

**Minutes for the Board of Commissioners  
Multnomah County, Oregon  
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100  
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon  
Wednesday, May 18, 2011**

**BUDGET WORK SESSION # 4**

Chair Jeff Cogen convened the meeting at 2:05 p.m. with Vice-Chair Deborah Kafoury and Commissioners Diane McKeel, Loretta Smith and Judy Shiprack present.

**BWS.4      FY2012 Budget Work Session on Health Department. Presenters: Lillian Shirley, Director, Health Department (MCHD); Wendy Lear, MCHD Business Services Director; Amy Anderson, CBAC; and Invited Others.**

Ms. Shirley provided the introductions. Ms. Anderson spoke about the work of the Citizen Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC) and its recommendations on the FY 2012 budget. The CHC serves as the Health Department's (MCHD) Community Advisory Board, CBAC, and is also the federally-mandated governing body of Multnomah County's Health Center. Their mission is to provide input and direction for community health, and advise on current and emerging matters in public health. Members are appointed. They review and monitor MCHD's annual budget. And provide guidance on public health services, programs and policies. Major changes include federal stimulus money that will allow them to increase the number of patients served; potential opening of a school based health center at Centennial High; the shift of another school-based center from Marshall (who closed) to Franklin High; and, potential impacts to core public health programs due to State's anticipated budget cuts. Their recommendations are to continue their mission; provide adequate funding; particularly of the County's primary care health clinics; continue service integration; preserve access to school-based health centers; and, addressing proposed budget reductions and their impacts. They urged the Commissioners to advocate on a State level to protect these core public health programs.

Ms. Shirley described the mission of the MCHD as working in partnership with the communities they serve to assure, promote and protect the health of the whole community, prioritizing the most vulnerable. Their formal and informal partners include: Community Health Council; Coalition of Community Health Clinics; HIV Services Planning Council; Food Service Advisory Committee; and, Vector and Code Enforcement Advisory Committee.

Ms. Shirley stated that measuring and improving performance is one of their core functions. This is done by assessment, policy development, and evaluating and reporting results and researching for new insights and innovations. She spoke about various accomplishments, grants, and recognition they received for prevention strategies and public health leadership; the improvements they've achieved in access to care, the new community collaborations they've developed and their ongoing work to ensure quality

improvement. She described their five-year strategic plan as: assuring all individuals, families and communities gain greater control of the factors that influence their health; improving the health of their diverse communities; and being an adaptive, learning organization that serves as an effective and accountable local public health authority and provider of community health services. Their budgeting principles are to prioritize the County's most vulnerable members; preserve direct services and where they can, increase the capacity to serve more clients; invest in upstream prevention strategies; and, maintain the capacity to obtain grants and procure new funding strategies.

Ms. Lear provided the financial overview of the department. Their total budget for FY 2012 is \$160 million. This includes \$54 million in general fund support, with \$11.2 million in general fund and EMS fees generated by the services they provide. They employ 998.85 FTEs, which is more than 1,200 full and part-time employees. She reviewed the budget historical information from 2005 and breakdown in revenues, fees and general funds received. She summarized the expenditures, which includes contractual services, materials and supplies, drugs and medical supplies, internal services provided by the County and personnel. She spoke in detail about their contractual services, service areas, and the FTE breakdown.

Ms. Lear reviewed the three program offers that use County General Funds which include 40013B Early Childhood; 40016 Medicaid Eligibility; and, 40025 Adolescent Health. One-time-only (OTO) County General Funds are being used at Rockwood #40029. She also reviewed the significant Federal, State and other funding changes with most reductions in Community Health Services. Health centers have increased fee revenue and access to health services, particularly for dental and pharmacy. She discussed key operating changes and the strategies being used to sustain key elements of their services.

Ms. Shirley explained that the extent of the State's Public Health funding cuts, are still uncertain. Other concerns they face are the impact of health reform locally/nationally; changes to the delivery of care; and building a work force structure where employees are prepared to move into positions vacated by retirees.

The Commissioners asked questions requiring follow-up by the department after the meeting. The following inquiries were made:

Commissioner Smith asked for an explanation for the decline in IT charges within MCHD.

Vice-Chair Kafoury asked to be provided with the new measurements for success in program offer 40025-Adolescent Health Promotion given the new program model.

Commissioner Smith requested greater detail on the equity lens program pilots. She asked where the equity lens is being applied and if it's going to be used countywide.

Vice-Chair Kafoury asked for details on the physical locations of FTE in the Medicaid Eligibility program.

Vice-Chair Kafoury asked why the enrollment numbers for Healthy Kids are down and what the relationship and involvement is between CCFC and Healthy Kids.

Vice-Chair Kafoury asked for details on the one-time only general fund request given the growth in revenue collections above the original business model for the Rockwood Clinic.

The Board thanked the presenters for their briefing.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Submitted by:

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