

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Approving Findings)
in Response to Recommendations of the) RESOLUTION
Citizens Convention; and Commending the) 93-79
Efforts of the Citizens Convention)

WHEREAS, the Citizens Convention was established (Ordinance 714) to "review and evaluate the delivery of services of all governments within Multnomah County in an effort to provide the greatest efficiency and avoid costly duplication of governmental services."

WHEREAS, as directed by the Ordinance, the County has forwarded the recommendations of the Citizens Convention to the Governor, the Multnomah County members of the Oregon Legislative Assembly, and other units of local government.

WHEREAS, the Board is also directed by Ordinance to "either refer the legislative action to the voters, adopt the recommendation, or pass a Resolution containing findings that the recommendation will not improve the efficiency, economy, or effectiveness of the delivery of governmental services within Multnomah County."

WHEREAS, on November 21, 1992, delegates to the Citizens Convention met and considered the recommendations of twelve subcommittees. The Convention adopted 22 resolutions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board makes the attached findings explaining why the following resolutions do "not improve the efficiency, economy, or effectiveness of the delivery of governmental services within Multnomah County."

CITIZENS CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS
WITH FINDINGS BY THE BOARD
(attached)

- 1. Administrative/Labor Sub-Comm. Committee on Governmental Review.
- 2. Education/Libraries #1

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board commends the efforts of the citizens involved in the Citizens Convention and appreciates their efforts to improve the quality of services provided in the County.

ADOPTED THIS 18th DAY OF March, 1993

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By Gladys McCoy
Gladys McCoy
Multnomah County Chair

REVIEWED BY
LAURENCE KRESSEL, COUNTY COUNSEL
for Multnomah County Oregon

Laurence Kressel

Laurence Kressel, County Counsel

FINDINGS

*I. Administrative/Labor Sub-Comm. Committee on Governmental Review. (attached)

1. The principle resolution calls for the creation of a committee of citizens to carry forward the recommendations of the Citizens Convention in accordance with the attached proposal. The proposal calls for the creation of a Committee on Government Review at a cost of \$150,000.
2. Multnomah County is facing a projected deficit in excess of \$5 million for the next fiscal year. We do not feel that the effectiveness of county services will be promoted if we cut even deeper to contribute funding for this effort.

The original intent in having a Citizens Convention was for an autonomous citizens effort, outside the influence of government, to reshape and redirect government as needed. That spirit would be negated with county funding of this proposal. However, in the event that the other jurisdictions want to pursue this proposal and outside funding is secured, the county will cooperate and participate fully.

3. As an alternative, this function may be accomplished through a joint citizen committee organized and staffed by the CIC, the ONA office, and the Office of Citizen Involvement in Gresham. Under this arrangement, the neighborhood associations should be directly involved with this committee. This would offer an opportunity to bring together many of the resources and efforts to promote citizen oversight of local government.

*IV. Education/Libraries #1. (attached)

1. The Board has been an advocate for tax reform efforts that will stabilize not only funding for schools, but also state and local government.
2. Multnomah County is facing a projected deficit in excess of \$5 million for the next fiscal year. We do not feel that the effectiveness of county services will be promoted if we cut even deeper to contribute funding for this effort.

A RESOLUTION CREATING THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REVIEW

Task. The task of The Committee on Government Review (known hereafter as the Committee) shall be to: 1) carry forward those recommendations from the Citizen's Convention, held on November 21, 1992; 2) facilitate, coordinate and affect change in local government services which shall produce cost savings to the tax payer, improve service delivery, protect individual rights, enhance public safety, health, welfare and the livability of the community.

As appropriate, recommendations of the Committee shall be placed before the voters by the most expeditious process after a review by the cities within Multnomah County and the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners.

Time line. Preliminary proposals from the Committee on Government Review should be circulated within two years of its inception. These proposals should receive broad public review for the purpose of revising, amending and/or augmenting the Committee's recommendations. The Committee shall have one additional year to refine its recommendations during which time it will continue to seek public comment. By the end of the third year since the Committee's inception, and through the most expeditious and appropriate process, the recommendations of the Committee shall be sent to the voters for their approval. If the Committee is unable to meet this time line, they may, with the approval of four of the seven governments ie. the SW cities and the county, be granted an extension for an amount of time that seems appropriate to the task which remains to be accomplished.

The Committee's report and/or recommendations may be submitted to the voters in whole or in parts, according to a format which the Committee deems appropriate but shall be submitted for ratification at the next scheduled election after the report and/or recommendations are approved by the Committee.

After the report and/or recommendations are sent to the voters and have been approved or rejected, the Committee shall be dissolved and the Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for returning any unspent funds to local governments on the same pro rated basis as they were collected. Any disputes over amounts shall be determined by binding arbitration and paid for by parties to the dispute, excluding the Committee or any of its members.

Goverance. Any and all duties not here assigned to the officers of the Committee shall be the work of the Committee.

COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

Membership of the Committee shall be comprised of: a) the chair of the Citizens Convention Steering Committee; b) the Mayor of Portland or a designated City Commissioner; c) the Mayor of Gresham or a designated City Councilor; d) one representative selected jointly by the city governments of Troutdale, Wood Village, Fairview and Maywood Park; e) the chair of Multnomah County or a designated County Commissioner; f) one representative from the business community appointed jointly by the Chambers of Commerce in Multnomah County and the Alliance of Portland Neighborhood Business Associations; g) one representative from Labor appointed by the Northwest Labor Council; h) two citizens at large appointed by the Citizen's Involvement Committee of Multnomah County; i) one citizen representative of the League of Women Voters, appointed jointly by the chapters in Multnomah County; j) one representative appointed by the Ecumenical Ministries; k) one representative non-elected democrat; l) one representative non-elected republican. The Committee thus constituted shall be comprised of thirteen members each of whom shall be a resident of Multnomah County.

OFFICERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer of the Committee shall be elected by a majority of the Committee members no later than the third meeting of the Committee. The Chair of the Convention Steering Committee shall act as temporary chair until the election of a permanent chair. No elected government official or designee may serve as Chair or Vice-Chair of the Committee.

DUTIES OF THE CHAIR

The Chair shall be responsible for: calling regular or emergency meetings of the full Committee; setting the agenda, time and place of meetings; creating, appointing and/or abolishing sub-committees that are either permanent or temporary, as may be necessary; managing staff and the office of the Committee, including the power to hire and fire employees, contractors and to select the work site of the Committee; presiding at meetings of the Committee; providing timely notice of meeting in accordance with the Oregon Public Meeting Law; interfacing with media; replacing vacancies of the Committee by notifying the appropriate appointing body or bodies of the vacancy and facilitating a timely reappointment so that the work of the Committee is not impeded. To facilitate communication, the Chair of the Committee may serve as ex-officio member of any sub-committee created and shall be responsible for mediating disputes that occur during the Committee's work. The permanent chair may delegate authority at the chair's discretion.

DUTIES OF THE VICE-CHAIR

The Vice-Chair shall fulfill all the duties of the Chair during the chair's absence or in case the Chair is incapacitated. In case of a permanent vacancy, the Vice-Chair shall serve as Chair.

The level of support from public funds shall be sufficient to carry out its mission and shall be a percentage formula based on the amount of general fund dollars available to each city within Multnomah County. In-kind contributions may be substituted in lieu of dollars if a majority of the Committee deem it appropriate. Basic requirements of the Committee are as follows:

- a: one office manager
- b: two clerical staff
- c: printing and postage costs
- d: telephone and utilities costs
- e: cost of office space
- f: office equipment
- g: custodial service dollars
- i: education and research

*The Committee may solicit private funding to supplement public dollars if it chooses.

**The amount of public funds to be expended to underwrite the work of the Committee is capped at \$150,000 per year, but does not preclude in-kind contributions.

The Committee shall approve all unbudgeted expenditures over \$100. With prior notice to the Secretary/Treasurer, the Committee may ask for a review of the financial records at any regularly scheduled meeting and shall make financial records available to the public upon request.

Fees may be levied to cover the cost of those requests.

The Committee shall determine the appropriate level of any and all fees.

We the delegates to the Multnomah County Citizens Convention request that the Multnomah County Citizen Involvement Committee track the progress of Convention-approved Resolutions. When Convention backed resolutions are scheduled for public discussion, we request that the Citizens Involvement Committee notify subcommittee members who may wish to be present at the hearing to speak in support of the resolution.

RESOLUTION #1
EDUCATION/LIBRARIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Whereas, the quality of life relates directly to the educational background of citizens of a community; and

Whereas, the quality of a community is a direct result of quality education of its citizens; and

Whereas, an education system is only as good as the efforts of its community support; and

Whereas, there is a need for a stable source of funding for education in the State of Oregon; and

Whereas, there is a need for accountability as to the content of the curriculum being taught; and

Whereas, there is a need to raise the achievement levels of our students; and

Whereas, there is a need to have more local community involvement in the education of our children,

Be it resolved that the Multnomah Board of County Commissioners actively pursue legislation efforts at the State level to stabilize funding of schools, encourage community involvement by bringing all of the community (business, safety, neighborhood and human services) together.

Be it further resolved that a program be established that has at least one full time employee with the knowledge and authority to bring elements of the community together to create an atmosphere conducive to learning that is healthy, safe, and stable.