

INFORMAL SESSION MINUTES

March 26, 2012

2:00 p.m.

Commissioners' Office

PRESENT: Commissioners Leslie Lewis, Kathy George, and Mary P. Stern.

Staff: Chuck Vesper, Rick Sanai, Christian Boenisch, Manuel Campos, Paul Kushner, Ted Smietana, Murray Paolo, and Scott Maytubby.

Guests: Ossie Bladine, News-Register; John Safstrom and Suzanne Dufner, Council of Governments.

* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

Leslie called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

* Personnel - Manuel presented personnel requests from various departments. See agenda for details.

* Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) - Paul Kushner discussed a non-binding letter of intent to apply for CCO status. Mary stated that Silas and Mike Jascko did a great job of presenting this to the McMinnville Physicians Organization the previous week and explaining that this is the county's opportunity to have a say in how the system is created. Kathy said that she was pleased with the spirit of cooperation and all of the foundational work that had been done. Paul stated that there is a recognition among the physicians that this is aimed toward the people who are most needy, and the physicians agree that they will always need to step up and provide help for them.

* Contracts/Grants - See agenda for details. Scott discussed the agreement with Manitron, Inc., for Assessment & Taxation software and support. He said that he was originally planning to go live with the new software about six months after Marion County does, which would have been around January 2014, but Marion County has been experiencing some delays. He stated that there will be a lot of work to be done during the conversion of data, and even after the software goes live, some parcels will have to be reappraised to get the data clean.

Department Updates

Community Corrections: Ted Smietana provided an update on the budget, noting that two more Probation Officers (POs) have been laid off, for a total of 15 layoffs including the grant-funded POs, bringing caseloads up to 90 or more. He said that he is also laying off one support position. He reported that the Department of Corrections has been asked to cut another \$7.8 million in this half of the biennium, and Community Corrections is about 15% of the overall DOC budget. He stated that a new statewide assessment tool should be implemented within the next month, which should cause Yamhill County to be assessed at a higher risk level, resulting in more funding.

He stated that the office remodel is getting closer to being finished. He said that he is working on a new process to get assessment data to the courts prior to sentencing, which will bring prosecution, defense, and the courts all on board with Evidence-Based Decision Making processes.

Revolving Loan Fund - John Safstrom, Council of Governments (COG), distributed copies of the most recent documentation in his records about the county's revolving loan fund, noting that it was from 1989. He said that the Economic Development Administration is recommending that these programs be upgraded to new standards, and he would recommend the same review that COG has done with the City of Independence and other programs. He explained that the reason for the economic development revolving loan program is to fill the gap in financing so the borrower can preserve working capital to create jobs. He emphasized that the program does not supplant bank financing.

He offered to put together a two-page memo for the Board's review that would explore the ideas of supporting larger loans up to 40% of the project cost and matching the initial interest rate of banks for stronger businesses, which would support lower interest rates for weaker businesses. Suzanne Dufner suggested that the county include some information about the loan program on the economic development page of its website. She distributed copies of the 2011 annual report and stated that Nancy Boyer would be willing to come and make a presentation to the Board on that if the commissioners are interested.

* Resolution - Consideration of adoption of Resolution 12-3-29-1 recognizing April 2012 as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month.

* Committees - Approve the appointment of Tex Rhodes to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for a three-year term to expire March 29, 2015.

Economic Development - Leslie stated that Chris McLaran would like to make a presentation to the Board on behalf of the Economic Development Committee. She suggested that he be given the opportunity to present the committee's proposal during budget meetings next week, and then the Budget Committee could discuss it further in May. Mary agreed, noting that this would allow the Board to give him further direction for the Economic Development Committee in the meantime if desired.

The meeting recessed at 3:30 p.m. and reconvened at 3:35 p.m. The meeting recessed to executive session at 3:35 p.m. pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(b) to discuss employee discipline matters. The meeting reconvened at 4:04 p.m. with no final decisions made and direction given to Rick Sanai to follow up with appropriate action. The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Anne Britt
Secretary