

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Thursday, November 29, 2018**

EMPLOYEE AWARD CEREMONY

Chair Deborah Kafoury called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. with Vice-Chair Lori Stegmann and Commissioners Sharon Meieran, Loretta Smith, and Jessica Vega Pederson present.

Also attending was Marina Baker, Board Clerk.

SE.1 Employee Years of Service Ceremony for January 1 – December 31, 2018 Anniversary Dates for Employees with 15 or More Years of Service. Presenter: Travis Graves, Chief Human Resources Officer.

Chair Kafoury welcomed everyone, and turned the presentation over to Travis Graves, Chief Human Resources Officer. Graves spoke about the “year of service” ceremony and its purpose to recognize the service of Multnomah County employees with 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service, and that their longevity and loyalty to the County is an important part of valuing each employee’s contribution to the success of the organization.

Commissioner Vega Pederson recognized Raul Vergara Barria, Library, for 15 years of service:

“Raul started the Library as a Clerk at the Rockwood library in June 2003. Since then he has worked as a Library Assistant, working at the Central Library Children's Library and later in other work units at Central. As part of the LIBROS staff group, he received a peer nomination for the Library's Rosie Award for putting together eight successful literacy-oriented events themed to align with library priorities. Then, as part of the 150th Anniversary Celebration Planning Team, received multiple Rosie nominations for their efforts to plan and manage a very successful celebration in 2014.

He is a leader in Central’s Staff of Color group, which supports and provides guidance to management on how procedures and programs may positively or negatively affect staff and patrons from communities of color. He does tremendous work within the library as well as in the community, such as the outreach he does at the VOZ Workers Center and the Mexican Consulate.

Raul continually shows professionalism, humor and knowledge in his interactions with patrons and staff. He is consistently thinking of innovative ways to serve our public. He takes the time to send thought-provoking articles about library services around the country and the world, bringing the joy of debate and discussion into his work group and drawing attention to topics that are relevant to the work being done at the Central Library.

Raul, we'd like to congratulate you on reaching this milestone of 15 years of service. Congratulations."

Commissioner Smith recognized Rocio Lopez, Health Department, for 20 years of service:

"For those of you not familiar, WIC is a special supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants and Children serving lower-income pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women, infants and children under age 5 who have health or nutrition risks. Rocio first came to the Multnomah County Health Department as a patient and a as a WIC participant. After her visit, she said to herself "one day I'm going to work here".

Starting in January of 1998, that's just what she did. She started as an Office Assistant supporting the work of the WIC staff. She quickly moved into a bi-lingual, bi-cultural Nutrition Assistant position and has been doing this important work ever since.

Rocio is a lifelong learner. She has participated in the Leadership Academy; she worked on a WIC outreach committee; and she is currently involved in a WIC listening project focusing on the Native American community.

She enjoys serving the most vulnerable people in the community. She feels rewarded when she sees families improving their health and nutrition and providing support to breastfeeding moms. She appreciates the connection she has with families around common values and in helping families thrive.

Rocio, we appreciate you, the work you do, and we congratulate you on 20 years of serving this vulnerable population. Thank you."

Vice-Chair Stegmann recognized Sammuel Konadu, Department of Community Services, for 25 years of service:

"Sammuel started at Multnomah County December 23, 1993 as an appraiser in the County Assessment and Taxation Division. Shortly after his arrival, the State's passage of Tax Measures 47 and 50 resulted in the County needing cut programs and positions.

When we experience tough times and cuts at the County, human resources utilizes a program called Project Save to try to find another job for people at the County based on their job skills. Through Project Save, Sammuel found a new home in the County's Department of Environmental Services (DES). He started working in the Director's Office in an administrative role. Over his 25 years, Sammuel has worked under nine Department Directors. He has experienced almost as many department name changes as DES evolved to its current state as the Department of County Services. Sammuel can look back and remember Beverly Stein as the County Chair when he started and fast forward five (5) Chairs to present day Chair Deborah Kafoury.

Sammuel is the last of the original DES Director's Office employees still working at the County today, and is valued in his role as a Budget Analyst. Sammuel continues to cherish building relationships with his fellow employees and works to be an honorable, delightful and respectful person with all he encounters.

Sammuel, thank you so much for your dedication to Multnomah County and congratulations on 25 years of service.”

Commissioner Meieran recognized Barbara Broderick, Health Department, for 30 years of service:

“Barb started her career with the Health Department in 1988 as a Dental Assistant/Receptionist at the Grace Peck Health Center. Since then she has held multiple positions including: Expanded Practice Dental Assistant, Lead Dental Assistant, Operations Supervisor, and Operations Administrator and is now currently the Senior Office Assistant for School and Community Oral Health Programs.

Barb participated in the planning and opening of the SE and Mid County Health Centers; the transition to electronic dental records and has participated on the Diversity and Quality Team as well as various safety committees. She has been active in AFSCME Local 88 as a Shop Steward, Trustee and Secretary as well as participating in contract negotiations.

Barb has an amazing energy and desire to help anyone and everyone that she interacts with, whether it be a fellow County employee, a secretary at one of the many schools she schedules with or a parent at one of our Baby Day clinics. Her positive attitude is infectious and the team at School and Community Oral Health feel very lucky that she has joined the program.

Barb, thank you so much for your 30 years of dedicated service to the dental clients of Multnomah County.”

Chair Kafoury recognized Martha Lillie, Library, for 30 years of service:

“Martha started in Art and Music at Central Library as a Page on December 26, 1988. This was a perfect job to hold as she made her way through her undergraduate years and library media program Portland State University. She helped re-open the Midland Library after it was remodeled during the summer of 1996.

In 1999, she moved into her dream job in what is now the Every Child Initiative. Martha remarks that working as a Library Assistant in Every Child has been a wonderful combination of her love of working with children, children's books and the library, and sharing that love with children, their parents and caregivers.

Some of her colleagues had this to say about Martha:

“Martha is Radar from the TV show M*A*S*H, reincarnated as the most lovable, huggable, hardworking coworker you can imagine, who cares deeply about her coworkers, and the hundreds of health care and child care providers she serves, and has dedicated 30 years of her life to making their lives better.”

“When I think of Martha Lillie I think of the phrase 'book-joy!' Martha is, at all times, surrounded by stacks of children's picture books at her desk. She takes joy in sharing these books with families during outreach and gathering special collections for events. Martha has been with Every Child since the department began 30 years ago. She is the heart and soul of Every Child and its mission.”

Martha, thank you so much for your 30 years of service to our Library and all of Multnomah County.”

Travis Graves asked the Board to move in front of the dais to congratulate award recipients. Graves read names of awardees in order of years of service, grouped by their Department and/or Office. The awardees came forward, shook hands with each of the Commissioners and Chair, and received their certificates. Following the ceremony, awardees took group photos and all guests were invited to have refreshments in the back of the Board Room.

ADJOURNMENT – 2:57 p.m.

For access to the video and/or board packet materials, please view at:
http://multnomah.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=3

Submitted by:
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Board of County Commissioners
Multnomah County, Oregon