

INFORMAL SESSION MINUTES

December 16, 2013

2:00 p.m.

Commissioners' Office Conference Room

PRESENT: Commissioners Kathy George, Mary P. Stern, and Allen Springer.

Staff: Laura Tschabold, Christian Boenisch, Chuck Vesper, Brian Van Bergen, Gayle Jensen, Sue Lamb, and Jeff Lorton.

Guests: Marlena Bertram, Your Community Mediators.

* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

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

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

B. O. 13-769 - April 1, 2013, budget work session

* Approve the minutes from the November 14, 2013, formal/informal session.

* Personnel - Kathy presented personnel requests from various departments. See formal session agenda for details. Brian Van Bergen reviewed his requests for out-of-class pay for Susie Sutton and to add position authority for one full-time and one part-time position. He stated that he would be requesting a reclassification of Susie's position through the 2014-15 budget process. Gayle Jensen stated that these personnel changes will help staff work better as a team. Chuck recommended that Brian keep track of his total added expenses compared to his appropriation authority for the current year.

Mediation Update - Marlena Bertram provided an update on Your Community Mediators (see Exhibit A) and expressed appreciation for the Board's financial support over the years, both for operations and as leverage for significant grant revenue. She reported that YCM is seeing more cases regarding parenting plan updates and more school attendance improvement mediations. She said that cases with obstacles beyond YCM's scope, such as transportation, medication, and counseling, are referred to community resources.

She reviewed statistics of case types and values, noting that she would have more details available in her presentation to the Budget Committee. She stated that the YCM budget for 2013-14 was \$67,000, and it received \$24,000 from the cities and \$10,000 from the county. Mary suggested talking to the judges and to the school boards about getting some funding, since they are using mediation services more now.

Emergency Management - Sue Lamb provided an update on Emergency Management (see Exhibit B).

Economic Development - Jeff Lorton stated that from November 22 until this weekend, Yamhill County has been in the news locally and nationally regarding precision agriculture, which is a hot

topic. He said that the media attention will naturally end if the county does nothing else, so this would be the time to take advantage of the momentum if the Board wants to keep that going. He said that if making further investments into precision ag meets the Board's strategic goals, he would suggest offering a significant grant for development of a precision ag business in Yamhill County, and getting that story out into the national media right away. He said that the Board could set whatever criteria they want for such a grant. He noted that the Federal Aviation Administration has given tacit approval for farmers to use drones over their property as long as they follow the rules and regulations for model airplanes.

Mary said that she likes the idea, but the county needs to put together a list of available properties and be prepared to respond to requests as they come in. She stated that there are some real possibilities to capitalize on a "Make it in America" grant. Kathy stated that she is most interested in attracting companies that have their own financial strength. She said that this proposal needs substantial discussion before a decision is made, and she suggested that Jeff, Mary, and Laura talk about it more and come to the Board with a recommendation at Thursday's formal session.

Jeff provided an update on the marketing plan, stating that the team is working well and the photography is looking fantastic. He said that his goal is to launch four stories on the website and through social media in mid-January.

* Contracts/Grants - See agenda for details.

* Committees - Approve the appointment of Julia Florea to the Ambulance Service Area Committee to represent Providence Newberg Medical Center and complete the unexpired term of Amby Wilfong through December 31, 2014.

* Title II - Ratify approval of an amended letter declaring the county's elections for National Forest-related Secure Rural Schools (SRS) payments to correct the Resource Advisory Committee allocation, replacing Board Order #13-766.

* Ratify approval of an amended letter declaring the county's elections for O&C Land-related SRS payments to correct the Resource Advisory Committee allocation, replacing Board Order #13-767.

Red Hills Conservation Area Project - The Board discussed a draft letter to Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) in opposition to the proposed Red Hills Conservation Area Project submitted by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Mary agreed to make some revisions and circulate it for further review before it is sent.

UAV Conference - Allen provided a report on the unmanned aerial vehicles conference that the county recently hosted at the fairgrounds, stating that it turned out very well despite the very cold weather. He said that the Asians have been running these systems successfully for 20 years, so getting some of that data would be invaluable to the county. He noted that drones are a very small component of the overall precision ag industry, and Young Kim, who is a world leader in

this field, is interested in the bigger picture. He added that the other components are much easier and less complicated than the drones. He suggested that the best approach might be to let the private sector take the lead and have the county provide help as needed. He stated that the Board's job in economic development is bigger than just precision ag, and he is working on some other aspects of it right now.

Following commissioner updates, the meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Anne Britt
Secretary



**Your Community Mediators
of Yamhill County**

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Empowering people to make positive changes in the way they respond to conflict

November 26, 2013

Commissioners Kathy George, [✓]Mary Stern & Allen Springer
Yamhill County Courthouse Annex
434 NE 5th Street
McMinnville, OR 97128

Dear Commissioners George, Stern & Springer,

As we move toward the end of 2013, we want to again express our heartfelt **Thank You** for the County's annual contributions in support of our program, and to update you on our Peacebuilding efforts in Yamhill County over the past year.

With your financial assistance our efforts to cultivate a "culture of effective communication" for individuals, families, businesses and neighborhoods have remained strong! In addition to standard neighbor-to-neighbor requests - control of feral cats and barking dogs, property boundaries, etc. - during the past year Your Community Mediators (YCM) has received significantly increased requests for...

- parenting plan updates as children's needs and parent's circumstances change over time. Especially for low income families, the expense of going to a professional service provider is prohibitive – hundreds of dollars, compared to a \$25 processing fee for a YCM mediation.
- school attendance mediations for students and their parents to develop family plans that address the causes that cause kids to be absent from school. Parent/Adolescent mediations help the whole family develop better communication and problem-solving skills.
- conflict resolution classes at the Yamhill County Juvenile Detention Center where incarcerated youth learn effective personal control and communication tools to deal with conflict more effectively. Often coming from broken or troubled home situations, youth in YCM classes experience positive role modeling and improvisational role-playing practice to the develop the capability to address conflict with more positive outcomes.

As you know, YCM is a private non-profit with one employee and 30-35 volunteer mediators who provide free and low-cost mediation and facilitation services to any of your city's residents who request our assistance in addressing difficult issues that damage relationships and block healthy communication.

During January through September of 2013, YCM provided the services for the following Yamhill County cases; YCM resources for providing those services are noted. You'll note that YCM's "end-cost" to the Yamhill County is reduced by 40% because of two major grants we received in 2013. Your annual

(over)

Exhibit A 1/2

contribution in previous years reflected critical community support key to helping us obtain major grant funding for our programs.

Jan-Sept 2013 Yamhill County Cases:	<u>191 cases</u>	Number directly served:	<u>591 residents</u>
22 Community - Neighbor-to-Neighbor		32 Family - Custody/Parenting Plans	
19 Community - Landlord-Tenant		20 Family - Other Issues	
8 Community - Consume/Business		11 Family - Parent/Adolescent	
4 Community - Workplace		5 Juvenile Victim/Offender	
3 Community - Other Issues		2 Facilitation	
		65 Small Claims	

<u>Total Service Value - includes operational, staff & volunteer resources:</u>	\$ 65,538
(Less) Value of volunteer time – <u>374 hours*</u>	(11,938)
(Less) Support from major grants – State of Oregon & United Way	(21,440)
<u>Remaining Total of Jan-Sept '13 YCM organizational expense:</u>	<u>\$ 32,160</u>

* By contrast, paying for the same 374 hours of service from professional paid mediator time (at \$100-\$150 per hour**) would cost an estimated \$37,400 - \$56,100 for mediation time alone, which doesn't include case intake, scheduling, overhead, etc.

YCM strives to be as transparent as possible in how we compute value for our services. If you have any questions about how these figures were determined, please feel free to request an appointment with executive director Marlena Bertram for clarification.

As a county, we're fortunate that county leaders have recognized the value of mediation as an effective method of conflict resolution and cost-savings to our court system. By your support of YCM, we're doing with professionally trained volunteers and one employee what would otherwise would cost hundreds of dollars per hour for residents, or not be affordable or available to them at all.

We recognize that city councils in throughout Yamhill County will likely to again make contributions to YCM for our next fiscal year. Please be assured that YCM will not request County funding for YCM expenses already covered by individual cities.

In June 2013 YCM's United Way biennial grant application was not renewed, and that represents a significant loss of grant income for our current budget. Although we continue to apply for other grants, it will be particularly essential that we continue to receive support from our city partners and Yamhill County to enable us to continue to maintain basic program services for Yamhill County residents.

Once again, we greatly appreciate your support for our important mission and hard-working community volunteers. And, please let us know if we can assist you or someone you know with a difficult situation.

Most sincerely,



Karl E. Kamper, YCM Board Chair



Marlena I. Bertram, Executive Director

Ex-A 2/2

***Success as a Mediator*, by V. Pynchon & J. Kraynak, 2012, John Wiley & Sons, Inc, Hoboken, New Jersey



YAMHILL COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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BOC Briefing December 16, 2013

Hazard Mitigation Plan

- Draft Scope and Budget for required plan update
- Dec. 5 joint call with stakeholders on Sheridan status
- Reach out to McMinnville

PGE 'Boots on the Ground' presentation – Dec. 13 (handout)

- Interest from fire agencies to develop GIS layer of critical facilities

2014 Full Scale Exercise (kickoff meeting was 12/12/13)

- Tentatively Mid-April

CERT

- 'Basic' versus 'Deployable'
- Recent class graduation in Willamina
- Next up: Lafayette, Mon. Jan. 13th

ARES

- Participated in the Nov. 2 SET
- Reorganized leadership team

Area Hospital 'Surge' Exercises

- PNM 12/09
- WVMC 12/19

Status on Asst. Emergency Mgr. position