

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON
BOARD RETREAT
MONDAY, SEPT. 29, 2014**

BOARD CLERK'S ROUGH NOTES

Convene: 9:21 am

Attendance: Chair Deborah Kafoury; Vice-Chair Diane McKeel, D-4; and
Commissioners: Jules Bailey – D-1; Loretta Smith, D-2; and, Judy Shiprack, D-3/
Facilitator: Alanna Hein, Hein Consulting Group
Guests: Dr. Joe Martinez, Professor – Lewis & Clark & Jenny Madkour, County
Attorney, Multnomah County

Welcome remarks by Chair Kafoury

A year of change & uncertainty in past, excited about opportunity to work together as
BCC

Need chance to come together, bond as team and talk thru issues

Learn about how we work together in the best place possible

Styles & areas of expertise

The way the Chair and BCC work together

Staff here to facilitate Chair AND Commissioners

Important we work at the top of our license

She talked about her leadership style

Commissioner Smith talked about the problems with their website

Alana gave an overview of the agenda

Roundtable = Each Commissioner to share 2 things in each category

2 areas of deep knowledge

2 areas of interest

2 goals for this year

(3 minutes per person to list all 6 areas)

Judy:

Deep knowledge – public safety and early learning

Gave background – HS teacher in PDX taught English to Deputy DA

2 areas of interest – mental health/suicide racial disparity especially in justice system

2 goals: central court house and budget process & participation

Loretta:

Deep knowledge – unsure

2 areas of interest: youth programs and racial and ethnic disparities within the
programs

Goals - outside resources to bring to County to augment our budget; identify additional ways to get money and utilize them. Also brown fields as it pertain to economic development. Pedestrian safety.

Diane:

Deep knowledge – Veterans affairs; commercial sexual exploitation of children & East County

2 areas of interest: work force and attracting business and work force. Also mental health how it crosses all our depts. And the significant impact it has there.

Goals – specific priorities that cross all depts. & restructure look at restructure board briefings.

Jules

2 areas of deep knowledge – intersection of taxation economics and finance/project Energy and environmental policy

Interest: homelessness and public safety and intersection between those and mental health

Keeping people out of the ER's

Goals – by end of this year clear path forward home for everyone clear path on homelessness

Psychiatric services alameda style emergency center

Deborah:

Deep knowledge – Homelessness and housing issues; poverty issues

Areas of interest – mental health/public safety and Health Care Transformation

Goals – plan for action Home for Everyone like Jules

Plan to move needle on racial and ethnic disparities especially around health care

DECORUM

Discussion on decorum for meetings, forms of address and procedural responsibilities

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sergeant at Arms for meeting

Diane: line in carpet for keeping folks out of from behind the dais

Sheriff's Deputy - Security in the room consistently that we pay for

Judy Not support board comment on

DK: how should we address each other in the board room

DK: CODE OF CONDUCT POSTED

Jules: in private, first name, in public as Commissioner

Alana: questions come thru
Item needs more time, ask, and spend more time
Time certain for public comment – keep
Room roaming, deputy in room, awareness personal attacks, consider the source,
Address each other more formally in public
Private, less formal
Might be some opportunity to look into a code of conduct

5 min. break

Dr. Joel Martinez Lewis & Clark College

Ethics

Incidental finding – predispositions – what should medical professional do?
Should doctor tell you?
Insurance companies get a hold of this
Findings show increased risk
Sort of ethical problem you might encounter

Gave another example of college grad

Discussion about ethics and hard ethical problems and three ethical outlooks

Conclusion: articulate a value set core function of government to have a collective value set for ethical rules of engagement

10:50 am

Jenny's time slot

Here's the law!

Sent it to Chiefs

3 major things you need to know as elected officials

Public records law

Oregon ethics law different from discussion we just had

Legislature ethical obligations

And

Restrictions of local campaigning

Could be complex full day presentation

Pub meetings/pub records

Today is a public meeting part of our public process

3 or more meeting items you will be voting on and it is a public meeting

Public records request – refer from BCC to Jenny

They'll use public records to demonstrate or deteriorate your ability to do your duties as public official

Travel and training expenses – expenditures from your office etc.

Retention of public records

Indefinite for elected officials

G-mail is easier nothing ever goes away

It can be found even after you delete it

DK: might not be harmful but it may be taken out of context

JK: how other people interpret

DK: hand written notes during meetings

Yes, they are subject too

Ethics law has been codified for elected officials

Conflicts of interest – most of us had opportunity to talk about this

Financial interest or outcome of a vote

If you have an actual conflict you do not vote and you do not participate in discussions of that item

Nor does your staff

Transparency discussion

Financial benefits

JM gave examples

Political campaigning

You can campaign, your staff cannot

You can advocate or campaign rallies speak on behalf of....as elected officials

Staff cannot – no resources of County for or about a person or measure on the ballot

If you want newsletter saying you support Measure 68. You can write and post.

But not staff time.

DK: ballot measure wanted me to endorse.

Can't have on work computer and can't print out

They can e-mail to elected official and EO can print out but staff can't

As elections come up and issues you'll be interested in

That can be another discussion

DK: have conversation with staff prior to measure on the ballot

Prohibition is while it is on the ballot

If an item is on the ballot staff can't respond to it

COMMUNICATIONS

How to have discussions

What has worked in the past, what things have made productive and effective and you want to keep

Text or emails or 1 to 1

What seems to be going well in your communications

Judy: limited by 1:1 conversations

Best mechanism is board staff meeting clunky too requires communicating between BS members

Board Staff

Announce issues

Prepare questions

Chief can help with, your position and issues

Get advice

Continuity

Preferences of how to communicate

Diane prefers 1:1 or email – text ok

Jules makes commissioners priority, move other meetings, text preferred

Loretta: text me and tell me about an e-mail but text me; if you need me, call me, Chiefs can speaker for her

Jules: me too

Diane: me too

Judy: being Chief of Staff is very risky

Deborah: texting and e-mails

Remember our priorities even texts from private phone it's all public record

Alana: discussions what helps

LS: public expects interaction on items on the board agenda

Alana: preview of issues; nobody wants surprises. Want to know what issues are and what tentacles are.

Judy: functional board as to outcomes.

Poster child dysfunctional boards before Ted became chair.

Diane Linn and that board response to their disagreement. Got in the way of folks achieving things for the County and devolved. Object lesson for board that followed.

Public perception and culture of the board.

Summary of communications

Getting advance notice

Maintaining flow of communication

Share information about meetings you go to; attend a lot of meetings; share that information

Prioritize communications
Sounds like 1:1 best
Urgent e-mail not the best way

Difficult issues can go thru Chief of Staff
If something publicized want to be made aware of that
All chosen by constituents to represent them
Knowing what Government Elections is working on

Communications Dept – talk to Commissioner before you give an answer on my behalf.
Don't make decision for her to without clearing it with her.
David serves dual role.
It gets bottlenecked – how do you distinguish between the two.

I want to talk to a Commissioner on human trafficking she doesn't want communications to speak for her.
Diane said same thing
People are supposed to be assigned
DK: I always wanted one person assigned to me and then have them come to my staff meetings.
I know that's my go-to person.
LS: if a communication person is going - role of communications dept.

Leadership style and perspective from today/2014 looking out about a year what do you want to lead on?
Roundtable .
Articulate it to each other here.

Judy: job of a leader to smooth the pathway and step in and provide policy leadership. Invite other opinions into that discussion. Arrive at neutral principles. Group of diverse people signed on. Return to that as group works its way thru all the rest of the platforms or opinions or former positions or other advocates. Community helps return to principle those fundamental values.
Issues always arise as a part of a system. More an alignment and coordination.

Jules: government works best in acting as facilitator. See my role as that. Not just identify problems but bring out solutions. Collaborative leadership style; large group around a table trying to get to a solution. Try to shine light on goal for collective action to organize people around that goal to bring out their strengths.

Loretta: accessible – a lot of community events, ambassador for Multnomah county. Let folks know what we are doing here. Encourage folks to sign up for affordable care. Town hall meetings. Activist leadership style.

Diane: mission values vision defined really important always come back to that. Community activism – out there in all 5 communities.

Deborah: focus getting things done now. About making change. Make bold changes. We do good work, it's all our jobs to be out there talking out the good things we do. HD does good job, but we haven't moved the needle on some of these issues. Takes communication, respect, work together, build consensus, get to these issues.

LS: Concerns - infrastructure - some unadjudicated have private insurance. Depts. don't move forward unless the Chair says it's a priority for her.

DK: work together on issues, work towards collaboration.

Judy: participate in visionary type of government that is big and bold and works together. Capture imagination of community and having our narrative for ourselves be big and bold. That's teamwork.

Diane; Commissioners are underutilized. What is our role?

Jules: glad to hear that is your leadership style. Utilize us! Let's do some good things.

DK: I'm learning too; I've been a Commissioner too. How you all relate. Strategic thinking how we communicate.

Alana: Mission vision and values

Recess: 12:01 pm

Reconvene: 12:07 pm

Mission Vision Values approved, voted on, now what do you want to do with it
How do you want to have it guide you
Values guide behavior
What is next?
What would you like to see now?
Resolution

Judy: talked about issues County covers and how County expected to come up on issues
Guidance about there are limits because it's extremely broad
Lens we use to look at what arises in those limits
Lens of these values is really helpful

Sheriff submitted line item in Spring but it was removed. It's rolled into Lee's other duties.
Follow up by Eric.

Communications by Nancy follow up.

Code of Conduct – Lynda and Nancy

Respectful

One in Room 315?

Display in board room?

City council posted code of conduct

Any interest in putting restrictions on public comment?

Judy: core group and newbies

Alana summarized action items

Deborah gave closing remarks

As we make change, things happen

More conversations we can have, hope to schedule another one of these meetings

Adjourned: 12:22 pm

Lynda Grow, Board Clerk