

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Tuesday, June 14, 2011**

BOARD BRIEFINGS

Chair Jeff Cogen convened the meeting at 10:06 a.m. with Vice-Chair Deborah Kafoury and Commissioners Diane McKeel, Loretta Smith and Judy Shiprack present.

B.1 Informational Board Briefing on Effective Practices in Supervision (EPICS) & the 2011 Pew Center Report. Presenters: Scott Taylor, Department of Community Justice (DCJ) Director; Patrick Schreiner, District Manager; Stu Walker, CJM; Bill Penny, DCJ.

Mr. Taylor spoke about an April 2011 report released by the Pew Center called *State of Recidivism: The Revolving Door of America's Prisons*. This report presents data from each state's prison releases and recidivism rates. Oregon is highlighted as a leader in the nation with the lowest overall rate of recidivism. This report underscores the cost-effectiveness of probation and parole as compared to incarceration.

Mr. Schreiner spoke about EPICS, an evidence-based case management model that is consistent with recommendations received from the Pew Center. This model is being implemented in the Adult Services Division of DCJ to decrease recidivism rates for high-risk offenders. He explained that the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute began training the first group of Multnomah County officers this January. Additionally, Mr. Schreiner and several other DCJ employees will be trained to become EPICS coaches and gain the skills to train the next set of officers.

Mr. Schreiner spoke about the rationale for adopting EPICS and its effectiveness for supervision and enhancing behavioral change. He explained that EPICS structures the meeting between staff and clients to focus on building professional alliances, establishing goals and intervening in criminogenic thinking. Mr. Walker described criminogenic thinking as a term used to convey the cognitive differences between criminals and law-abiding citizens. Mr. Schreiner explained that EPICS focuses on skill building with clients to address their specific criminogenic needs and provide consistency and stability through coaching and standardized feedback. He provided an overview of the structure of EPICS meeting sessions, which include: check-in, review, intervention, homework and behavioral rehearsal.

Mr. Walker explained that the check-in is an opportunity to build a professional alliance; determine if the client has any crises and/or acute needs; and discuss any compliance issues. The review focuses on skills discussed in prior meetings; the application of those skills; and troubleshooting problems with the use of those skills. The intervention identifies ongoing areas of need; trends in problems that the client experiences; teaching relevant skills; and targeting problematic thinking. Mr. Schreiner said that the homework and

rehearsal part of the EPICS meeting structure gives the client the opportunity to role play the new skill with feedback before leaving the office; assigns the client homework that focuses on applying the new skill; and gives instructions that the client should follow before the next visit. He stated that the goal for the first year of implementing the EPICS model is get all the staff trained and committed to using it.

The presenters responded to Board questions and comments. The Board thanked them for their presentation.

B.2 Informational Board Briefing on Sellwood Bridge Project. Presenters: Ian Cannon, Bridge Services Manager & Michael Baker, Owner's Representative.

Mr. Baker provided the funding update and spoke about potential cost saving options for the Sellwood Bridge Replacement Project. He stated that the project currently has \$248 million in secured funding, with a \$42 million gap from the identified project cost at 30% design. The gap comes from \$20 million in unsecured Federal Request funding and \$22 million the project won't receive due to Clackamas County voters' rejection of a proposed vehicle registration fee. He spoke about potential options to close this funding shortfall, including seeking additional funding; reducing/phasing the scope of the project; and/or updating cost estimates. Mr. Cannon stated that they will apply for the TIGER III grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation on a competitive basis. This grant could yield approximately \$15 million. Applications will be due in the Fall.

Mr. Cannon provided a comparison between the staged construction and the detour bridge option, focusing on time, money, property impacts, design, and environmental impacts. He explained that staged construction was the original option until this year. In the staged option, the bridge would be built in two phases, one half at a time. The bridge would stay in service during construction, which could create a safety issue in the second phase, when the bridge users and workers are close together. He expressed concern that redundant features would also impact the bridge design.

Mr. Cannon explained that the detour construction option was proposed in 2011 by the newly-hired design and construction teams. In this design, the old bridge would be moved carefully and safely north, out of the work zone by a specialty subcontractor. The detour bridge would not include the west approach span, which is considered the worst section of the old bridge. The detour bridge would be stronger than the old bridge, and the new bridge would be built in just one phase. Mr. Cannon stated that this would present benefits in schedule, cost, safety, design and environment, compared to the staged construction.

Chair Cogen asked if there were any negatives to choosing the detour option. Mr. Cannon responded that, although it was highly unlikely, there could be some elements of risk associated with moving a bridge, but the biggest risk they face was not obtaining all the permits from the City and Federal government on time to complete the project according to the set schedule. Mr. Cannon introduced Roger Silbernagel and Steve Schmitt from Slayden/Sundt, the project's construction firm. They spoke about their experience with similar projects and their dedication to the goals of the County.

Mr. Cannon spoke about outreach activities and River Park concerns. He discussed the detour bridge decision process, beginning with the proposal going to the Board on June 16, 2011 to approve this option and allow negotiations for needed Right of Way. The presenters responded to Board questions and comments. The Board thanked them for their presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Submitted by:

Lynda J. Grow, Board Clerk and
Marina Baker, Assistant Board Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Multnomah County