

INFORMAL MINUTES

April 26, 2010

2:00 p.m.

Oval Office

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

Staff: Laura Tschabold, John M. Gray, Jr., Ted Smietana, Ken Huffer, Chris Johnson, Tim Svenson, Sherrie Mathison, and Scott Maytubby.

Guests: Hannah Hoffman, News-Register.

* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

Kathy called the meeting to order.

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

* Minutes - Approve formal session minutes from February 24, 2010.

Department Updates

HHS: Chris Johnson provided an update on the Special Needs Task Force, stating that early data is showing that about 6% of Yamhill County jail inmates have a serious mental illness, compared to a nationwide statistic of 15-20%. He acknowledged the difficulties that being in jail can create both for the mentally ill and for staff that isn't trained to respond to such behaviors. He stated that sometimes jail is an appropriate societal response, at least initially, such as when high-risk criminality factors are involved.

Chris reported that he would be adding a grant-funded position in June to work on the Fostering Hope Communities project. He stated that Mike McNickle would also be working with local dentists to set up three clinics, using equipment purchased with grant money and having dental hygienists come onsite to provide cleanings. He added that dentists would also provide free services in their offices.

Community Corrections: Ted Smietana reported that the state is working on developing a mental health treatment unit within the state penitentiary. He said that it is interesting to see that these issues are being recognized at different levels. He stated that he has received a Measure 57 treatment grant and hired a substance abuse counselor, so that program should be operational by the end of the month. He stated that he would be hosting a Criminal Justice Commission meeting on May 17 about SB 77. He explained that the bill is directed toward counties losing timber revenue, but would apply to all counties.

Ken Huffer reviewed the Whiteson/Monroe Park Concept and Proposal and said that its focus is concentrated on trails, river access and trails along the river, and camping. He said that he and the Parks Board are very excited about the project, which addresses deficits that the

MINUTES

INFORMAL SESSION

Page 1

April 26, 2010

2:00 p.m.

KG__MS__LL__

county's other park properties can't support. John Gray stated that a proposal was submitted 2 ½ years ago to exchange Terry Park for another property. Ken said that he has checked in periodically on that, but hasn't heard any response. He agreed to send a formal letter requesting that action be taken on the proposal.

Franchise Extension - Sherrie Mathison presented a franchise extension application from Western Oregon Waste, stating that the Solid Waste Advisory Committee had recommended approval of the request. She noted that the rate review would come before the Board at a later date. After some discussion, the Board agreed to schedule a public hearing for May 26, 2010.

* Contracts/Grants - See agenda for details. Scott Maytubby reviewed the 2010-11 Assessment & Taxation Grant application, noting that he has included the cost for his new server and software and can also include some of the corner restoration expenses, although he isn't sure what percentage to use for that. He said that he would need to start saving for the \$75,000/year software maintenance fees and suggested allocating some of the 20% reimbursement for capital expenses into an account for that. Laura agreed to go over the application with Scott prior to it being approved by the Board on Wednesday.

* Refunds - Authorize a \$2163 refund from Health & Human Services to the Marion-Polk Community Health Plan.

* Committees - Approve the appointment of Kent Mahelona and Paula Lawrence to the Local Alcohol & Drug Planning Council for three-year terms to expire April 28, 2013.

The meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m., but immediately reconvened to address another issue.

Bypass Lobbying - Leslie stated that Ball Janik's contracted funds for Michelle Giguere, federal lobbyist, have been used up already except for \$5000 remaining for March. She said that she had talked with John G about ending the contract as of March and starting a new 15-month contract. She said that she thinks the Budget Committee would be okay with using the money for either state or federal lobbying as needed. Mary and Kathy expressed support of the suggestion. Kathy said that she would like to see how the money was spent, however. Laura agreed to look into the issue.

The meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Anne Britt
Secretary