

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Thursday, July 18, 2013**

REGULAR MEETING

Commissioner Deborah Kafoury called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. with Commissioner Diane McKeel present, Vice-Chair Judy Shiprack attending telephonically, and Chair Jeff Cogen and Commissioner Loretta Smith excused.

Also attending were Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney, and Lynda Grow, Board Clerk.

CONSENT AGENDA

- C.1 RESOLUTION No. 2013-092 Authorizing the Private Sale of a Tax Foreclosed Property to John C. Bauman and Debra C. Bauman.
- C.2 NOTICE OF INTENT to Submit an Application to Northwest Health Foundation for up to \$60,000 to Develop a Community Healthy Workers' Competency Assessment System.
- C.3 BUDGET MODIFICATION # HD-14-01 Authorizing Four Position Re-classifications within Various Divisions of the Health Department.

Upon motion made by Commissioner McKeel and seconded by Vice-Chair Shiprack the consent calendar was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Opportunity for Public Comment on non-agenda matters. Testimony limited to three minutes per person unless otherwise designated by the presiding officer.

Testimony was given and received for the record.

REGULAR AGENDA

- R.1 ORDER Declaring Certain Tax Foreclosed Properties Subject to Waste and Directing the Tax Collector to Issue a Deed to the County. Presenter: Randy Walruff, Division Director.**

Commissioner McKeel moved and Commissioner Shiprack seconded, approval of R-1.

Mr. Walruff requested that the Board approve the Order before them for four properties. He said that all four properties are delinquent in their taxes since 2009, have not attended the hearings, and have not responded to letters sent by his office. All properties are in disrepair, most are boarded up and have the utilities shut off. Inspections of these properties bring up concerns about rodents, vandalism and fire, and the impact on the neighborhoods due to overgrowth on the properties and deteriorating conditions.

He asked that the Board find these properties subject to waste, that the redemption period be expedited to a 30-day redemption period, that the rights of the owners be forfeited upon the expiration of the redemption period; and that they direct the Tax Collector to issue a Deed to County for each of the properties after the shortened redemption period.

Commissioners Kafoury and McKeel asked him to review the steps that were taken to contact the owners and work with them to retain their properties. Mr. Walruff reviewed all the steps that were taken to afford the owners a chance to respond and correct these issues. Owners will still have the opportunity to come in until the last day of redemption and pay back taxes with interest, penalties and fees. He responded to questions and comments from the Board.

Order No. 2013-093 was unanimously adopted.

R.2 NOTICE OF INTENT to Submit an Application for up to \$150,000 to the Robert Wood Johnson Public Health Law Research Funding Opportunity. Presenters: Marc Harris, Health Services Development Administrator and Julia Dilley, Principle Investigator, RWJ Public Health Law Study, Oregon.

Commissioner McKeel moved and Vice-Chair Shiprack seconded, approval of R-2.

Mr. Harris asked for authorization to submit an application for up to \$150,000 to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Making the Case for Laws that Improve Health funding opportunity. The Health Department is applying for funding to assess the impact of the implementation of Washington's new laws legalizing marijuana sale and consumption on public health. Washington and Colorado are the first states to legalize marijuana (by voter initiatives passed in Fall 2012), and the public health impact of this change in law has not been studied. Other states – including Oregon – are considering legalization. This funding opportunity has the goal to build the evidence for and increase the use of effective regulatory, legal and policy solutions to protect and improve population health and the public health system. In a current study funded by the RWJF, PDES is already studying the impact that deregulation of the alcohol distribution system in Washington is having on alcohol sales and consumption, public health consequences, and economic costs.

As a result of the lack of evidence on how legalization affects marijuana consumption and associated health and social consequences, marketing for passage of Voter Initiative 502 in Washington State was able to ignore potential public health consequences and costs, and marijuana legalization was promoted as a way of reducing the burden on law enforcement and the justice system. This study provides an opportunity to learn more about the impact that legalization will have on marijuana distribution and consumption, and in turn, public health, by comparing changes in Washington to Oregon, which is the “comparison group” state.

The NOI was unanimously approved.

R.3 Authorizing the County Attorney to File a Petition for Review in Multnomah County Circuit Court. Presenter: Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney.

Commissioner McKeel moved and Vice-Chairman Shiprack seconded approval of R-3.

Ms. Madkour requested approval to file a Petition for Review with the Multnomah County Circuit Court seeking review of a decision by the Oregon Health Authority requiring the County to pay for in-patient psychiatric services for a Medicaid eligible individual. The Oregon Health Authority (“OHA”) has issued a Final Order in Other Than Contested Case requiring the mental health organization operated by the County, formerly known as Verity, to pay for certain in-patient psychiatric services for a Medicaid eligible child. The Mental Health Program believes that the requested services were not medically appropriate and the process followed by OHA did not meet the requirements of the Administrative Procedures Act (“APA”). The Petition for Review is the avenue under the APA that permits the County to challenge OHA’s action.

The authorization to initiate litigation was unanimously approved.

BOARD COMMENT

BC.1 Opportunity as time allows, for the Commissioners to provide comment on non-agenda items.

Comments pertaining to non-agenda items were made by the Board and noted in the record.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

The minutes reflect the actions of the Board. For more detail, you are welcome to view the presentation material and/or video at: http://multnomah.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=3

Submitted by:
Lynda J. Grow, Board Clerk and
Marina Baker, Assistant Board Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Multnomah County, Oregon