

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners  
Multnomah County, Oregon  
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100  
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon  
Tuesday, April 12, 2011**

**BOARD BRIEFINGS**

Vice Chair Deborah Kafoury convenes the meeting at 10:07 a.m. with Commissioners Loretta Smith, Judy Shiprack and Diane McKeel present. Chair Jeff Cogen was excused.

**B.1 Informational Board Briefing on the Bedbug Summit, Outcomes & Next Steps. Sponsor: Vice-Chair Kafoury. Presenters: Ben Duncan, Environmental Health; Rodger Moore, Asst. Dir., Housing Authority of Portland (HAP); Jon Wild, HAP; Jonathan Clay, Metro Multifamily Housing Assn.**

Vice-Chair Kafoury provided the introduction. She discussed the problem and challenges that bedbug infestations are causing for the elderly and disabled who are being threatened with eviction from housing. She described the outreach, forums and formation of an advisory group work that has evolved since 2005. Since this issue encompasses multiple jurisdictions, it was decided to conduct a Bedbug Summit, which was held March 11th, 2011. Representatives of the County Health Department, City Commissioner Nick Fish and the Housing Authority (HAP) met and with participants from housing, government, pest control, schools, childcare, shelters, transitional housing, lodging and other areas of the community. .

Mr. Duncan explained that bedbugs can be found throughout Oregon and nationwide. Agencies, business, non-profits, and the County have spent a significant amount of money to stop the spread of bedbugs. Although they're not known to transmit diseases, bedbugs are a nuisance and cause stress and discomfort.

Mr. Clay spoke about bedbugs' impact on housing. Metro Multifamily Housing Association (MMHA) represents over 150k rental units, 1,000 of which have been treated for bedbugs in the past year and cost \$250k to \$500k annually in treatment. Mr. Wild said the reason the HAP Bedbug Task Force was created was to address this growing problem and develop a proactive approach to control it. He explained that the task force learned that early detection through inspection, education, and overcoming of stigma are key components in controlling the problem.

They developed a proactive plan and policies to detect, educate, control and eradicate the problem.

Mr. Duncan said County efforts have helped with creating a roadmap towards a regional strategy, including Program Offer 40037A, which will fund a 0.5 FTE to staff the

workgroups coming out of the Summit. He explained that any long-term strategies will require private and public partnerships.

The presenters responded to Board questions and comments. The Board thanked them for their presentation.

**B.2 Informational Board Briefing on Gang Contingency Funds. Presenter: Erika Preuitt, District Mgr., ASD; Jan Bishop, Manager, Gang Resource Intervention Team; Lori Eville, Manager, DCJ; Roberta Phillip, Senior Policy Advisor, Chair's Office; Carl Goodman, Asst. Director, DCJ Adult Services; Kate Desmond, Manager, African-American Program.**

Ms. Preuitt provided the introduction. She said that gang activity has been increasing in the County. In September 2010, the Board approved \$116,750 to address this serious community safety concern. This briefing is an update on intervention strategies that were implemented by the Department of Community Justice (DCJ) to respond and address this increase.

Ms. Preuitt said the theme is "Restoring the Village" and in these meetings, community members are given the opportunity to identify issues that negatively impact their neighborhoods and develop solutions.

She spoke about the breakdown of funding and the different programs it is funding and funds that remain. She explained that the Rosewood Initiative establishes a community justice and policing presence in the Rosewood Community apartments. It funds interior improvements for a shared police/probation office as part of a community center.

The bicycle program provided funds to purchase five bikes with helmets, etc. Portland Police have agreed to provide 32-hour training for Counselors and Officers in the gang unit. Training will allow Pos and JCCs to participate in bike patrols at events such as Cinco de Mayo, Rose Festival and National Night Out. They also plan to ride in neighborhoods that are hot spots for gang activity.

Ms. Bishop spoke about the Juvenile Flex Funds, which provide Rights of Passage training for mentors and clients in the At Promise Mentor program for high-risk African American youth on probation. About 15 mentors and 15 clients participate weekly. The mentors work to ensure their clients are in school, not breaking the law, and learning to give back to their community. She said that next year, the program will hopefully be funded again with a State Disproportionate Minority Contact reduction grant or by the Family and Neighborhood Gang Violence Prevention Project.

Ms. Eville spoke about the Juvenile GPS Pilot, which sets up the infrastructure and policy to use six GPS units for monitoring high-risk gang youth. GPS provides immediate intervention for high-risk youth who are exhibiting serious noncompliance to conditions of probation. Surveillance keeps the community safe while keeping the youth at home and

involved in positive activities. She explained that future goals include increasing the number of GPS units and replacing older, malfunctioning equipment.

Ms. Phillip spoke about the Restorative Justice (RJ) in schools program. RJ in schools is designed to reduce suspensions and expulsions, and decrease police and juvenile justice involvement. It's based on a core set of principles that emphasize healing over punishment; inclusion over exclusion; and individual accountability with the support of the community. In February 2011, 23 administrators, counselors, and school resource officers were provided with training and technical assistance. More training is planned in the future. Schools have been supportive and receptive of this program and three sites are already using restorative strategies in working with students. The program is working on creating strategic funding and developing strategic expansion plans.

Ms. Desmond spoke about gang prevention services targeted toward adults. She explained that Adult Flex Funds provide limited financial assistance to offenders so they can successfully access services that would otherwise be unavailable to them, such as participation in Batterer's Intervention Assessments, transportation to treatment/appointments, incentives for completing obligations, preserve housing, and the purchase of school books. The Adult Clinical Liaison program creates a clinical liaison position with knowledge of the mental health system to assist Probation Officers (PO). She said this position was created because people of color are over-represented in the criminal justice system and under-represented in the mental health system. The clinical liaison works to build trust, communication and participation between the offender, PO, and mental health system.

Ms. Desmond said the Moral Voice program provides contract funding and supplies for monthly community meetings from December to June as a forum to increase community involvement and educate about resources available to address violence in the community. Expenses are projected at half the planned amount because of donated space and volunteers. Moral Voice is becoming a recognized way to participate in improving the community. She said that future funding for these programs is uncertain.

Vice-Chair Kafoury provided closing remarks.

The presenters responded to Board questions and comments. The Board thanked them for their presentation.

### **B.3 Briefing on Multnomah County's Federal Legislative Agenda for the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress. Presenters: Nancy Bennett & Claudia Black, Co-Dir., Government Relations.**

Ms. Bennett spoke about the County's legislative agenda-making process. This agenda provides specific policy guidance to County officials and lobbyists acting on its behalf in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress. She listed the County's funding priorities as infrastructure, health care reform, public safety, and block grants.

Infrastructure includes a request for \$20 million in federal funding to complete the Sellwood Bridge project. Health care reform includes opportunities such as the Community Transformation, Chronic Disease Prevention, Mental Health, Community Health Center Construction, and Tobacco Cessation grants. Public safety includes the Financial and Elder Abuse Prosecution Project and the U.S. Department of Labor grant. Block grants include community development, community services, and energy efficiency conservation.

Ms. Bennett spoke about the County's policy priorities, which include changes to health care for jail inmates; human trafficking deterrence and victim support; and family violence prevention.

Ms. Black and Ms. Bennett responded to Board questions and comments. The Board thanked them for their presentation and hard work.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

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