

**Minutes of the Multnomah County
Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Room 635
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Portland, Oregon
Tuesday, August 21, 2012**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Jeff Cogen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with Vice-Chair Loretta Smith and Commissioners Deborah Kafoury, Judy Shiprack and Diane McKeel present.

ES.1 The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners will meet in Executive Session Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(f) & (h). Only representatives of the news media and designated staff are allowed to attend. Representatives of the news media and all other attendees are specifically directed not to disclose information that is the subject of the Executive Session. Final decisions are decided in public Board meetings. Presenters: Jenny Morf, County Attorney with Jacquie Weber, Deputy County Attorney and Matt Ryan, Assistant County Attorney.

Executive Session was held and adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

**Minutes of the Multnomah County
Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Room 100
Tuesday, August 21, 2012**

BOARD BRIEFINGS

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

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

B.1 Briefing on the FY13 Adopted Budget Note on the Couch Street Transitional Houses. Sponsor: Commissioner Kafoury, District 1. Presenters: Michael Sublett, Facilities & Property Management; Liv Jenssen, Dept. of Community Justice; and, Beckie Lee, District 1.

Commissioner Kafoury welcomed everyone for attending and made opening remarks.

Ms. Lee introduced the presenters and acknowledged the people and departments that had collaborated to bring this forward.

Ms. Jenssen gave an overview saying this briefing is a follow up to the budget note included in the FY 12 budget regarding the Couch Street Transitional Houses and recommendations for their disposition. She said these houses have been an asset to the County and community and provided affordable transitional housing options for women under the supervision of DCJ. This program served women on post-incarceration supervision with a history of addiction who were transitioning into the community from residential treatment.

The women there were either living with their children or working on reunification. She said DCJ will continue to serve these women and children by partnering with other housing agencies through case management support and rent assistance as needed.

Mr. Sublett gave the historical background of these three houses that were first leased in 1992 and later purchased. The Couch Street Houses are owned by Multnomah County outright, and there is no associated debt. They operate under a conditional use permit which remains in place with the property unless use is discontinued for three continuous years. Facilities included \$140,000 budgeted in FY13 for capital improvement projects if they remain in County ownership. Currently, they have been evaluated and would require extensive repairs for water intrusion that would cost approximately \$15K to \$25K per building to repair. County practice does not include significant capital expenditures on disposition assets. DCJ program costs were not funded in the FY13 budget and the houses will be vacant by the end of August 2012. DCJ is budgeted for FY13 facility rates totaling \$73,734.

Mr. Campbell said that an evaluation was made on what restrictions the 1996 Public Safety Bond investment made on the disposition of these properties and found after discussions with Bond Counsel, there is no negative impact.

Ms. Lee said it is recommended to keep the properties in the use of affordable housing and exempt them from the surplus property process and offer the properties through the competitive Affordable Housing Development Program (AHDP) for all uses authorized in AHDP except home ownership. She said they also recommend that DCJ, FPM, and DCHS establish a Project Charter in consultation with Board Staff to outline responsibilities for each through the steps until final disposition.

She said the reason they are making these recommendations now is that they are just about to jump into the process requirement of public notification. Ms. Lee wrapped up by reviewing the draft schedule with target date for closing the disposition as June 30, 2013. As shown in the outline of next steps, recommendations will come back to the Board.

Chair Cogen left at this time. Vice-Chair Smith solicited comments from the Board. The presenters responded to the Board's questions and comments and the Board thanked them for their presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 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