

INFORMAL SESSION MINUTES

April 23, 2012

2:00 p.m.

Commissioners' Office

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

Staff: Laura Tschabold, Rick Sanai, Christian Boenisch, Pat Anderson, Silas Halloran-Steiner, Ted Smietana, and Ken Huffer.

Guests: Ossie Bladine and Jeb Bladine, News-Register; Jim Russell, Mid-Valley Behavioral Care Network (MVBCN); Bud Lane and Dee Pigsley, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians; and Ken Wright, 236 N Kutch St, Carlton.

* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

Leslie called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

* Personnel - Approve the employment of Barbara Hartsock as Extra Help in the Assessor's Office, regular part-time, effective April 27, 2012, through June 30, 2013.

Minutes - Mary moved approval of the following informal session minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

B. O. 12-202 - April 16, 2012.

* See agenda for formal session minutes to be adopted.

* Contracts/Grants - Approve a professional services agreement between HHS Enhanced Care Services and Jeanne Dalton, PMHNP, for Pre-Admission Screening & Resident Review consultations and evaluations, \$80/hour, up to 6 hours/month, effective May 1, 2012.

* Resolution - Approve Resolution 12-4-26-1 authorizing a withdrawal from the O&C Counties' Special Advocacy Fund.

Kayak Landing - Mary stated that the Board had previously heard a proposal from Bart Rierson, Newberg City Council, regarding access through the closed Newberg Landfill property for a kayak landing. She requested input from the Board on the idea of filing an application with Oregon Solutions for this project, noting that parties would be expected to contribute a small amount toward the cost. Kathy stated that the Board has already looked at the different options and is in agreement that the county should not take on the liability associated with public use of the landfill property at this time. Leslie agreed that it wouldn't make sense to put time and money into an Oregon Solutions application unless it could result in transferring the property to another entity.

Department Updates

Community Corrections: Ted Smietana stated that he has made the staff reductions

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mentioned in last month's update and the office has settled into a new status quo, although caseload ratios have increased to at least 90 to 1. He reported that he has been working with a group of directors on a mandated corrections cost study and is hoping for more accurate results than what came out of the last study, which was done six years ago. He pointed out the irony of studying costs based on what counties are allocated, rather than on what would be necessary in a perfect world.

He stated that the Evidence-Based Decision Making Initiative (EBDMI) has good momentum going, and he will be starting a case analysis project on May 7 to look at one out of every five felony cases and evaluate whether any changes should be made. He said that he is confident that the EBDMI concept will be successful. Mary noted the possibility of three years of future funding from the Justice Reinvestment Initiative.

Health & Human Services: Silas Halloran-Steiner thanked the Board for approving a mid-pay period hire to help cover staffing needs due to three employees being out on unexpected medical leave. He said that he is working on the Request For Proposals for two new school-based health centers, and the target date for the contract is August 1, 2012. He said that the feedback from community meetings has been helpful.

Silas and Jim Russell discussed Health System Transformation efforts. Silas said that there have been several steering committee meetings for the Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) planning for Yamhill County. Jim commented that the efforts to form a CCO in Yamhill County have been exceptional, and he is impressed by the whole community coming together to create the CCO. He stated that an immense amount of work has been done in Yamhill County so far and this CCO formation continues to be a community-led process. Christian Boenisch stated that hopefully the spirit of involvement and commitment will continue, because some of the more difficult questions are coming up.

Jim stated that MVBCN will continue in 2012-13 to do about what it does today. He said that MVBCN member Linn County will be part of the CCO being formed in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties with Samaritan Health Services, and MVBCN members Marion and Polk counties will be part of the CCO called Willamette Valley Community Health. He said that MVBCN member Tillamook County will probably be leaving MVBCN and working with a CCO formed by CareOregon and the Greater Oregon Better Health Initiative (GOBHI), although as Tillamook County makes this transition, there may still be a contract with MVBCN.

Silas stated that the two primary legal entity models that seem to work around the state are the LLC and the 501(c)(3). Christian offered to provide the commissioners with a summary and comparison of the two models. Leslie said that the LLC seems to make the most sense in this case. The Board agreed to schedule additional time with Silas in May for a more in-depth discussion of Health System Transformation.

Tribal Legislation - Dee Pigsley provided an update on the senate bill introduced by Senators Wyden and Merkely to help the tribe in the process of restoring its original reservation boundaries, which was previously discussed with the Board on March 28, 2011. She said that the

opt-out language was removed from the senate version and she and Bud Lane wanted to make sure the commissioners were aware of the change and still supportive of the bill. Leslie agreed to send an e-mail to that effect.

Rails-to-Trails - Ken Wright stated that Union Pacific owns a 17-mile stretch of abandoned rail line between Highway 99W and Gaston and is holding onto the property until a government entity can acquire and preserve it as a transportation corridor. He said that Union Pacific has reduced its price from \$9 million to \$2.4 million, but is not interested in donating the land. He stated that even with the Newberg-Dundee Bypass, there will still be a need for more ways to access the valley from Portland, both for freight and passenger service, so he would like to see the rail line re-established at some point in the future. He said that a multi-use trail along that stretch could be a great recreational asset to the area in the meantime, and would support and connect businesses in the small communities. He pointed out that Washington County has a vested interest in the project. He said that there are examples of co-existing rail and bike/pedestrian paths, and the 60-foot right-of-way would support both uses. Mary stated that trails for biking and running are always a high priority for recreation, and this would provide a much safer route for cyclists than Highway 47.

Ken listed gas taxes, bicycle/pedestrian funds, video lottery money, and voter bonds as potential funding sources, and urged the Board to consider setting aside some funds from the 2012-13 budget. He said that this would be a great economic development project and would be feasible if enough partners worked together on it. Leslie stated that debt service payments for a \$2.4 million infrastructure loan would be about \$150,000. She said that the public would need to understand from the beginning that the long-term plan would be to re-establish the rail line, as that could be a huge benefit to the county. She said that she had invited Ken to come to the Budget Committee meeting in May to discuss the use of video lottery funding for the project. Kathy suggested going to the legislature to enact a bicycle license fee for adults, which would generate another source of revenue for such projects. Mary stated that this would be a good project to take to Regional Solutions, and then to Oregon Solutions if necessary.

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Anne Britt
Secretary