



# DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**CHRIS BOICE**

**TIM FREEMAN**

**GARY LEIF**

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1036 SE Douglas Ave., Room 217 → Roseburg, Oregon 97470

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Douglas County Commissioner Re-Elected as President of Association of Oregon and California Counties (AOCC)**

(Roseburg, OR) – December 1, 2017 – Douglas County is pleased to announce the re-election of Commissioner Tim Freeman as President of the Association of Oregon and California Counties (AOCC).

“I am honored to have unanimous support from the members of O&C to continue this vitally important work.” Freeman said. “We are in the middle of working to reverse some very counterproductive federal laws and regulations that impede our ability to manage active forest lands that especially hurt Douglas County.”

Freeman testified earlier this year in front of the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee’s Federal Lands Subcommittee that rural, Western Oregon counties are most affected by the BLM’s (Bureau of Land Management) failure to honor the federal O&C Act. The Act requires the BLM to manage O&C lands for sustained-yield of timber production. The AOCC also asked Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and Oregon’s congressional delegation earlier this year, to correct a costly mistake made by the BLM that drastically reduced O&C timber receipts distributed to counties.

During this past Wednesday’s Board of Commissioners meeting, Douglas County Commissioners Boice and Leif echoed their appreciation for the hard work Commissioner Freeman has done with AOCC, in trying to bring more revenue to Douglas County.

Approximately 25% of Douglas County's labor force is employed in the forest products industry which includes numerous sawmills and veneer plants, as well as one pulp and one particle board plant, and numerous shingle, shake, pole, and other wood products plants.

### **About [Douglas County](#)**

Douglas County Government employs over 800 full- and part-time employees in a wide variety of jobs. The Board of Commissioners, consisting of three full-time members, is the county’s governing body. They provide a direct link between the citizens of Douglas County and their county government. The Board of Commissioners is responsible for: approving ordinances (county laws); adopting the county budget; setting standards for the use of county property; appointing non-elected officials to boards, commissions, and committees; and oversees all operations of the county.

Regular Board meetings are scheduled for each Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. in Room 216 of the County Courthouse. Department head work sessions are held every Monday and Friday in room 219 of the County Courthouse, unless otherwise posted.

### **About [AOCC](#)**

AOCC represents Counties in Western Oregon that host 2.1 million acres of timberlands once privately owned as part of a grant in exchange for construction of a railroad in the late 1800s, but that were returned to federal ownership in 1916. The AOCC has been active in all legislation and all administrative actions regarding the management of these lands for the last 90 years—a testament to the importance of these lands to the health and well-being of our communities.

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