

**Minutes for the Board of Commissioners  
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100  
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Portland, OR 97214  
Monday, May 24, 2012**

**Budget Work Session #12**

Chair Jeff Cogen called the meeting to order at 9:52 a.m. with Vice-Chair Loretta Smith and Commissioners Deborah Kafoury, Judy Shiprack, and Diane McKeel present.

Also present were Jenny M. Morf, County Attorney, and Marina Baker, Assistant Board Clerk.

**BWS-12 Budget Follow-Up.**

- a. Briefing on Domestic Violence Pilot Program Involving 211 and Centralized Access to Shelters. Presenter: Annie Neal, Domestic Violence Coordination Office.**

Ms. Neal provided the update. She said that last May, the Bradley Angle shelter, YWCA, and 211info started a pilot project to move their crisis lines out of their shelters and use 211info to connect callers with domestic violence (DV) advocates or an available shelter. This project was developed when Bradley Angle and the YWCA found that shelter work was impeded by having a crisis line in their shelter. There are thirteen agencies that provide DV victim services, but only four of them are shelters and two provide motels through a straw voucher system. Shelters are frequently full, so shelter crisis line operators often found they had nothing to offer callers and needed a way to connect people with other forms of help.

Ms. Neal explained that past data concerning need for emergency services and shelter has been unreliable, due to the fragmented nature of DV services. Her department has been working with shelters to reframe them as a safety resource, not a housing option. The Gateway Center allowed the County to move away from a shelter-centric approach for DV victim support by providing a whole range of services. They're currently on track to serve approximately 3,300 people this year. It's a resource many shelters direct clients to when they don't have enough space.

She said that her department is currently in the midst of creating their shared principles and vision. She explained that they need to improve data and universal pre-screenings, so they know exactly who is eligible for shelter and can appropriately allocate their services to meet people's needs, since resources are very limited.

Ms. Neal responded to Board questions and comments. Commissioner Kafoury requested for Ms. Neal to come back this Fall after she completes work with the facilitators and presents a plan on how they will move forward.

**b. Briefing on Additional Detail Regarding Program Reductions in Early Childhood Services. Presenter: Wendy Lear, Business Services, MCHD & Loreen Nichols, Community Health Services, MCHD.**

Ms. Lear gave the overview, saying that Early Childhood Services (ECS) is facing cuts totaling \$1.2M to their services. These cuts are coming primarily from Medicaid and Health Start reductions. This shortfall is being addressed by reducing the budget by a total of 13.20 FTE reductions, of which 7.70 FTE are currently vacant.

Some of the programs facing the largest cuts to services include the following:

General Field Nursing (GFN) provides services to medically/socially high-risk pregnant teens/women not eligible for other ECS programs. GFN is facing a total of approximately \$1.3M in reductions which will result in a reduction of 10.90 FTEs. She suggested that budget amendments could be made to restore services and proposed two restoration strategies: option one is to add 1.0 FTE Community Health Nurse with a focus on refugee and immigrant families with an estimated cost of \$130k; option two is to add a .50 FTE Health Educator and 1.0 FTE Community Health Specialist, who would provide parenting classes for all ECS clients and support for ECS staff. Option two has an estimated cost of \$125k.

Health Birth Initiative (HBI) provides services to pregnant and parenting African American families residing in areas with high infant mortality rates. It includes outreach, case management, the community consortium and health education classes open to all community members. HBI is facing a total of approximately \$197.2k in reductions.

Healthy Start Initiative (HSI) provides services to first-time parents with medical/social risks. HSI will face a total of approximately \$564k in reductions. Ms. Lear provided details of the contracts for Family Support workers at Impact NW, IRCO and Insights, who are taking a reduction of 3.20 FTE. She suggested that budget amendments could be made to restore services and proposed two restoration strategies: option one, which adds 1.0 FTE Community Health Nurse consultation position to support Family Support Workers with an estimated cost of \$130k; option two would restore 3.0 FTE Family Support Workers, which would prevent community contractors from having to eliminate staff currently serving families, which has an estimated cost of \$270k.

Program Management and Home Visiting provide leadership and direction, as well as financial and administrative support to all ECS programs. This program has a total increase of \$150k and a decrease of 2.93 FTE.

Ms. Lear and Ms. Nichols responded to Board questions and comments.

Commissioner Kafoury proposed a Board Amendment to restore 1.00 FTE Community Health Nurse in General Field Nursing, Program 40013B through the General Fund, and another Board Amendment to restore 3.00 FTE Family Support Workers in the Health Start Initiative, Program 40013A.

**c. Video Lottery Funds. Presenter: Mike Jaspin, Senior Budget Analyst.**

Mr. Jaspin explained that Multnomah County anticipates receiving approximately \$5.2M in video lottery funds in FY 2013. The State shares 2.5% of the net receipts from the video lottery with Oregon counties for economic development. The distribution of revenue is 90% based on sales within the county and a 10% pro-rata share across all counties.

The County was recording these funds in the County General Fund, until HB 3188 was signed into law and became effective June 16, 2011. HB 3188 prohibits the funds from being recorded in the General Fund and instead requires them to be accounted for in a dedicated fund. In response, the County established a separate Video Lottery Fund.

Program offers supported by the Video Lottery Fund in FY 2013 include #10018 State Mandated Expenses (East County Debt Service); #10035A Economic Development; #10035B Summer Youth Connect; #25136A Homeless Youth System; 25139A Anti-Poverty Services; #50047 Adult Day Reporting Center; and #50051 Adult Londer Learning Center.

Mr. Jaspin responded to Board questions and comments.

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

Commissioner McKeel asked for them to report back on how each program offer supported by the Video Lottery Fund ties into economic development.

Chair Cogen requested that the Budget office report back to the Board on identifying what Budget amendments proposed so far are asking the Board to backfill programs that other governments have chosen to cut and which ones are seeking to restore programs that the County has historically funded.

Commissioner McKeel asked that one additional criteria be included in the report requested by Chair Cogen, and that is, an accounting of which Budget amendments leverage other dollars.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 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](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