

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Tuesday, March 15, 2016**

BOARD BRIEFING

Chair Deborah Kafoury called the meeting to order at 10:22 a.m. with Commissioners Judy Shiprack and Diane McKeel present. Vice-Chair Loretta Smith joined the meeting telephonically and was excused at 10:37 a.m. Commissioner Jules Bailey was excused.

Also attending were Jenny Madkour, County Attorney, and Marina Baker, Assistant Board Clerk.

Chair Kafoury: GOOD MORNING, WELCOME TO THE TUESDAY, MARCH 15TH, BOARD BRIEFING WITH OUR FANTABULOUS GOVERNMENT RELATIONS TEAM. OH WAIT, I CAN'T CLAP BEFORE YOU DO YOUR PRESENTATION. GO AHEAD, YOU'RE ON.

B.1 Informational Board Briefing on the 2016 Session of the Oregon Legislature. Presenters: Claudia Black, Director; and, Chris Fick, Deputy Director – Office of Government Relations.

Ms. Black: GOOD MORNING, MADAME CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS, MY NAME'S CLAUDIA BLACK, DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FOR THE COUNTY AND WITH ME IS CHRIS FICK, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR. WE APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A BRIEF UPDATE ABOUT THE OUTCOME OF 2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION. EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE 35 DAYS ALLOCATED TO THE SESSION THEY COMPLETED THEIR WORK IN 24 WORKING DAYS. THAT WAS VERY QUICK. THE HECTIC PACE WAS MARKED BY UNUSUAL PARTISAN RANCOR. IF YOU TALKED TO LOBBYISTS AND LEGISLATORS, AND I WAS JUST READING A SENATOR'S REPORT THIS MORNING SAYING IT WAS THE MOST RANCOROUS SESSION THEY COULD REMEMBER. THE REPUBLICANS STRONGLY OPPOSED THE PASSAGE OF ANY BIG POLICY BILL DURING THE SHORT SESSION AND WE'RE VERY UNHAPPY THAT THE MINIMUM WAGE BILL WAS ON THE LEADERSHIP AGENDA AND ACTUALLY PASSED. THEY EXPRESSED THEIR ANNOYANCE BY REQUIRING THAT EACH BILL BE READ OUT LOUD WORD FOR WORD BEFORE ANY BILL WAS VOTED ON. THIS OBVIOUSLY SLOWED DOWN THE PROCESS CONSIDERABLY. THE HOUSE EVENTUALLY AGREED TO WAIVE THAT REQUIREMENT BUT IT TOOK UNTIL THE FINAL WEEK OF THE SESSION TO AGREE.

SENATE PRESIDENT PETER COURTNEY WORKED OUT A COMPROMISE WITH SENATOR FERRIOLI THAT ALLOWED THE PROCESS TO MOVE FORWARD. IT KILLED THREE BILLS AND THE WOLF BILL WAS PASSED AS PART OF THAT AGREEMENT. I'M GOING TURN THIS OVER TO CHRIS TO TALK ABOUT SOME

OF THE MOST CONTENTIOUS BILLS AND HOW ONE OF THE COUNTY'S TOP PRIORITIES, HOUSING FARED IN THE SESSION, AND THEN I'LL TALK ABOUT COURTHOUSE BILL.

Mr. Fick: SO CLAUDIA MENTIONED THE MINIMUM WAGE BILL, OBVIOUSLY THAT WAS ONE OF THE MORE CONTROVERSIAL BILLS. THAT BILL WILL START TO TAKE EFFECT ON JULY 1ST WITH THE 50 CENT INCREASE STATEWIDE. AFTER, THERE WILL BE THREE TIERS, WHICH ARE A METRO TIER WHICH WILL GROWING TO \$14.75 BY 2020; A MORE URBAN COUNTY TIER THAT WILL BE \$13.50 IN THE SAME TIME PERIOD; AND A RURAL TIER THAT WILL BE \$12.50. THE \$13.50 WILL THEN BE PEGGED TO INFLATION AND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO WILL HOLD SO THE URBAN AREA WILL ALWAYS BE A DOLLAR AND A QUARTER MORE MOVING ON AFTER 2020, AND THE RURAL ONE WILL BE A DOLLAR LESS. THAT'S EXPECTED TO IMPACT 100,000 OREGONIAN WHOSE CURRENTLY MAKE MINIMUM WAGE. IT'S A SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARDS MAKING THE MINIMUM WAGE A MORE LIVABLE WAGE.

ANOTHER CONTROVERSIAL BILL WAS THE CLEAN ENERGY BILL, WHICH WE'LL SEE THE STATE MOVE OFF OF COAL-FIRED ELECTRICITY GENERATION BY 2030, AND SEE 50% OF ELECTRICAL GENERATION COME FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES BY 2040. THEY ANTICIPATE THE EQUIVALENT CARBON REDUCTIONS WILL BE EQUAL TO TAKING 6.4 MILLION CARS OFF THE ROAD. WITH OUR LEGACY HYDROPOWER 70-90% OF ELECTRICAL GENERATION WILL BE FROM CLEAN OR RENEWABLE SOURCES BY 2040. REALLY PUTTING OREGON ON THE MAP AGAIN WHEN IT COMES TO CLEAN ENERGY PRODUCTION.

THE THIRD QUESTIONABLY ARGUABLY MOST CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE THE LEGISLATURE TOOK UP WAS AROUND HOUSING. THERE WERE A SUITE OF BILLS THAT MOVED FORWARD IN THIS PACKAGE. IT WAS SOMEWHAT OF A MIXED BAG. THE BIGGEST ONE WAS SENATE BILL 1533 THAT LIFTED THE LOCAL PREEMPTION ON INCLUSIONARY ZONING AND GRANTED AUTHORITY TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO IMPOSE A CONSTRUCTION EXCISE TAX. IT'S A MIXED BAG. WHILE THE PREEMPTION WAS LIFTED THERE WERE SIGNIFICANT RESTRICTIONS ON HOW THE TOOL COULD BE USED. INCLUSIONARY ZONING LAWS THAT ARE ADOPTED ON A LOCAL LEVEL ONLY APPLY TO MULTI-FAMILY DEVELOPMENTS: THREE OR MORE UNITS, TRI-PLEXES, AND OF UNITS TOTALING 20 UNITS OR MORE. PRETTY SIGNIFICANT SIZED DEVELOPMENTS. THE MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME ONLY HAS TO BE MARKED AS AFFORDABLE FOR THE MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME OF 80% OF THE COUNTY AVERAGE. HERE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR THAT WOULD BE FOLKS MAKING ABOUT \$59,000 A YEAR.

SO THESE TWO PARAMETERS LIMIT THE TOOL'S APPLICABILITY LOCALLY AND STATEWIDE. FORTUNATELY HERE IN PORTLAND 90% OF THE UNITS THAT HAVE COME ON LINE IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS WOULD MEET THE THREE-UNIT 20 UNITS TOTAL PARAMETER. THAT'LL MAKE IT A USEFUL TOOL HERE IN THE URBAN AREA. OTHER AREAS IN THE STATE OBVIOUSLY DON'T

SEE THAT TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT. THE INCOME REQUIREMENTS ARE OBVIOUSLY HIGHER THAN WE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE SEEN, AS WELL. THE DEVELOPMENT ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE BURNSIDE BRIDGE IS SETTING UNITS ASIDE FOR FOLKS MAKING 60% OF MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME. THOSE ARE FOLKS WHO ARE OBVIOUSLY IN DESPERATE NEED OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, AS WELL.

Mr. Fick: THE CONSTRUCTION EXCISE TAX, THIS WAS SOMETHING THAT WAS PREEMPTED AND SET TO EXPIRE IN 2018. THAT BILL SPED UP THAT TIME LINE AND GIVES LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THAT TOOL EARLIER. THE CAP OF 1% IS REASONABLE BUT WE DO KNOW OF OTHER JURISDICTIONS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY THAT HAVE CONSTRUCTION EXCISE TAX FAR IN EXCESS OF 1%. THE 1% CAP ONLY APPLIES TO RESIDENTIAL AND THERE ARE RESTRICTIONS ON HOW THE FUNDS CAN BE USED. 50% HAVE TO GO TO DEVELOPER INCENTIVES, 50% CAN BE SET ASIDE FOR DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE AND THE REMAINING 35% CAN BE USED FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING. THERE WERE SOME RESTRICTIONS ON THOSE BILLS.

TWO OF THE OTHER BILLS RELATE TO ANNEXATION. THERE'S A NEW LAW PROHIBITING VOTER APPROVED ANNEXATION. ONLY CITY COUNCILS CAN MOVE FORWARD ON ANNEXATION PROPOSALS. AND A PILOT PROJECT THAT'LL BE RUN BY LCDC ALLOWING THE EXPANSION OF THE URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY UP TO 50 ACRES TO SET ASIDE FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING. AND THE LAST COMPONENT OF THIS PACKAGE INVOLVED TENANT PROTECTIONS. THE BILL WILL PROHIBIT RENT INCREASES FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF A NEW TENANT'S LEASE AND REQUIRE A 90-DAY NOTIFICATION THEREAFTER FOR ANY RENT INCREASES. IN TERMS OF THE WAYS AND MEANS PROCESS, THERE WAS \$10 MILLION SET ASIDE IN ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR HOUSING AND SHELTER ASSISTANCE AND \$2.5 MILLION SET ASIDE TO PRESERVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING, AS WELL. A MIXED BAG OVERALL BUT DEFINITELY WE HAVE SOME NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING. HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

Chair Kafoury: QUESTIONS?

Ms. Black: THE COUNTY'S OTHER TOP PRIORITY OTHER THAN HOUSING WAS GETTING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE COURTHOUSE. I'M HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT BILL DID PASS, HOUSE BILL 4093. WE WORKED VERY CLOSELY WITH THE LEGISLATURE, THE OREGON JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT, STATE POLICE AND OTHER DEPARTMENT ON AMENDMENTS, SEEMS LIKE DAY BY DAY THERE WAS A DIFFERENT AMENDMENT. BY THE TIME THE BILL CAME OUT OF THE JUDICIARY THE PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE AND THE FULL WAYS AND MEANS IT WAS 19 DAYS FROM THE FIRST DAY OF SESSION UNTIL IT CAME OUT OF FULL WAYS AND MEANS. AND OF COURSE IT FINALLY PASSED THE DAY BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF THE SINE DIE.

THE BILL'S PASSAGE ALLOWS NOT JUST MULTNOMAH COUNTY BUT ANY COUNTY THAT HAS OBTAINED APPROVAL TO RECEIVE STATE FUNDING FOR

THEIR COURTHOUSES THROUGH OJD'S PROCESS AND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS TO REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE CIRCUIT COURT IN THEIR COUNTY TO HAVE A \$5 SURCHARGE ADDED TO BOTH PARKING TICKETS AND MOVING VIOLATIONS. THAT HELPS FUND THE COUNTY'S PART OF THE COURTHOUSE. I WILL SAY IT REQUIRED A GREAT DEAL OF WORK IN A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME. THE BILL GOT CAUGHT UP IN PARTISAN POLITICS ON THE HOUSE SIDE BUT PASSED THE SENATE HANDILY WITH BIPARTISAN SUPPORT. WE THINK THIS WILL BE VERY HELPFUL IN FUNDING THE COUNTY'S PORTION OF THE COURTHOUSE.

Ms. Black: THEN ANOTHER BILL I SPENT A FAIR AMOUNT OF TIME WORKING ON WAS THE TOBACCO RETAIL LICENSE SURE BILL. IT DIED IN THE FINAL DAYS OF THE SESSION AS A CONCESSION TO THE SENATE REPUBLICANS. THE BILL WAS PATTERNED AFTER MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S ORDINANCE AND IT WAS A COMPROMISE BILL THAT INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH HAD THE SUPPORT ON THE ONE SIDE OF THE LARGE GROCERS: WAL-MART, ALTRIA, WHICH IS PHILLIP MORRIS. IT INCLUDED A PREEMPTION ON LOCAL LICENSES AND PREEMPTED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM ENACTING PROHIBITIONS AGAINST SELLING TOBACCO WITHIN 1,000 FEET OF THE SCHOOLS OR FROM PHARMACIES. THE COUNTY SUPPORTED THE BILL, DESPITE THE PREEMPTIONS BECAUSE WE BELIEVE ON THE BALANCE HAVING A STATEWIDE LICENSURE LAW WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE YOUTH ACCESS TO TOBACCO, WHICH WAS OUR INITIAL REASON FOR ENACTING IT ON THE COUNTY LEVEL TO BEGIN WITH.

ON THE OTHER SIDE, THE OREGON NURSES ASSOCIATION AND THE COALITION OF LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS OPPOSED IT BECAUSE OF THE PREEMPTIONS. THE SMALL GROCERS OPPOSED IT BECAUSE THERE WAS NO PREEMPTION ON SALES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. IT WAS A REALLY INTERESTING MIX OF SUPPORTERS AND OPPONENTS. THE OREGON NURSES ASSOCIATION CHANGED THEIR POSITION TO SUPPORT AND CLOSED POSITION SHIFTED TO NEUTRAL WITH ADDITION OF LANGUAGE THAT WOULD ARE ALLOWED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO PROHIBIT NEW STORES OF LESS THAN 5,000 FEET, SO THE SMALL STORES, FROM SELLING TOBACCO WITHIN 1,000 FEET OF A SCHOOL THAT, ACTUALLY TOOK THE 7-ELEVEN STORES FROM NEUTRAL TO OPPOSITION, AND THE BILL WAS PULLED BACK FROM THE FLOOR ON THE DAY IT WAS SCHEDULE FOR A VOTE IN THE SENATE. THAT WAS AS I MENTIONED PART OF THE DEAL THAT PRESIDENT COURTNEY STRUCK WITH THE SENATE REPUBLICANS.

ANOTHER BILL I THINK WE FEEL QUITE A BIT OF PRIDE IN, IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, THAT WAS OF PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE WAS HOUSE BILL 4024. WE WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE OREGON MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE HEALTH LEADERSHIP ON THIS. THIS BILL ALLOWS PHARMACISTS TO BOTH PRESCRIBE AND DISPENSE NALOXONE, THE OVERDOSE ANTIDOTE. THEY CAN PRESCRIBE AND DISPENSE IT TO ANYONE WHO REQUESTS THAT. THIS BUILDS UPON OUR LEGISLATIVE WORK FROM PREVIOUS SESSIONS THAT ALLOWED FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF OPIATE USERS TO BE PRESCRIBED

NALOXONE, AND OUR GOOD SAMARITAN BILL FROM LAST SESSION THAT ALLOWS SOME IMMUNITY FROM PROSECUTION TO PEOPLE WHO ARE EITHER EXPERIENCING OVERDOSES AND/OR CALL 9-1-1 FOR ASSISTANCE.

Ms. Black: IN ADDITION, 4824 ALLOWS FOR A MORE STREAMLINED ACCESS TO THE DATA MONITORING PROGRAM. IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS IN HOSPITALS THEY WON'T HAVE TO DO A SEPARATE SEARCH FOR THE PDMP WHEN SOMEONE COMES IN, IN PAIN. THEY WILL BE ABLE TO LOG INTO THEIR E.D. SYSTEM AND IT'LL POP UP, REACH OUT AND PULL THAT DATA OUT. IT'LL BE MUCH MORE EFFICIENT AND A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR INTERVENTION WHEN SOMEONE COMES IN SEEKING DRUGS THAT MAY HAVE AN OPIATE PROBLEM. AND IT'LL ALSO PREVENT OPIATES FROM ENTERING THE DRUG MARKET.

Commissioner Shiprack: I'M SORRY, CLAUDIA, I MISSED THE BILL NUMBER THAT ALLOWS PHARMACISTS TO DISPENSE OR PRESCRIBE?

Ms. Black: SO A CUSTOMER COMES IN AND SAYS I NEED A PRESCRIPTION FOR NALOXONE, THE PHARMACIST CAN PRESCRIBE IT AND TRAIN THEM HOW TO USE IT AND DISPENSE IT TO THEM. THAT'S 4024.

Commissioner Shiprack: DOES THAT BILL ALSO INCLUDE THE PROVISION FOR ALIGNING THE RECORDS SO THAT THEY ARE AVAILABLE MORE EASILY TO HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOMS?

Ms. Black: YES. IT'S THE SAME BILL. THE OTHER THING I MIGHT ADD THAT WE INCLUDED IN THERE WAS A PROVISION THAT ALLOWS NOT FOR PROFITS -- THIS CAME FROM A REQUEST FROM OUTSIDE INN, BUT ALSO FOR SHELTERS SO THAT EVERY INDIVIDUAL THAT WORKS IN A NOT FOR PROFIT THAT SERVES FOLKS THAT MIGHT HAVE OPIATE ADDICTION ISSUES, NOT TO HAVE TO BE ISSUED THEIR OWN SEPARATE NALOXONE. OUTSIDE INN HAS 70 EMPLOYEES AND IT WOULD BE COST PROHIBITIVE FOR THEM TO HAVE A NALOXONE KIT PRESCRIBED TO EACH INDIVIDUAL PERSON. SO INSTEAD THIS BILL ALLOWS THEM TO HAVE SEVERAL THAT ARE PURCHASED AND ARE AVAILABLE FOR USE ON SITE. IT ALSO ALLOWS THE PERSON TO TAKE THAT NALOXONE KIT AND ADMINISTER IT ELSEWHERE. OUTSIDE INN HAS HAD A NUMBER OF CASES WHERE SOMEBODY IN THE PARKING LOT OR ACROSS THE STREET HAS BEEN EXPERIENCING AN OVERDOSE AND SOMEONE WILL RUN IN AND SAY THERE'S AN OVERDOSE HAPPENING NEXT DOOR. THEY WILL BE ABLE TO GRAB THE AVAILABLE KIT AND TAKE IT WITH THEM.

Commissioner Shiprack: AGAIN, SORRY, I HAVE ATTENTION DEFICIT TODAY. THIS BILL WAS PASSED?

Ms. Black: YES. YES.

Commissioner Shiprack: THAT'S QUITE REMARKABLE.

Ms. Black: WE'RE VERY PLEASED WITH IT.

Commissioner Shiprack: WAS THERE AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE?

Ms. Black: THERE IS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE. AND THE OTHER THING IS I THINK THERE MAY HAVE BEEN ONE NO VOTE BUT IT HAD BIPARTISAN SUPPORT. IT WAS CO-SPONSORED BY REPRESENTATIVE BUEHLER AND REPRESENTATIVE JENNIFER WILLIAMSON. AND LOTS OF SUPPORT FROM EVERYBODY.

(Commissioner Smith was excused from the meeting at 10:37 a.m.)

Commissioner Shiprack: WONDERFUL.

Mr. Fick: COUPLE OTHER BILLS TO NOTE, LEGISLATES DEDICATED 1.5% OF NET LOTTERY PROCEDURES TO VETERANS AND SERVICES TO HELP REINTEGRATE, RETRAIN, EDUCATE, PROVIDE HOUSING AND THE LIKE TO VETERANS. THEY CREATED A GENERAL ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM THAT CAN HELP 200 INDIVIDUALS RECEIVE HOUSING ASSISTANCE AS THEY AWAIT FEDERAL DISABILITY BENEFITS. IT WOULD BE AN UP FRONT COST TO THE STATE OF \$1.7 MILLION, BUT THE SAME EXPECTS TO RECOUP THE COST AS THOSE DISABILITY BENEFITS COME BACK. THE INCREASE IN INCOME TAX EARNED CREDIT WAS INCREASED AND TAX TO CLEAN UP OF CONTAMINATED BROWNFIELD SITES. THEY ALSO INCREASED THE STATEWIDE TRANSIENT LODGING TAX TO 1.8% FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS AND THEN DROP BACK DOWN TO 1.5%.

THIS REGION IN PARTICULAR AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS HERE HAD AN INTEREST IN MAKING SURE A LOT OF THE TOURISM DOLLARS RAISED LOCALLY COME BACK TO BENEFIT THIS AREA. WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT SUNSET IN FOUR YEARS ACTUALLY COMES TO FRUITION AND THE AMOUNT GOES BACK TO 1.5%. THERE ARE SOME OPPORTUNITIES WE LAID THE GROUNDWORK FOR IN 2017. ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IS SOMETHING WE'LL BE LIKELY WORKING ON. FUNDING FOR THE GATEKEEPER PROGRAM. CLARITY AGAIN AROUND VETERANS PREFERENCE STATUTES AND THE AUTHORITY TO CREATE THE FATALITY REVIEW TEAMS, WHICH IS ON OUR LEGISLATIVE AGENDA THIS SESSION.

Ms. Black: THEN WE THOUGHT WE'D GIVE YOU A LITTLE UPDATE ON WHAT WE MIGHT BE LOOKING AT FOR 2017 IN TERMS OF OPEN SEATS SO. THERE ARE THREE OPEN SEATS IN THE SENATE. SENATOR SHIELDS, SENATOR ROSENBAUM, ACTUALLY THE DAY AFTER FILING DAY WHEN SENATOR WHITSETT ANNOUNCED HE AND HIS WIFE WOULD NOT BE RUNNING, SHE'S THE STATE REP FOR THAT AREA. THEY BOTH REMOVED THEIR NAMES THE DAY AFTER FILING DAY. THOSE THREE SEATS ARE OPEN. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE 13 OPEN HOUSE SEATS, NINE THAT WERE DEMOCRATS AND FOUR THAT WERE REPUBLICANS. AND THERE ARE PROBABLY FOUR OR SO

OF THOSE THAT ARE POTENTIALLY SWING DISTRICTS. REPRESENTATIVES KOMP, BARTON, FAGAN, AND DAVIS.

Chair Kafoury: WOULD YOU MENTION WHERE THOSE ARE, FOR PEOPLE WHO MIGHT NOT KNOW.

Ms. Black: REPRESENTATIVE KOMP IS DISTRICT 21, THE WOODBURN AREA. REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS IS DISTRICT 26, THE WILSONVILLE AREA. REPRESENTATIVE BARTON IS DISTRICT 40, WHICH IS OREGON CITY AND REPRESENTATIVE FAGAN IS PRIMARILY EAST COUNTY AND PART OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY.

Mr. Fick: PROBABLY ADD REPRESENTATIVE GALLEGOS IS HILLSBORO.

Ms. Black: THAT WAS LAST-MINUTE THING. SO, ACTUALLY 10 DEMOCRATS.

Chair Kafoury: HOW MANY HOUSE SEATS IN ALL ARE UP FOR --

Ms. Black: 14.

Chair Kafoury: A HOW MANY SENATE?

Ms. Black: THREE. THAT'S A LOT OF TURNOVER. WE'D BE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS. IT WAS A SHORT SESSION SO WE FIGURED A SHORT PRESENTATION, TOO. A LOT OF ACTIVITY IN THOSE 24 DAYS, THOUGH.

Commissioner McKeel: I DON'T HAVE A QUESTION, I JUST WANT TO SAY THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRESENTATION AND ALL THE WORK YOU DO. WE HEAR THAT VERY CONSISTENTLY FROM OUR LEGISLATORS THAT WE WORK WITH, WHAT A GOOD JOB YOU DO DOWN THERE FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND FOR ALL OF US. WE REALLY APPRECIATE ALL OF YOUR WORK FOR US. AND BECAUSE I WORK WITH VETERANS I'M VERY EXCITED ABOUT THE VETERANS BILL THAT PASSED AND WILL BE COMING TO THE BALLOT IN NOVEMBER. IT'LL MEAN MORE STABLE FUNDING FOR OUR VETERANS AND SERVICES THEY ARE ENTITLED TO SO WE'RE VERY PLEASED.

Ms. Black: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. IT IS A PLEASURE TO REPRESENT MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND ESPECIALLY SUCH A TERRIFIC BOARD IN SALEM.

Chair Kafoury: QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

Commissioner Shiprack: YEAH, THANK YOU. IT WAS A VERY DIFFICULT SESSION TO WATCH EVEN FROM A DISTANCE. AND IT CERTAINLY DIDN'T LOOK LIKE ANY FUN IN PARTICULAR TO BE RIGHT DOWN THERE INSIDE IT. ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS LIKE THERE WAS A DISPARITY BETWEEN THE REPORTS OUT THAT I HEARD WHICH WERE, IT WAS GREAT. WE HAD A GREAT SESSION. IT WAS WONDERFUL. AND WHAT IT APPEARED TO BE, AND I GUESS I HAVE TO JUST SORT OF WONDER WITH SOME OF THE LAST-MINUTE, IT SEEMS LIKE TO ME,

LAST-MINUTE DECISIONS NOT TO RUN, WHAT WAS GOING ON THERE. DO YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE OR SHOULD WE TAKE THIS CONVERSATION OFF LINE.

Ms. Black: PERHAPS TAKING THE CONVERSATION OFFLINE WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA.

Commissioner Shiprack: IT DID SEEM THAT PERHAPS THE PARTISAN NATURE OF THE SESSION MIGHT HAVE SOURED SOME FOLKS WHO WERE IN THE THICK OF IT.

Ms. Black: I THINK THAT'S PROBABLY A VERY ACCURATE STATEMENT, AND ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU HEAR FROM LEGISLATOR AFTER LEGISLATOR THEY FELT LIKE IT WAS THE MOST DIFFICULT AND CONTENTIOUS AND PARTISAN SESSION THAT THEY HAD EXPERIENCED. SOME OF THEM HAD BEEN THERE 12 YEARS AND LONGER.

Chair Kafoury: THEY MUST NOT HAVE BEEN AROUND IN 2003 WHEN WE HAD THE LONGEST SESSION EVER IN THE STATE OF OREGON, GOING THROUGH THE END THE AUGUST. NOT THAT I'M BITTER OR I STILL HAVE PTSD FROM THAT ONE. THANK YOU, AS WELL. IS COMMISSIONER SMITH STILL ON THE PHONE?

Board Clerk: NO, MADAM CHAIR.

Chair Kafoury: WELL, I WANT TO THANK YOU AS WELL. YOU GUYS REALLY DID AN AMAZING JOB. ESPECIALLY AS THINGS HEATED UP AND THEY HAVE TO READ EVERY WORD OF EVERY BILL AND IT LOOKED LIKE NOTHING WAS GOING TO HAPPEN. YOU GUYS REALLY PUT YOUR ALL INTO IT AND IT SHOWED. SO I WANT TO THANK YOU. I THINK YOU DID IT WHILE STILL MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF THE COUNTY AND REALLY YOUR OWN PERSONAL INTEGRITY. THE LEGISLATORS REALLY DO VALUE YOUR KNOWLEDGE, YOUR EXPERTISE, AND YOUR ABILITY TO GET THINGS DONE. WE'RE LUCKY TO HAVE YOU, THANK YOU.

Mr. Fick: WE DID HAVE TO ISSUE SOME APOLOGIES, BUT THEY WERE TAKEN. [LAUGHTER]

Ms. Black: WE CAN BE A LITTLE INTENSE AT TIMES.

Chair Kafoury: IT'S HOW YOU GET THINGS DONE IN A SHORT SESSION.

Chair Kafoury: EXCELLENT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. PREPARING NOW FOR NEXT SESSION.

Ms. Black: RIGHT, WE'RE ALREADY STARTING TO GET, AS CHRIS MENTIONED, WE HAVE A FEW ITEMS ON OUR AGENDA THAT DIDN'T GET COMPLETED THIS SESSION, WE'LL LOOK AT THEM AND HEAR FROM COMMISSIONERS ON

OTHER ISSUES THAT COME UP. ANYBODY HAS ANY IDEAS FORWARD THEM TO US, PLEASE.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

ADJOURNMENT – 10:43 a.m.

Chair Kafoury: SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, WE'RE ADJOURNED.

[THESE MINUTES UTILIZE THE REAL-TIME TRANSCRIPT PRODUCED BY LNS CAPTIONING AND MAY INCLUDE ERRORS DUE TO MISHEARING, TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES AND/OR THE STENOGRAPHY SOFTWARE.]

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Submitted by:
Lynda J. Grow, Board Clerk and
Marina Baker, Assistant Board Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Multnomah County, Oregon