

**Minutes for the Board of Commissioners  
Multnomah County, Oregon  
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Board Room 100, Portland, OR  
Thursday, April 5, 2012**

**REGULAR MEETING**

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

Also present were Jacquie Weber, Deputy County Attorney, and Marina Baker, Assistant Board Clerk.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

C.1 NOTICE OF INTENT to Submit an Application for up to \$90,000 to the EPA's Regional Indoor Environments: Reducing Public Exposure to Indoor Pollutants Grant Program

C.2 NOTICE OF INTENT - EPA - New Green Infrastructure Technical Assistance Program

Upon motion made by Vice-Chair Smith and seconded by Commissioner 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.

Public Comment was given and received for the record.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**R.1 Short Term Rent Assistance (STRA) Briefing. Sponsor: Commissioner Kafoury, D-1. Presenters: Steve Rudman & Ian Slingerland - Home Forward; Mary Li & Tiffany Kingery - DCHS; and, Tracy Manning - Portland Housing Bureau.**

Commissioner Kafoury provided the opening remarks. Ms. Li explained that the STRA program, administered by Home Forward, the new name for the Housing Authority of Portland, provides limited housing assistance to eligible households in Portland who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. It's jointly funded by Multnomah County, Portland, Gresham, and Home Forward. In FY2012, Multnomah County contributed \$1.46 million to be delivered through the STRA infrastructure. Ms. Li discussed how STRA funding is being used, the outcomes of this assistance, and challenges and opportunities ahead. Representatives from Home Forward and the Portland Housing Bureau spoke about the success of the programs.

The presenters responded to Board questions and comments. The Board thanked her for the presentation.

**R.2 Consider Approving Resolution to Adopt a Tobacco Free Campus Policy for Multnomah County. Presenters: Sonia Manhas, Program Manager; Elizabeth Takahashi, Health Educator; Abbey Hendricks, Employee Benefits Manager; Michael Hanna, Local 88 President.**

Commissioner Kafoury moved and Commissioner Shiprack seconded approval of R.2.

Mr. Hanna and Ms. Manhas and Takahashi explained that the Community Preventative Services Task Force recommends smoking bans and restrictions based on strong evidence that they reduce exposure to secondhand smoke, as well as reducing tobacco use among workers. Tobacco use is the number one preventable cause of death in Multnomah County and U.S., causing cancer, heart disease and strokes. Exposure to secondhand smoke is the third leading cause of preventable death and kills 53,000 non-smokers in the U.S. each year. It can cause cancer, heart disease, strokes and worsen other medical conditions such as asthma, emphysema, heart failure and anemia. The U.S. Surgeon General has declared that there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke. Multnomah County alone spends \$212 million in medical care for tobacco related illness and loses \$193 million to decreased productivity each year. Establishing tobacco-free buildings and campuses at Multnomah County will protect the public and employees from exposure to secondhand smoke, help people to quit, as well as promote healthy community norms. They responded to Board questions and comments.

Public testimony was given and received for the record.

Resolution No. 2012-032 was unanimously adopted.

**R.3 Cancer Prevention Awareness Day Proclamation. Sponsor: Commissioner Kafoury, District 1. Presenters: Jessica Guernsey, Multnomah County Health Department, Jason Parks, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, LaRisha Baker, Multnomah County employee & Patricia Warren - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.**

Commissioner Shiprack moved and Commissioner McKeel seconded approval of R.3.

Commissioner Kafoury provided opening remarks. The presenters explained that according to the American Cancer Society, about 1.6 million new cancer cases (excluding skin cancers) are expected to be diagnosed in the United States in 2012. 21,370 of these cases will be in Oregon and 7,790 Oregonians will die of cancer this year. One in three cancer deaths can be avoided through prevention, such as not smoking, eating a healthy diet, and exercising. The purpose of this Proclamation is to bring awareness to actions individuals can take to reduce their risk of cancer.

Public testimony was given and received for the record.

The Board thanked the presenters for speaking

Proclamation No. 2012-033 was unanimously adopted.

**R.4 NOTICE OF INTENT: Request to Apply to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services to Provide Medicare Care Transitions Services. Lee Girard, Community Services Manager**

Commissioner McKeel moved and Vice-Chair Smith seconded approval of R.4.

Ms. Girard explained that the Department of County Human Services, Aging and Disability Services Division, is requesting approval to apply as the lead agency of a 4-county consortium to become a provider of Medicare Care Transition Services through the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The overall goal of the program is to reduce current hospital re-admission rates for targeted diagnosis by 20% within the first 2 years. She responded to Board questions and comments.

The NOI was unanimously approved.

**R.5 School-Based Restorative Justice Initiative. Sponsor: Chair Jeff Cogen. Presenters: Roberta Phillip, Chair's Office; Christina Albo and Maria Scanelli - Resolutions NW; and Other Invited Guests.**

Chair Cogen made opening remarks. Ms. Phillip explained that the School-Based Restorative Justice Initiative works to empower school personnel to seek a restorative rather than punitive resolution to school-based conflict. In applicable cases, this initiative seeks to provide an alternative to exclusionary discipline, thus keeping students engaged in their school community and involving all parties to the conflict in its resolution. The initiative also seeks to equip students with emotional language and the ability to resolve conflict without violence.

Ms. Albo explained that this initiative helps to provide schools with opportunities to create internal and community capacity which leads to systemic and sustainable change. The school-to-prison pipeline refers to the growing use of zero-tolerance discipline, school-based arrests, disciplinary alternative schools, and secured detention which pushes the most at-risk youth out of schools. In Multnomah County, African-American students are 3.3 times more likely than their white peers to be suspended, expelled, or arrested for the same kind of conduct at school, which is consistent with national trends. Data shows diminished classroom time can lead to an increased likelihood in criminal misconduct later in life. This initiative works to reduce exclusionary practices, as well as decrease police and juvenile justice involvement. Ms. Albo provided a timeline showing the initiative's progress and shared data from the eight schools it's practiced in.

Ms. Scanelli spoke about challenges, training, and what schools go through to adopt and practice this initiative. The invited guests provided their experience and thoughts on the initiative.

The presenters responded to Board questions and comments. The Board thanked them for the briefing.

**R.6 PROCLAMATION Proclaiming Farm Worker Awareness Week and Honoring the Spirit and Work of César Chávez. Presenters: Linda Castillo, Bienestar de La Familia, DCHS/SUN, Program Supervisor; Ana Schmitt, Multnomah County Library, Bilingual Outreach Specialist, Molly Franks and Ismael Garcia, OYE (Latino Sexual Health Coalition) Health Department Program, and Noel Wiggins, Capacitation Center, Health Department Intern**

Commissioner Shiprack moved and Commissioner Kafoury seconded approval of R.6.

Chair Cogen made opening remarks. The presenters spoke about the work of César Chávez and recognized the importance of Farm Workers to our well-being and their struggle for justice in the workplace and in their communities. They spoke about programs and social services provided for the Latino community and the contributions they make.

The presenters responded to Board questions and comments. They read the Proclamation into the record.

Proclamation No. 2012-034 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 12:01 p.m.

#### **Please note:**

**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](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