

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Portland, Oregon
Tuesday, June 19, 2012**

BOARD BRIEFINGS

Chair Jeff Cogen called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. with Vice-Chair Loretta Smith and Commissioners Deborah Kafoury and Diane McKeel present and Commissioner Judy Shiprack excused.

Also attending were Lynda Grow, Board Clerk, and Jenny Morf, County Attorney.

B.1 Informational Board Briefing - Annual Report from the Oregon Historical Society Levy Oversight Committee. Sponsor: Chair Cogen. Presenters: Emerald Bogue, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Chair Cogen; Avel Gordly, Former State Senator & Co-Chair of the OHS Levy Oversight Committee (LOC); Nichole Maher, Executive Director - NAYA & Co-Chair of the OHS Levy Oversight Committee; Kerry Tymchuk, Exec Director - Oregon Historical Society; & Chuck Rollins, Crown Point Country Historical Society.

Chair Cogen thanked everyone for attending. Ms. Bogue made opening remarks, and introduced the presenters. She gave an overview saying on November 2, 2010, Multnomah County voters approved a five-year levy of \$.05 per \$1,000 assessed valuation to keep the Oregon Historical Society (OHS) Library and Museum open to the public and to protect the collection of and access to Oregon historical documents and artifacts in the county. On April 28, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners approved Resolution No. 2011-048, which appointed the members of the OHS Levy Oversight Committee. A financial agreement between Multnomah County and OHS was executed on April 28, 2011. This financial agreement stipulates for an annual report to the Board on OHS compliance which is the reason for this briefing.

Ms. Maher said the LOC's charge is to ensure that the OHS is living up to promises made to voters in the approved Measure 26-125: Five Year Levy. She advised the Board that the Committee had fulfilled its annual responsibilities and met six times, provided minutes and materials on the Multnomah County website, received a report of levy expenditures from OHS and each of the four east Multnomah County historical societies receiving levy funds, and are here today to provide an annual briefing.

Ms. Gordly said their committee has also worked to ensure that OHS is living up to promises made to voters in Measure 26-118. She reviewed the report of their assessment of OHS compliance.

Ms. Tymchuk spoke about what the levy has allowed OHS to do in its first year and the working relationship they have with the LOC.

Chuck Rollins from the Crown Point Country Historical Society talked about what the levy has helped them do. He said he spoke for all four of the East County Historical Societies and thanked them for their support. He gave an example of how the funding is put to use towards

preserving a donation of art work from a world renowned artist and how funding from the passage of the levy, will allow them to begin proper custodianship of the paintings.

Nichole summarized their accomplishments including the fact OHS is able to stay open 47 hours a week for the summer, expand the library hours to 32 per week; OHS has restored some services; improve its protection of historical artifacts and documents; expanded its representation of diverse cultures; and by maintaining free admission, has increased the number of school children who visit the museum. She also talked about the OHS' fund raising efforts and increases in donations they have received as a result.

The presenters responded to the Board's comments and questions.

The Commissioners commended the presenters on the phenomenal work that is being done.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 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

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