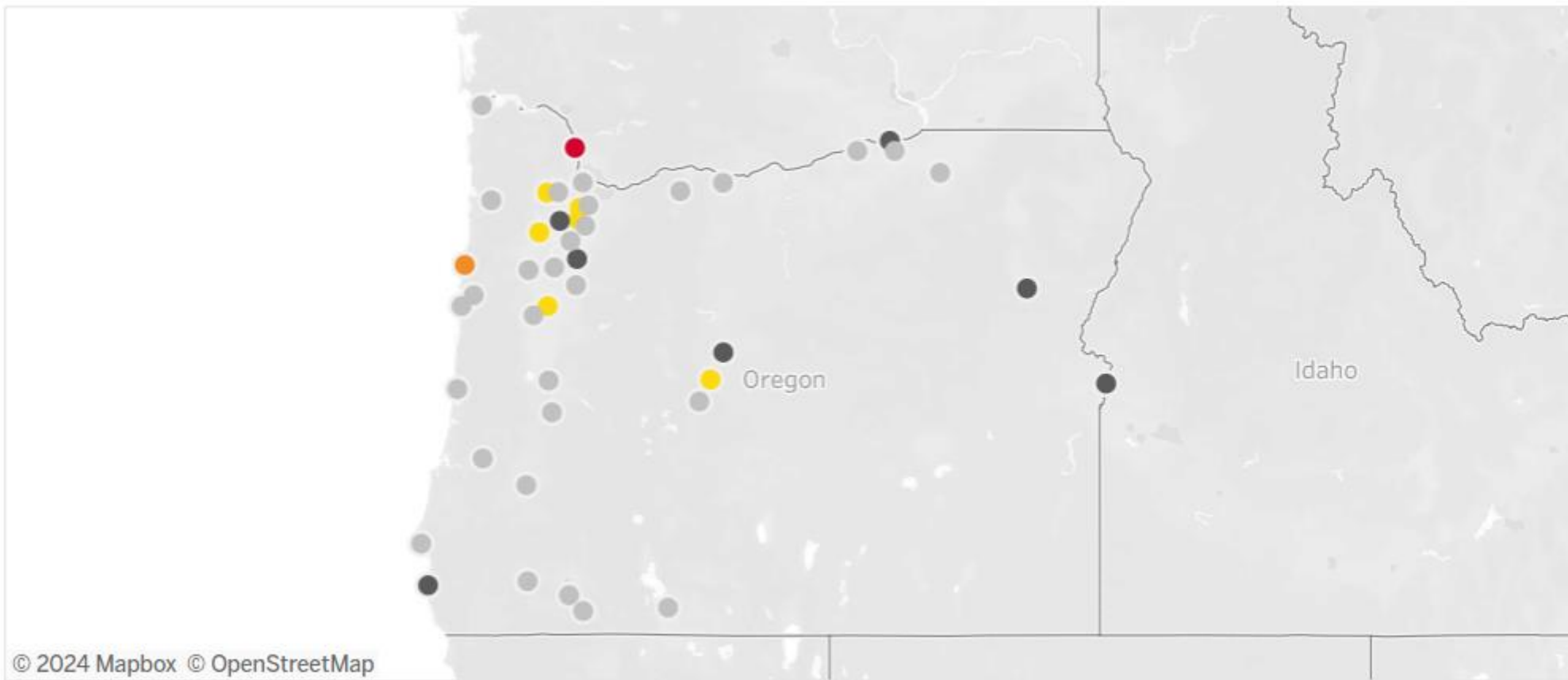


Positive on most recent sample: 68%      Negative on most recent sample: 32%

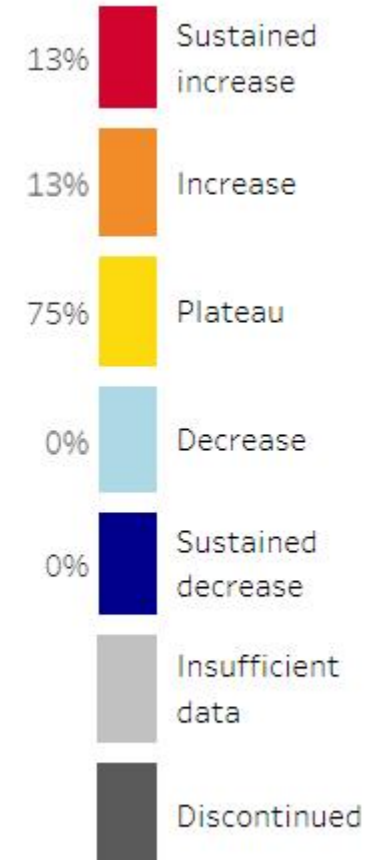


# Wastewater - RSV

RSV Map



Trend categories:



Positive on most recent  
sample:

53%

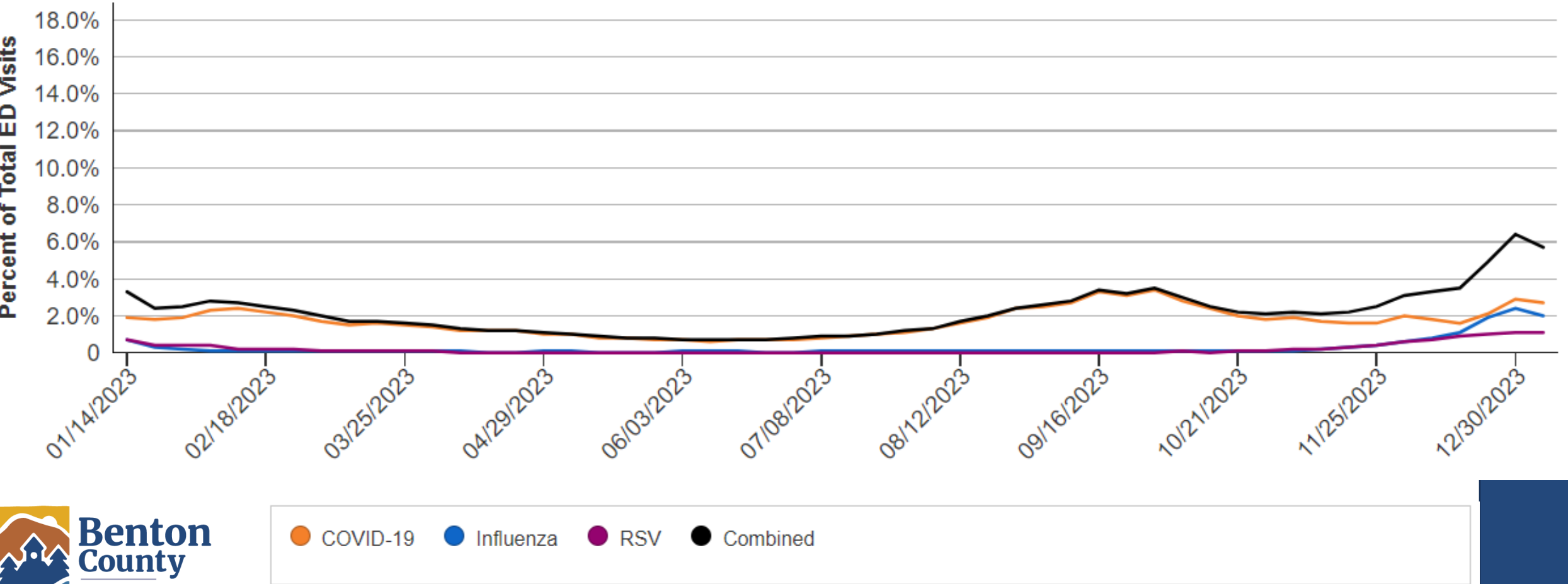
Negative on most recent  
sample:

47%

# Weekly Emergency Department Visits by Viral Respiratory Illness Type and State, as a Percent of All Emergency Department Visits

Make a selection from the filters to change the visualization information.

Oregon ▾



# Updated Fall 2023 Covid vaccine

- Monovalent (still) better targeted to the most common circulating strains
- Recommended for all ages 6 months and older
- For all 5 years and older, previously vaccinated or not, one shot recommended
- <5yrs, previously vaccinated, also single vaccine; unvaccinated younger 2-3 doses



# RSV vaccination

- RSV vaccination now approved for pregnant individuals 32-36 weeks gestational age in the fall season to deliver protection to infant after delivery
- RSV monoclonal antibody shot newly approved for infants 0 to 8 months heading into RSV season or toddlers with high risk conditions entering their second RSV season
- RSV vaccination now approved for persons 60 and older

# Influenza vaccine

- Now available and recommended for all persons six months and older
- Similar to prior seasons without big changes in strains targeted

# A healthy start to the year

- Get updated COVID and annual influenza vaccinations
- Stay home when sick
- Test, use available therapeutics



At your service,  
*every day.*



/BentonCoGov



@BentonCoGov



@BentonCoGov



/BentonCountyGov



Benton County

**From:** WYSE Nancy

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 1:02 AM

**To:** AUGEROT Xanthippe <[Xanthippe.Augerot@bentoncountyor.gov](mailto:Xanthippe.Augerot@bentoncountyor.gov)>; MALONE Patrick <[Pat.Malone@bentoncountyor.gov](mailto:Pat.Malone@bentoncountyor.gov)>; MCENENY Rachel <[rachel.mceneny@bentoncountyor.gov](mailto:rachel.mceneny@bentoncountyor.gov)>; CRONEY Vance M <[Vance.M.Croney@bentoncountyor.gov](mailto:Vance.M.Croney@bentoncountyor.gov)>; MORALES James V <[James.V.Morales@bentoncountyor.gov](mailto:James.V.Morales@bentoncountyor.gov)>

**Cc:** MILO Erika <[Erika.Milo@bentoncountyor.gov](mailto:Erika.Milo@bentoncountyor.gov)>

**Subject:** For board meeting discussion: item 4.3

Greetings,

I have some (five) proposed changes to agenda item 4.3 Proposed Revisions to Benton County Code Chapters 4, 5, and 6 for discussion during the board meeting. (Note: **red** = strikethrough from packet, because I couldn't figure out how to get strikethrough in this email 😊)

**1. P. 15 and 18 of packet, the word "genuineness" is used. Would "authenticity" be a better word?**

4.225 Certification of Signatures.

The Benton County Elections Office shall **verify** ~~certify~~ the signatures on a petition of candidacy for **genuineness**, while ensuring that the signer meets all of the necessary requirements for signing

and that the signer has signed no other petitions regarding the same contest prior to certification.

[Ord. 90-0062; Ord. 2019-0291]

(6) The signatures contained in each certificate of nomination made by individual electors shall be **verified** ~~certified~~ for **genuineness** by the Benton County Elections Office. [4.260 (6)]

**2. Designee.** A "designee" is referenced four times. Two times as "County Clerk or designee" and two times as "County Clerk, or the Clerk's designee". I think we should be consistent, and also clarify who is designating the designee. I would prefer to change all four instances to "County Clerk or their designee".

4.255 (7); 5.335 (1) (c); 6.205 (4) (c).

**3. Page 17 of packet, 4.255 (7)**

(7) The Benton County Clerk or designee shall **supervise the conduct of** ~~attend~~ the nominating convention. The County Clerk or designee shall **insure** ~~verify~~ that, when the assembly of electors makes a nomination, the number of electors present at the nominating convention are at least equal

to the number of electors necessary to constitute an assembly of electors **or not**.

**Suggestion:**

The Benton County Clerk or their designee shall attend the nominating convention. When the assembly of electors makes a nomination, the County Clerk or their designee shall verify whether

or not the number of electors present at the nominating convention are at least equal to the

number of electors necessary to constitute an assembly of electors.

**4. Page 19 of the packet, page 1 of chapter 55.010 (3) (b) (A):**

(b) In the case of a measure referred to the electors by a local government body:

(A) The local government decides to submit the measure, its ballot title and explanatory statement to its voters **by filing a notice of measure election on the form prescribed, an order** reflecting that decision with the Elections Office on or before the 81st day preceding the election at which the measure will be submitted to the electors. [Ord. 17, adopted March 8, 1978; Ord. 85-0002; Ord. 2019-0291]

**Suggestion:**

(b) In the case of a measure referred to the electors by a local government body:

(A) The local government submits the measure, its ballot title and explanatory statement to its voters by filing a notice of measure election on the form prescribed, with the Elections Office on or before the 81st day preceding the election, at which the measure will be submitted to the electors. [Ord. 17, adopted March 8, 1978; Ord. 85-0002; Ord. 2019-0291]

I think what this section means is that the local government *initiates* the process and makes it official by completing the actions listed. What it actually says though is that the government “*decides*”... A local government actually decides to submit a measure through a different process, ie city council process.

- 5. 6.105 (2)** The voters’ pamphlets **shall may** be distributed to all households within the jurisdiction(s) taking part in the election. One pamphlet **will may** be distributed to each household, regardless of how many voters reside in that household. All the measures and candidates that will appear on the ballot for the election may be included in one voters’ pamphlet. Additional means of distribution may be utilized if **it is** determined **that the additional distribution is necessary to make pamphlets available to all households of the electoral district.**

Suggestion: remove “it is”. Additional means of distribution may be utilized if determined necessary.



**Nancy V. Wyse** (She/hers)

Commissioner

Office: 541-766-6754 | Cell: 541-760-6067

Email: [nancy.wyse@co.benton.or.us](mailto:nancy.wyse@co.benton.or.us)

Address: 4500 SW Research Way, Corvallis

[www.co.benton.or.us](http://www.co.benton.or.us)