

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners  
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100  
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon  
Thursday, September 6, 2018**

**REGULAR MEETING**

Chair Deborah Kafoury called the meeting to order at 9:43 a.m. with Commissioners Sharon Meieran and Loretta Smith present. Vice-Chair Lori Stegmann was excused and Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson arrived at 9:45 a.m.

Also attending were, Jenny Madkour, County Attorney, Marina Baker, Board Clerk, and Quete Capuia, Chair's Office.

Chair Kafoury: GOOD MORNING, WELCOME TO THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. THIS IS OUR THURSDAY MORNING BOARD MEETING. WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU ALL HERE WITH US.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- C.1 BUDGET MODIFICATION # DCA-04-19: Reclassification of a Database Administrator Sr to a Development Analyst Sr in DCA.
- C.2 BUDGET MODIFICATION # HD-02-19: Authorizing three position reclassifications within the Health Department.

Chair Kafoury: MAY I HAVE A MOTION ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR? COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVES, COMMISSIONER MEIERAN SECONDS APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE. [UNANIMOUS AYES] THE CONSENT CALENDAR IS APPROVED.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Opportunity for Public Comment on non-agenda matters. Testimony limited to three minutes per person. This is a time for the Board to hear public testimony, not for Board deliberation.

Chair Kafoury: DO WE HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT THIS MORNING?

Board Clerk: YES, MADAM CHAIR, WE HAVE FIVE. [READS NAMES]

Chair Kafoury: GREAT, THANK YOU. JON, YOU CAN GO FIRST. YOU ARE IN THE FIRST CHAIR.

Jon Gramstad: GOOD MORNING. JON, GIVE ME SHELTER PORTLAND. I WILL PRESENT A SEQUENCE OF EVENTS THAT SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT BARBARA AND I CONSIDER THE FUTILITY OF OUR TEN-YEAR EFFORT TO APPEAL THIS COMMISSION. THIS IS JUST BUT ONE EXAMPLE OF MANY, BUT THE LATEST AND PERHAPS THE MOST TELLING. IN JANUARY OF 2015 WE SUBMITTED AN EXTENSIVE RECORDS REQUEST IN ORDER TO RESEARCH A BROAD RANGE

OF QUESTIONS. WE HAD CONCERNING PERFORMANCE AT MULTNOMAH COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICE. THE COST WAS \$2,500. ONE OF OUR REQUESTS WAS FOR FINANCIAL REPORTS ON THE FOR DESIGNATED DONATION FUNDS WHICH MCAS IS TO REQUEST MONEY AND REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC. THE FRONT BALANCES TOTAL ALMOST 800,000, UPON A REVIEWER OF THE REPORTS WE RECEIVED IT WAS IMMEDIATELY CLEAR THAT THERE WERE SIGNATURE ERRORS IN THE WAY THAT THE FUNDS WERE BEING ADMINISTERED AND SPENT. THAT SAME YEAR WE TOOK THIS DISCOVERY ALONG WITH MANY OTHERS TO MULTNOMAH COUNTY AUDITOR STEVE MARCH ASKING HIM TO ADDRESS IT IN HIS UPCOMING AUDIT. AUDITOR MARCH WAS ABLE TO SUBSTANTIATE OUR FINDINGS, AND CONCLUSIONS AND AFTER ADDING EVEN MORE OF HIS OWN REPORTED HIM TO THE COMMISSION IN HIS APRIL 2016 ANIMAL SERVICES FINANCES REPORT.

Jon Gramstad: RESPONDING TO THE AUDITOR'S REVELATIONS AND SUBSEQUENT RECOMMENDATIONS, THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, KEN PEOPLES, COMMITTED TWO YEARS AGO, ACTUALLY MORE THAN TWO YEARS AGO, TO INSTITUTING A WIDE RANGING REFORM TO BRING THE FUNDS INTO COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARD FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING PRACTICES. LET'S FORWARD TO LAST SPRING'S BUDGET HEARING WHERE I ASKED THIS COMMISSION TO ENSURE THAT THESE REFORMS WERE IMPLEMENTED BEFORE ADOPTING THE MCAS'S PROPOSED BUDGET. THEY FAILED TO ACT OR INQUIRE AND PASSED THE BUDGET. THIS LAST JULY WE DID OUR OWN RESEARCH BY REQUESTING THE DONATED FUNDS FINANCIAL REPORTS. FIVE WEEKS LATER WE FOUND OUT IN A ONE-SENTENCE EMAIL RESPONSE FROM THE COUNTY RECORDS CLERK QUOTE, "FINANCE DOES NOT HAVE UP TO DATE FINANCIAL REPORTS AT THIS TIME," UNQUOTE. GIVE YOU A MOMENT TO PONDER THAT. THIS, OF COURSE, IS BUT ONE CASE STUDY OF MANY THAT DEFINED THIS FAILED AGENCY. HOW MANY MORE ARE THERE? AND IS THIS RESTRICTED TO JUST ANIMAL CONTROL? GIVEN OUR PAST ENGAGEMENT WITH MULTNOMAH COUNTY, I SUBMIT OR SUGGEST NOT. MCAS IS A DUMPSTER FIRE AND REPLACING THE CURRENT DIRECTOR AND THE PEOPLE THAT HIRED HER IS ONLY THE FIRST STEP. AND YOU OWN THIS NOW, AND WE INTEND TO LET EVERYONE KNOW ABOUT IT.

Barbara Spears: BARBARA SPEARS WITH JON. I WILL TAKE UP WHERE HE LEFT OFF. JON AND I PRESENTED THE FINDINGS THAT HE JUST REFERENCED TO COMMISSIONER MEIERAN AT OUR MEETING WITH HER ON TUESDAY. WE HAD ONLY 40 MINUTES TO MAKE OUR CASE. TIME ENOUGH TO PRESENT ONLY ONE EXAMPLE OF THE MANY PIECES OF DAMNING INFORMATION THAT WE HAVE ON MCAS. ONE EXAMPLE AMONGST MANY OF THE EPIC FAILURE WE DISCOVERED. AFTER THE MEETING WE WENT HOME TO REGROUP LOOKING AROUND AT THE BOXES OF FILE FOLDERS CONTAINING THE RESULTS OF MULTIPLE RECORDS REQUESTS, AND THE VAST NUMBERS OF REPORTS AND THE APPEALS THAT WE HAVE WRITTEN TO PRESENT TO LEADERSHIP AND OFFICIALS, THE QUESTION AROSE, IS THIS THE WAY THAT YOU WANT COUNTY GOVERNMENT TO RUN? FORCING CITIZENS WITH LEGITIMATE, WELL DOCUMENTED CONCERNS? TO SUBMIT RECORDS REQUESTS AFTER RECORDS REQUEST? TRYING TO FERRET OUT EVERY DETAIL SO WE CAN CONNECT ENOUGH OF THE MISSING DOTS TO PROVE TO YOU THAT A CHRONICALLY FAILING AGENCY NEEDS YOUR IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION?

Barbara Spears: ISN'T THAT YOUR JOB? TO HAVE THE CURIOSITY, THE SENSE OF URGENCY, THE RESPONSIBILITY AND THE DRIVE TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT? WE ARE NOW RESIGNED TO THE FACT THAT EXPOSING EVEN THE MOST BLATANT DEFICIENCY IN THE HOPES THAT SOMETHING WILL BE DONE IS FUTILE. IF WE HAD A HEARING IN A COURT OF LAW, AND WERE GIVEN THE CHANCE TO PRESENT OUR CASE IN TOTALITY WITH THE VOLUMES OF EVIDENT WE HAVE GATHERED WE WOULD WIN AN IMMEDIATE SWEEPING IN OUR FAVOR. YOUR LACK OF INTEREST AND ACTION HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN KEEPING US AT BAY. BUT IT WILL NO LONGER. WE ARE DONE WITH THE APPEALS, WITH THE MEETINGS, WITH THE RECORDS REQUESTS, WELL, MAYBE NOT WITH THE RECORDS REQUESTS. WITH THE SHARED INTERESTS AND CONCERNS. WE WILL NOW BE TAKING OUR CASE DIRECTLY TO THE ANIMAL-LOVING TAX-PAYING PUBLIC. AND BY THE WAY, OUR UPDATED WEBSITE LAUNCHES THIS WEEKEND. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU.

Lightning: YES. MY NAME IS LIGHTNING. I REPRESENT LIGHTNING SUPER DISRUPTER ATTACK DOG. YOU HAVE GOT YOUR FULL PAGE ON TAKING CARE OF THE ANIMALS, WHICH YOU DON'T SEEM TO KNOW HOW TO DO. WHEN YOU LOOK AT THIS PAGE, REMEMBER THAT THIS IS NOT SOMETHING TO GIVE YOU ACCOLADES ABOUT, AS YOU KNOW, I AM NOT AN ACCOLADIST. AND YOU WON'T GET ACCOLADES FROM ME ON THIS. NOW MOVING ALONG DUE TO THE CONDUCT OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY I AM ASKING TO HAVE AN IMMEDIATE PAY RAISE FREEZE. THERE IS NO REASON TO PAY ANY PAY RAISES TO MULTNOMAH COUNTY DUE TO THEIR CONDUCT, DUE TO THEIR BEHAVIOR, AND LET ME SAY THIS TO YOU, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES PUT A PAY FREEZE ON FEDERAL EMPLOYEES, AND I AM DEMANDING THAT CHAIR KAFOURY MAKE A STAND TO THE CONDUCT, DUE TO THE BEHAVIOR OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY TO PUT A PAY FREEZE IN EFFECT UNTIL WE BEGIN TO LOOK AT ALL OF THIS AND BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND THAT YOU DO NOT DESERVE THAT PAY RAISE. AND BY THE WAY, TO YOUR GOOD FRIEND SENATOR RON WYDEN, LET ME SAY THIS TO YOU, I AM APPALLED AT YOU. I AM DISGUSTED IN YOU. I AM ASKING YOU TO STEP DOWN IMMEDIATELY, AND LET ME READ A PHRASE THAT YOU USED IN THE PUBLICATION TO GOOD PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES, TO GOOD PEOPLE. THE RUSSIANS ARE LIKE BURGLARS. WYDEN SAID. THEY ARE AT THE DOORS. AT THE WINDOWS. KNOCKING. SEEING WHAT'S OPEN. LOOKING FOR PLACES TO PENETRATE. HOW DARE YOU OFFENDER THE RUSSIAN COMMUNITY! STEP DOWN IMMEDIATELY, MR. WYDEN. YOU ARE A DISGRACE. STEP DOWN IMMEDIATELY. GET OUT OF OFFICE. YOU'VE BEEN THERE TOO LONG. YOU ARE A DISGRACE. TO THE RUSSIAN COMMUNITY. AND I STAND ALONG, ALONGSIDE THEM FOR YOUR COMMENTS. STEP DOWN, SIR. RETIRE IN DISGRACE. IT'S TIME TO LEAVE.

Joe Walsh: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS JOE WALSH. I REPRESENT INDIVIDUALS FOR JUSTICE. LAST WEEK THE PRESIDING OFFICIAL AT THIS MEETING, LORI STEGMANN, SAID SOME REALLY KIND WORDS AT THE END. I DON'T USUALLY STAY HERE FOR THE MEETING, MY OXYGEN JUST DOESN'T ALLOW ME TO DO THAT, BUT LAST WEEK IT WAS A VERY SHORT MEETING SO I COULD STAY AND I WAS IN THE BACK WHEN SHE MADE HER STATEMENTS. THE STATEMENTS HAD TO DO WITH THIS -- I APPEALED TO THIS BOARD TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT

AGAINST WHAT'S GOING ON IN WASHINGTON D.C., A STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT SAYING THAT THE PRESS IS THE ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE. MY ARGUMENT IS THAT WE CAN NO LONGER JUST KIND OF GO ALONG. WE HAVE TO BE ON OUR TOES, AND WE HAVE TO DO WHAT WE CAN DO. I CAN COME TO YOU, AND ASK YOU TO STAND UP AND MAKE STATEMENTS THAT SAYS, WE ARE A PEOPLE LIVING IN THE REPUBLIC.

Joe Walsh: WE BELIEVE IN THE BILL OF RIGHTS. WE BELIEVE IN THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS EVEN WHEN WE DISAGREE WITH THEM. AND I DISAGREE WITH THE PRESS A LOT. HOWEVER, I WOULD DIE DEFENDING THEIR RIGHTS TO THE PRESS. WE HAVE TO HAVE THE FREEDOM OF PRESS. IT IS FUNDAMENTAL TO OUR REPUBLIC. SHE MADE SOME NICE STATEMENTS, AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK HER. UNFORTUNATELY SHE'S NOT HERE THIS WEEK. BUT I AM SURE THAT SHE IS EITHER LISTENING TO IT OR WILL SEE THE VIDEO. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR DOING THAT. WE CAN'T STAND BACK ON OUR HEELS. WE HAVE TO BE ON OUR TOES. AND WE HAVE TO CALL THESE PEOPLE OUT. WHEN THEY SAY THINGS LIKE THAT, I DON'T CARE IF IT'S THE PRESIDENT OR THE VICE PRESIDENT OR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE. WHY CAN I DON'T CARE WHO THEY ARE. WE HAVE TO CALL THEM OUT AND SAY NO. THAT'S NOT WHAT AMERICA STANDS FOR. AND SHE DID THAT. AND SHE USED YOUR NAME, AND SHE SAID THAT THE BOARD PROBABLY, OR DOES SUPPORT HER STATEMENTS. AND I PROMISED HER THAT I WOULD GIVE HER A FEW SECONDS BACK BECAUSE AGAIN I WENT OVER THE LAST WEEK. SO I OWE YOU A ABOUT FIVE OR TEN SECONDS, SO I AM GIVING IT BACK TO YOU THIS WEEK. WELL, MAYBE NEXT WEEK I WILL TRY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Chair Kafoury: GOOD MORNING.

Charles Johnson: GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS. FOR THE RECORD I AM CHARLES BRIDGECRANE JOHNSON, AND I GUESS WAS HE JUMP INTO THE MIDDLE OF MR. LIGHTNING'S TESTIMONY AND SAY THAT I HOPE THAT IN NO WAY WILL YOU EVER BE CONSTRUED AS FOLLOWING THE TERRIBLE EXAMPLE OF THE CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THAT YOU WILL MAKE SURE THAT ALL MULTNOMAH COUNTY EMPLOYEES GET THEIR FULL RAISES THAT ARE DUE. YESTERDAY AT THE CITY THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION ABOUT MERIT PAY. I HAVE NEVER HEARD HOW THE DIFFERENT INCENTIVE STRUCTURES HERE TO WORK TO REWARD OUR GREAT EMPLOYEES. I KNOW THAT THE BUDGET IS TIGHT, SO MAYBE IT'S NOT A THRILLING THING FOR ME TO COME HERE AND SAY, HEY, DO YOU HAVE A STRUCTURE TO GIVE 4% BONUSES TO THE MOST MERITORIOUS EMPLOYEES? YOU PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE THAT EVEN IF THE BUDGET IS TIGHT. SO THE IDEA THAT OUR GOVERNMENT COULD WASTE MONEY ON SO MANY VIOLENT AND RIDICULOUS PROGRAMS OVERSEAS AND NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE 2% RAISES TO HARD WORKING FEDERAL EMPLOYEES, PARTICULARLY MR. MUELLER, MAYBE, IS JUST RIDICULOUS. WE MIGHT AS WELL TALK ABOUT MR. WYDEN'S COMMENTS AND THE RUSSIANS, TOO. IT SEEMS TO BE QUITE THE INFASHION THING FOR WHITE PEOPLE TO PUT THEIR COUNTRY UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF A LUNATIC BILLIONAIRE DICTATOR, OKAY, TRUMP IS NOT QUITE TO THE LEVEL OF A DICTATOR YET. BUT HIS ROLE MODEL SEEMS TO BE VLADIMIR PUTIN. THE ONLY MAN THAT HE COULD FIND MORE CORRUPT THAN HIMSELF.

Charles Johnson: SO IT'S NOTHING BAD ABOUT THE RUSSIANS. NATIONS NEED TO ACT IN THEIR SELF-INTEREST. VLADIMIR PUTIN IS EVEN BETTER AT SELF-INTEREST THAN DONALD TRUMP BECAUSE VLADIMIR PUTIN IS NOT SO BUSY ON TWITTER. SENATOR WYDEN, I DON'T ALWAYS AGREE WITH BUT HE IS CORRECT WHEN HE SAYS THAT WE NEED TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THOSE RUSSIANS WHO ARE EXTREMELY LOYAL TO PUTIN, WHETHER OR NOT THEY WORK FOR THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT AND HOW MUCH THEY WOULD LOVE TO DABBLE IN AMERICAN ELECTIONS AND ENSURE THAT AMERICA HAS INCOMPETENT BAFOONS PRESIDING OVER THE COUNTRY. SO ON A MORE LOCAL BASIS, JOE WALSH'S SENTIMENTS THAT YOU SHOULD ALWAYS KNOW THAT, HOPEFULLY THE MAJORITY OF THE CITIZENS HAVE YOUR BACK WHEN YOU SPEAK UP ABOUT THE FACT THAT, WHATEVER PROBLEMS THE PRESS MAY HAVE, LOCALLY OR WITH ODD PUBLICATIONS LIKE THE OREGONIAN OR TO THE ADVANCED PUBLICATION AND SOME WHATNOT. THE WORST OF THE PRESS, EXCEPT MIGHT BE BARTON AND THOSE GUYS, IS BETTER THAN THE PRESIDENT. SO DON'T BE ASHAMED TO MAKE STATEMENTS ENDORSING THE INDEPENDENCE AND THE GENERAL ACCURACY OF THE PRESS, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE ATTACKS ON THE PRESS ARE COMING FROM PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO CONCEPT OF ACCURACY OR TRUTHFULNESS. THANK YOU.

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

##### **R.1 Resolution Confirming Interim Designation for Multnomah County Chair. Presenter: Chair Deborah Kafoury.**

Chair Kafoury: COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON MOVES, COMMISSIONER MEIERAN SECONDS APPROVAL OF R1. WELL, I AM VERY EXCITED TODAY TO PUT FORWARD A WONDERFUL PERSON TO BE MY INTERIM DESIGNEE AT MULTNOMAH COUNTY. WE HAVE A DIFFERENT STANDARD THAN OTHER COUNTY, OTHER COMMUNITIES DO. WE ACTUALLY PUT OUR INTERN DESIGNEES AND HAVE A VOTE BEFORE THE BOARD SO THAT IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY OR WE LEAVE OFFICE OR WE GET HIT BY A BUS THERE IS SOMEONE TO STAND IN UNTIL THE NEXT ELECTION OCCURS. OTHER JURISDICTIONS DON'T HAVE THIS PRACTICE BUT WE DO, AND IT ACTUALLY GIVES ME AN OPPORTUNITY THIS MORNING TO TALK ABOUT MY CHIEF OF STAFF, KIM MILTON, WHO IS POSSIBLY ONE OF THE SMARTEST PEOPLE THAT I HAVE MET IN MY ENTIRE LIFE, AND I WILL GIVE YOU A BACKGROUND TO PROVE IT'S NOT JUST ME THAT THINKS THAT SHE IS SO SMART. SHE ACTUALLY HAS DOCUMENTATION OF IT. KIM MILTON GOT A DEGREE FROM STANFORD UNIVERSITY, AND A MASTER'S DEGREE FROM U.C. BERKELEY. SHE STARTED HER CAREER AS A JOURNALIST WORKING AT NEWSPAPERS IN SACRAMENTO, SAN FRANCISCO, NEW ORLEANS, AND FINALLY HERE AT THE OREGONIAN. SHE WENT TO WORK FOR STANFORD CHILDREN ORGANIZING PARENTS ACROSS OUR COUNTY TO ADVOCATE FOR THE SUCCESS OF THEIR CHILDREN IN A COMMUNITY, IN AN ORGANIZATION THAT SOMETIMES HASN'T LISTENED TO VOICES OF PARENTS WHO HAVE FELT MARGINALIZED AND DISCRIMINATED AGAINST, AND SHE CONTINUED THAT COMING HERE TO MULTNOMAH COUNTY TO WORK ON MY STAFF.

IT WAS HER GREAT WORK THAT HELPED US TO DO A MONUMENTAL SHIFT IN THE WAY THAT WE PROVIDE SERVICES THROUGH THE SUN SCHOOL SYSTEM, SWITCHING TO A MORE CULTURALLY SPECIFIC CENTERED WAY OF ALLOCATING THOSE DOLLARS. IT WAS A CHALLENGING SHIFT, AND SHE HANDLED IT WITH GRACE AND INTELLECT AS USUAL, AND

THEN SIX MONTHS AGO SHE STEPPED IN AS MY CHIEF OF STAFF WHEN NANCY BENNETT LEFT MY OFFICE. I DON'T THINK THAT THERE IS A PERSON AT MULTNOMAH COUNTY WHO WOULD DISAGREE WITH ME ABOUT WHAT A FABULOUS PERSON THAT SHE IS, SO I AM HONORED TO BE ABLE TO PUT KIM MILTON? I THINK THAT SHE SHOULD BE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BUT THAT'S A DIFFERENT STORY. SO I SUBMIT TO YOU KIMBERLY MILTON AS MY INTERIM DESIGNEE. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? DO YOU HAVE A PREPARED SPEECH TO READ? DO A WE HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FOR MYSELF OR FOR KIMBERLY?

Commissioner Meieran: I JUST WANT TO SAY DITTO. I'VE ONLY BEEN ABLE TO HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF WORKING WITH KIM FOR THE PAST LIKE YEAR AND EIGHTISH MONTHS SINCE I HAVE GOTTEN TO THE COUNTY, BUT THERE IS NO ONE THAT I CAN THINK OF WHO IS MORE QUALIFIED, MORE PERSONABLE, AND I AM THRILLED TO SUPPORT HER AS YOUR DESIGNEE.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR, THANK YOU FOR BRINGING KIM FORWARD. HOW ARE YOU DOING, KIM?

Kimberly Melton: VERY WELL, THANK YOU COMMISSIONER.

Commissioner Smith: THIS IS A HUGE, HUGE HONOR, AND I JUST HAVE TO SAY DITTO, DITTO, DITTO, TOO, BECAUSE I DON'T THINK THAT THERE IS ANY MORE APPROPRIATE, DESERVING, AND COMPETENT PERSON WHO CAN DO THIS JOB AT THIS TIME, AND YOU ARE IN THE RIGHT POSITION AND THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME. YOU ARE PROBABLY ONE OF THE SMARTEST PEOPLE THAT I KNOW, TOO, SO I THINK THAT THIS IS GREAT. CONGRATULATIONS.

Kimberly Melton: THANK YOU.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: THANK YOU, CHAIR. KIM, I AM SO HAPPY TO SUPPORT THIS MOTION, ALTHOUGH I HOPE THAT IT IS JUST A FORMALITY AND WE WON'T HAVE TO USE IT. I HAVE NO DOUBT OF YOUR CAPABILITY TO FULFILL THE ROLE SHOULD YOU HAVE TO, AND I ALSO YOU KNOW, MY FIRST EXPERIENCE WITH YOU WAS ACTUALLY BEFORE I, I CAME ONTO THE COMMISSION WHEN I WAS A STATE REP AND WE WERE WORKING WITH THE SUN SYSTEM, THE SUN SCHOOL AND THE CHANGES THERE AND HOW IT WAS IMPACTING THE SCHOOLS IN MY DISTRICT. AND JUST THAT FIRST MEETING WITH YOU, YOU WERE SO GRACEFUL AND CONSIDERATE AND REALLY OPEN AND REALLY HAD A WONDERFUL WAY OF JUST MANAGING DIFFICULT SITUATIONS AND CONVERSATIONS, AND MY RESPECT FOR YOU AS I GET TO WORK WITH YOU MORE AND LEARN MORE BUT AS GROWN, SO I AM SO HAPPY TO SUPPORT THIS TODAY.

Kimberly Melton: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN ME, AND I CAN'T THINK OF A MORE MEANINGFUL HONOR AND OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AND TO CONTINUE TO SERVE AND BE A RESOURCE FOR THIS COMMUNITY. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. I THINK THAT WE HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT.

Board Clerk: YES. WE HAVE ONE PUBLIC COMMENT.

Charles Johnson: GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS. FOR THE RECORD CHARLES BRIDGECRANE JOHNSON. THIS IS BEAUTIFUL. IT WILL BE EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL WHEN THE INSIDERS IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AFTER WE HAVE THIS NATIONAL BLUEWAY VICTORY IN NOVEMBER, LATER ON THE INSIDERS IN THE PARTY CAN GET TOGETHER AND REALIZE THAT WHAT OREGON NEEDS IS GOVERNOR DEBORAH KAFOURY SO WHEN YOU STEP DOWN TO BE IN GOOD ACCORD WITH THE FINANCE LAWS, AND KIM IS BURDENED WITH TAKING OVER AND FILLING YOUR SHOES, THIS WILL BE A WONDERFUL THING, AND IF THAT MEANS THAT THE PARTY HAS CHOSEN YOURSELF OVER THE CURRENT MAYOR OF PORTLAND, OH, WELL. AND ALSO, YOU KNOW, WE WON'T GO INTO DETAILS BUT IT'S NICE TO SEE HOW THIS HAS MOVED FORWARD SINCE THERE WAS EARLIER TALK ABOUT WHAT THE BEST ROLE, STRATEGIES FOR MAKING THIS DESIGNATION WERE. I THINK THAT WE SHOULD LOOK TO THE PAST. IF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY DOESN'T COME TO ITS SENSES, YOU ARE THE BEST CANDIDATE TO BE GOVERNOR AFTER KATE, THEN YOU WILL JUST HAVE TO FIND A WORTHY PERSON ON YOUR STAFF TO HAVE CONSENSUAL HANKY-PANKY WITH SO WE CAN HAVE A REDO OF THE MARISA MADRIGAL TO POWER BECAUSE THAT WORKED WELL FOR THE COUNTY. JEFF HAD HIS ADVANTAGES BUT IT WAS GREAT HAVING MARISSA OUTDO HIM, AND IT WOULD BE OKAY IF YOU HAD TO PUT UP WITH KIM TAKING YOUR JOB AND OUTPERFORMING YOU, THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE. [UNANIMOUS AYES] THE RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

**R.2 Interstate Mutual Law Enforcement Assistance Agreement between the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (Oregon) and the Clark County Sheriff's Office (Washington).  
Presenters: Michael Reese, Sheriff and Jason Gates, Chief Deputy of Law Enforcement Division.**

Chair Kafoury: COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON MOVES, COMMISSIONER MEIERAN SECONDS APPROVAL OF R.2.

Chief Deputy Jason Gates: GOOD MORNING CHAIR KAFOURY AND COMMISSIONERS. I AM JASON GATES, SHERIFF REESE'S CHIEF DEPUTY OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION IN SUPPORT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COLLABORATION PROVISIONS WITHIN OREGON AND WASHINGTON LAW ALLOW FOR A MUTUAL AID AMONG LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES. THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE DESIRE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON LAW AS WE RECOGNIZE OUR GEOGRAPHICAL PROXIMITY INVOLVES THE MIGRATION OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, AND OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY NEEDS.

Chief Deputy Jason Gates: ADDITIONALLY, THIS AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR BILATERAL AID AND-OR ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF PERSONNEL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE WHEN EVENTS OCCUR THAT EXCEED THE OPERATIONAL CAPACITY OF EITHER AGENCY. A PRIMARY EXAMPLE BEING NATURAL DISASTER. THE SPECIFIC MCSO UNITS TO

WHICH THIS AGREEMENT PROVIDES OPERATIONAL AUTHORITY AND MUTUAL AID INCLUDE THE REAR PATROL UNIT, SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT, PATROL DETECTIVES, AND SWAT, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THOSE, AND THIS AGREEMENT IS NOT NEW, BUT IS AN UPDATED AGREEMENT THOROUGHLY VETTED THROUGH THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY COUNCIL AND CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL. THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE INTERSTATE MUTUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WHICH PROVIDES RECIPROCAL, CROSS JURISDICTIONAL AUTHORITY TO LEGALLY PERFORM THE DUTIES NECESSARY TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY AND INVESTIGATE CRIMES. I AM HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

Chair Kafoury: DO WE HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? DO WE HAVE PUBLIC TESTIMONY?

Board Clerk: YES, WE HAVE ONE, JOE WALSH, CAN YOU PLEASE COME UP?

Joe Walsh: GOOD MORNING. FOR THE RECORD AGAIN MY NAME IS JOE WALSH. I REPRESENT INDIVIDUALS FOR JUSTICE. WE HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT WHEN WE WERE IN A PROTEST, WE OFTEN RUN INTO SHERIFFS AND POLICE OFFICERS FROM OTHER JURISDICTIONS. AND OUR CONCERN IS THAT THEY MAY HAVE AN AGREEMENT, BUT WHAT HAPPENS IS THAT THEY REVERSE TO WHAT THEY ARE NORMALLY USED TO, AND WE HAVE A BIG PROBLEM WITH THAT, THAT WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THE RULES ARE. WHEN YOU DO THIS KIND OF STUFF. WHEN YOU BRING IN OUTSIDERS FROM PORTLAND, AND THEY ACT AS POLICE OFFICERS IN A PROTEST. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE INVOLVEMENT OF CITIZENS. AS YOU LOOK AT THE DOCUMENTS, IT SAYS THAT THERE WAS NO COMMUNITY INPUT INTO THIS AGREEMENT AT ALL. SO WHAT THEY ARE SAYING TO US IS WE KNOW BETTER THAN YOU DO, AND WE ARE GOING TO OVERRIDE OR TO DICTATE WHAT THE TERMS ARE WITHOUT IT ANY INPUT FROM THE CITIZENS. NONE! SO WE GET VERY NERVOUS.

WE SAY TO YOU, AND WE KNOW YOU ARE GOING TO VOTE FOR THIS, BUT WE ARE GOING ON RECORD AND SAYING YOU KNOW, YOU MIGHT WANT TO BE A LITTLE CAUTIOUS AND SAY TO THESE GUYS, WE WANT YOU TO HAVE SOME KIND OF COMMITTEE INPUT OF WHAT YOU GUYS ARE GOING TO DO. WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH A PROTEST? WHAT ARE THE RULES? WHO GOVERNS THE RULES? IS IT THE SHERIFF? IS IT SOMEBODY ELSE? SO WE HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT THIS, AND WE KNOW IT'S ONLY SUPPOSED TO TAKE FIVE MINUTES AND OFF YOU GO. THINK ABOUT THIS FOR A BIT. JUST A LITTLE BIT. AND WE WANT TO BE ON THE RECORD TO CAUTION PEOPLE, WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE CITIZEN INPUT, THERE IS A PROBLEM. AND YOU HAVE TO ASK YOURSELF, WHY DON'T THEY WANT CITIZEN INPUT ON THIS? THAT'S OUR OBJECTIONS. AND I AM GIVING YOU BACK SOME TIME.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU MR. WALSH.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: I JUST HAD A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS. I WAS LOOKING AT THE AGREEMENT AND I JUST WANTED TO PUT ON THE RECORD THAT THE FACT THAT ANY OF THE OFFICERS FOR OUR CLARK COUNTY THAT COME IN WOULD HAVE TO FOLLOW THE OREGON STATE RULES AND GUIDELINES AS WELL AS THE TRAINING STANDARDS THAT WAS LISTED OUT IN THE AGREEMENT?

Chief Deputy Jason Gates: THAT IS CORRECT. THAT REQUIREMENT IS RECIPROCAL.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: OKAY. COULD YOU JUST WALK THROUGH WHAT IT WOULD LOOK LIKE IN A SITUATION WHERE THIS WOULD BE NEEDED TO INVOKE THIS KIND OF WORK, LIKE HOW DO YOU LET THEM KNOW THAT YOU ARE GOING OR A SITUATION WHERE THIS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO HAPPEN?

Chief Deputy Jason Gates: YEAH. SO ONE EXAMPLE WOULD BE IF WE ARE INVESTIGATING A CRIME, OUR DETECTIVES ARE INVESTIGATING A CRIME THAT OCCURRED IN OREGON, HOWEVER THERE IS SOME IMPLICATION THAT THE CRIMINAL ACTIVITY IS IN YOU KNOW, THE PERSON MIGHT BE FROM OR IS STAYING IN VANCOUVER, FOR INSTANCE. AND THAT WE WOULD NEED TO DO SURVEILLANCE OR INVESTIGATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THAT CRIMINAL ACTIVITY IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON. WE WOULD COORDINATE WITH THE CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN REFERENCE TO WHAT, WHAT, WHAT WE WERE DOING. WHAT THE PARAMETERS AND RULES OF ENGAGEMENT OF WHAT WE WERE DOING, AND SO THAT THEY WOULD BE AWARE OF OUR PRESENCE AND WHY WE ARE THERE. ANOTHER EXAMPLE WOULD BE A FRESH PURSUIT WHICH YOU NEED AN AGREEMENT FOR. IF THERE IS A PURSUIT THAT STARTS IN THE STATE OF OREGON OR WASHINGTON, YOU HAVE A WASHINGTON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OR AN OREGON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. THEY CAN GO INTO THE ADJOINING STATE AND CONTINUE THAT PURSUIT. ADDITIONALLY IF WE HAVE ONE OF OUR MARKED CARS THAT IS IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON AND SEES A CRASH OR A DISABLED VEHICLE, THEY ARE WAVED DOWN, THEY HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO ASSIST IN THOSE MATTERS AS WELL SO IF THERE IS A MULTITUDE OF DIFFERENT REASONS, BUT THE PROCESS OF COMMUNICATION WITH CLARK COUNTY OR IF CLARK COUNTY IS COMING OVER HERE, IT IS VERY PRESENT.

Chair Kafoury: ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? ALL RIGHT. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE. [UNANIMOUS AYES] THE IGA IS APPROVED.

**R.3 Proclaiming September 15 through October 15, 2018 as Hispanic and Latinx Heritage Month in Multnomah County, Oregon. Presenters: Representative Andrea Salinas, House District 38; Juan Martinez, Latino Network; Diana Nunez, Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber; Orlando Zurita-Rodriguez, Multnomah County; Linda Castillo, Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs.**

Chair Kafoury: COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON MOVES, COMMISSIONER MEIERAN SECONDS APPROVAL OF R.3.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: THANK YOU CHAIR. I AM HAPPY TO BRING THIS FORWARD TODAY TO CELEBRATE LATINX HERITAGE MONTH FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY. THE ACTUAL MONTH STARTS IN SEPTEMBER 15 AND GOES TO OCTOBER 15 SO WE ARE A BIT EARLY BUT WE WILL HAVE IT IN PLACE SO WE WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE THIS PROCLAMATION WITH THE ORGANIZATIONS WHO LIKE TO KEEP TRACK OF ALL OF THE DIFFERENT PROCLAMATIONS

HAPPENING THROUGHOUT OUR STATE. THIS YEAR I WAS ABLE TO REWORK AND REWORD THE PROCLAMATION A BIT SO REFLECT THE ROLE OF THE LATINX COMMUNITY HERE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, AND IN DOING THE RESEARCH FOR THAT, I READ THE HISTORY, AND REALLY THE LATINX POPULATION HAS BEEN HERE IN OUR LAND SINCE BEFORE OREGON WAS EVEN A STATE. WE HAVE A REALLY LONG LIFT OF BEING HERE. FAMILIES THAT HAVE BEEN HERE FOR GENERATIONS, BUT WE ALSO HAVE SOME OF THE NEWEST ARRIVALS TO OUR STATE AS PART OF OUR COMMUNITY AS WELL. AND THIS PROCLAMATION, I THINK, REFLECTS THE BREATH AND DEPTH OF THE ADDITIONS AND THE LIFE THAT WE HAVE GIVEN TO OUR STATE AND OUR COUNTY.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: BUT I ALSO WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE PRESENT MOMENT THAT WE ARE IN TODAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY. WE ARE LIVING UNDER A PRESIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATION WHO IS RACIST REMARKS AND ACTIONS HAVE CREATED FEAR AND STRESS WITHIN OUR COMMUNITIES THAT MANY OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS ARE LIVING WITH EVERY DAY. WE HAVE AMERICANS WHO ARE BEING DENIED PASSPORTS BASED ON THE COLOR OF THEIR SKIN RIGHT NOW IN PARTS OF OUR COUNTRY. AND WE HAVE BEEN VILIFIED BECAUSE OF THE COLOR OF OUR SKIN AND THE COLOR OF THE SKIN OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS. SO THERE IS A LOT OF SUFFERING THAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY NOW, SO I WANTED TO NOTE THAT, BUT I WANTED TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REALLY LIFT UP THE GOOD THINGS THAT ARE HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY. I AM THANKFUL FOR THE PANELISTS HERE TODAY TO HELP TALK ABOUT THIS PROCLAMATION BECAUSE I THINK THAT EACH OF THEM IN THEIR OWN WAY, WHETHER IT'S AS AN ELECTED LEADER, WORKING WITH THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY OR AS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION OR AS A MULTNOMAH COUNTY EMPLOYEE, ARE REALLY ADDING TO THE VIBRANCY LEADERSHIP AND THE STRENGTH OF OUR COMMUNITIES. I WOULD ASK OUR PANELISTS TO COME DOWN.

WE HAVE REPRESENTATIVE ANDREA SALINAS FROM HOUSE DISTRICT 38. JUAN MARTINEZ FROM THE LATINO NETWORK. DIANA NUNEZ FROM THE HISPANIC METROPOLITAN CHAMBER. WE HAVE ORLANDO ZURITA-RODRIGUEZ FROM MULTNOMAH COUNTY, AND THEN LINDA CASTILLO FROM THE OREGON COMMISSION ON HISPANIC AFFAIRS, AND WE ONLY HAVE FOUR CHAIRS AND THERE IS FIVE OF YOU SO I THINK THAT WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO SWITCH OUT AT SOME POINT BUT THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR BEING HERE TODAY.

Representative Andrea Salinas: THANK YOU CHAIR KAFOURY AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION, I AM ANDREA SALINAS AND I SERVE AS THE STATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 38, LAKE OSWEGO AND SOUTHWEST PORTLAND. I THINK IT WAS JUST ABOUT A YEAR AGO WHEN I WAS APPOINTED TO MY CURRENT SEAT, AND I WAS SITTING RIGHT HERE AS A NEW LEGISLATOR PROVIDING TESTIMONY FOR LATINX HERITAGE MONTH, SO THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME BACK AND FOR THE SUPPORT OF MY APPOINTMENT. A LOT HAPPENED IN THE LAST YEAR, AND I'VE BEEN THROUGH A SHORT LEGISLATIVE SESSION. I PASSED THREE OF MY TOP FOUR PRIORITY BILLS WITH BIPARTISAN SUPPORT, BUT THE HARDEST PART HAS BEEN WITNESSING A U.S. PRESIDENT RIP APART STRUGGLING FAMILIES. SO AS I WAS REFLECTING ON THIS DAY AND THIS MONTH I ALSO WANTED TO, AND AS I WAS REFLECTING ON MY

PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS, MY PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND OUR FEDERAL FAILURES, I FELT THE NEED TO ALSO JUST REFLECT ON MY FAMILY AND WHAT SOME OF MY PERSONAL CHALLENGES HAVE BEEN.

Representative Andrea Salinas: MY MOM DIED A FEW WEEKS AGO OF EARLY ONSET ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE. IT WAS CHALLENGING IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS OF HER LIFE AND MY FAMILY AND I COORDINATED HER CARE AND HER END OF LIFE PLAN. BUT IT WAS A BLESSING WHEN SHE FINALLY PASSED PEACEFULLY AT HOME. THEN THE HEALING BEGAN. I WENT DOWN TO CALIFORNIA TO HONOR HER LIFE AND TO BE WITH FAMILY. IT WAS SUCH A REMARKABLE OCCASION TO SEE COUSINS, AUNTS, UNCLES AND FAMILY FRIENDS THAT I HAD NOT SEEN SINCE I WAS A CHILD. THE CORDOVAS, THE SILVAS, LOPEZS, I MEAN, EVERYBODY FROM ALL OVER WERE THERE TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER AS WE GRIEVED AND CELEBRATED MY MOM'S LIFE. AND THAT IS WHAT LATINX HERITAGE MEANS TO ME. IT MEANS FAMILY WHO ARE THERE FOR YOU WHEN YOU NEED THEM. IT MEANS THAT WHEREVER YOU ARE IN THE WORLD OR AT YOUR POINT OF LIFE, YOUR HIGH OR LOW POINT, YOU HAVE PEOPLE TO CARE FOR AND WHO WILL CARE FOR YOU. AND THAT, THAT MAKES THE ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION EVEN MORE UNTHINKABLE AND REPREHENSIBLE.

FAMILIES ARE COMING TO OUR COUNTRY AND TO OREGON TO SEEK REFUGE AND FUTURE OPPORTUNITY. JUST AS MY FAMILY DID WHEN THEY CAME TO WORK IN THE TEXAS FIELDS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LAST CENTURY. THEY RELIED ON EACH OTHER FOR WORK. TO TRANSLATE A LANGUAGE THAT THEY DID NOT KNOW AND SUPPORT TO SEEK A BETTER LIFE. I WITNESSED THIS CULTURE OF SOLIDARITY AND COMFORT AT MY MOM'S SERVICE. IT REALLY ANGERS ME THAT OUR GOVERNMENT WOULD SEVER THE MOST BASIC TENANTS OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A FAMILY. IN LATINX CULTURE OR ANY OTHER CULTURE. I REFUSE TO BELIEVE THAT PEOPLE OF THE U.S. OR THE PEOPLE OF OREGON WILL TOLERATE SUCH DECISIVENESS AND HURT. WE ARE BETTER THAN THAT. I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL VOTE DOWN BALLOT MEASURE 105, WHICH SEEKS TO PROFILE OUR NEIGHBORS AND REFUSE OPPORTUNITY TO THOSE WHO CALL OREGON HOME. TODAY'S LATINX PROCLAMATION IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER. IT IS TIME TO SHOUT FROM THE ROOFTOPS THAT MULTNOMAH COUNTY RECOGNIZES THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR LATINX COMMUNITY AND WILL HONOR THEIR EQUALLY VALUABLE LIVES. THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THIS PROCLAMATION FORWARD, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR CONTINUED WORK TOGETHER. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

Juan Martinez: GOOD MORNING CHAIR KAFOURY AND COMMISSIONERS. FOR THE RECORD I AM JUAN MARTINEZ, AND I AM HERE REPRESENTING LATINO NETWORK. I HAVE BEEN IN THE ROLE OF DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS FOR LATINO NETWORK FOR NOW 2.5 MONTHS. STILL LEARNING A LOT ABOUT THE GREAT WORK THAT WE DO THIS, WHICH IS VERY EXTENSIVE, BUT I AM EXCITED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE SOME OF THE INCREDIBLE WORK THAT'S HAPPENING OUT OF THE ORGANIZATION WITH YOU ALL TODAY. AND TO BE A PART OF THIS IMPORTANT PROCLAMATION, SO THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME AND FOR BRINGING THERE TO A REALITY. AT LATINO NETWORK WE BELIEVE IN

COMMUNITY SELF DETERMINATION. THIS IS THE ABILITY TO HAVE COMMUNITY MEMBERS PARTICIPATE MEANINGFULLY IN MAKING DECISIONS THAT AFFECT OUR LIVES. AS A CULTURALLY SPECIFIC ORGANIZATION THE MAJORITY OF OUR STAFF AND BOARD IDENTIFY AS LATINX. AND OUR PROGRAMS ARE DRIVEN BY THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY.

Juan Martinez: OUR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS HELP TO PREPARE CHILDREN FOR KINDERGARTEN, TO SUPPORT STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THEIR JOURNEY TO GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL AND TO PREPARE THEM FOR SUCCESSES IN BOTH COLLEGE AND THEIR PROFESSIONAL CAREERS. ONE OF OUR CORE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS KNOWN AS [INAUDIBLE] WORKS TO PREPARE CHILDREN OR PARENTS TO BE THEIR CHILDREN'S FIRST TEACHERS WHILE PREPARING THE CHILDREN FOR THEIR SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL EXPERIENCES. OF THE RECENT PARTICIPANTS OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL PROGRAM 98 OF THEM GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND ARE NOW ENROLLED IN EITHER COLLEGE OR PROGRAMS, WHICH IS REALLY EXCITING. WE CURRENTLY OPERATE PROGRAMS IN 37 SCHOOL SITES ACROSS MULTNOMAH AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES SERVING OVER 7200 STUDENTS AND FAMILIES EACH AND EVERY YEAR. ANOTHER BIG PIECE OF THE WORK IS OUR FAMILY STABILITY PROGRAM, WHICH FOCUSES ON YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN NEED, PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR CLIENTS TO FIND A PLACE OF FINANCIAL HEALTH, SAFETY, AND EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL WELLNESS. OUR SERVICES HAVE GROWN TO SUPPORT OVER 250 FAMILIES ANNUALLY WITH CASE MANAGEMENT AND DIRECT CLIENT ASSISTANCE.

WE PROVIDE CLOSE TO 2000 EMERGENCY ENERGY ASSISTANT APPOINTMENTS TO FAMILIES EACH YEAR MAKING THIS PROGRAM ONE OF OUR MOST IMPACTFUL OF WHAT WE OFFER. OF COURSE NOW MORE THAN EVER WE'RE BUILDING UP OUR ADVOCACY ARM OF THE ORGANIZATION TO CREATE A MORE JUST OREGON FOR ALL OF OUR FAMILIES TO ENSURE THAT WE CAN MAKE REAL CHANGE HAPPEN AT THE CITY, COUNTY, AND THE STATE LEVELS. SO WE ALL UNDERSTAND HOW IMPORTANT THIS WORK IS NOW. IN THE PAST THREE YEARS WE HAVE GROWN IN SIZE FOR THE ORGANIZATION FROM ABOUT 50 PEOPLE FULL-TIME ON STAFF TO NEARLY 150. IT'S TREMENDOUS GROWTH. AND WE DON'T SEE THIS GROWTH SLOWING DOWN ANY TIME SOON DUE TO THE DEMAND OF OUR PROGRAMS AND OUR SERVICES. WE ARE LUCKY TO HAVE A STAFF WHO IS TALENTED, DEDICATED AND COMMITTED TO SUPPORT THE MISSION OF THE ORGANIZATION. AND IT SHOWS IN THE SUCCESS AND THE IMPACTS OF THE PROGRAMS ACROSS THE BOARD. SO I INVITE ALL OF YOU TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT WE DO AT LATINO NETWORK, [LATINX.ORG](http://LATINX.ORG). LEARN HOW TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE WORK WE DO BECAUSE WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY AND WE REALLY APPRECIATE THE PARTNERSHIP THAT WE HAVE WITH THE COUNTY IN THE SUCCESS OF OUR PROGRAMS. SO THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH FOR INVITING ME TO BE A PART OF THIS EVENT, AND I HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE BACK AGAIN SOON TO SHOW US MORE INFORMATION WITH YOU ALL. GOOD MORNING.

Diana Nunez: GOOD MORNING CHAIR KAFOURY AND GOOD MORNING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH YOU THIS MORNING IN RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF THE START OF HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH. I AM DIANA NUNEZ, AND I AM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HISPANIC METROPOLITAN CHAMBER.

OUR VISION AT THE HISPANIC CHAMBER IS FOR LATINOS TO PROSPER AND CONTRIBUTE AS A BUSINESS OWNER AND INDUSTRY LEADERS IN AN INCLUSIVE ECONOMY. WE WORK EVERY DAY TO ADVANCE LATINX ECONOMIC VITALITY AND COMMUNITY VITALITY THROUGH BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION, AND ADVOCACY. THE LANDSCAPE TOWNSHIPS TO EVOLVE AND GROW NATIONALLY AND LOCALLY, AND IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE RECOGNIZE THAT LATINOS ARE A VIOLATIONS PART OF THE PROSPERITY AND FUTURE OF THE REGION AS WELL AS THE NATION. THE NATIONAL TREND IS THAT LATINO OWNED FIRMS ARE A SIGNATURE AND GROWING PERCENTAGE OF U.S. BUSINESSES AND HAVE OUTPACED THE GROWTH RATE OF ALL OTHER BUSINESS GROUPS.

Diana Nunez: THERE ARE OVER 3.3 MILLION LATINO OWNED FIRMS NATIONALLY, AND EACH YEAR WE AT THE HISPANIC METROPOLITAN CHAMBER ARE FORTUNATE TO WORK WITH 300 TO 400 OF THOSE BUSINESSES THAT WALK THROUGH OUR DOORS. WE HELP THOSE BUSINESSES START YOU, GROW, ADAPT AND SUCCEED. LATINX OWNED FIRMS CONTINUE TO GROW AND PERSEVERE EVEN THOUGH THEY FACE INEQUITABLE BARRIERS IN THEIR PURSUIT OF BUSINESS ADVANCEMENT. WE ARE PROUD TO WORK WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS SUCH AS MULTNOMAH COUNTY TO IDENTIFY THOSE BARRIERS AND CREATE PATHWAYS FOR LATINX BUSINESSES, TO PARTICIPATE IN CONTRACTING AND PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES AS WELL AS OTHER OPPORTUNITIES. IN TURN THOSE BUSINESSES CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMIC, CONTRIBUTE MORE FULLY TO THE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL VITALITY OF THE REGION. IN 2017, 3.7 MILLION STUDENTS WERE ENROLLED IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES. UP 180% FROM 1.3 MILLION ENROLLED IN 1999. SINCE 1996, 2.3 MILLION HAS BEEN AWARDED IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO 899 LATINX STUDENTS, AND WE ARE PROUD TO DO THAT WORK IN OREGON AND SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON.

WITH THE SUPPORT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO THAT YEAR AFTER YEAR. THAT IS WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AS A REMINDER OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT THE LATIN EXAMINES X COMMUNITY HAS MADE ON OUR LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL, AND WE ARE PROUD AT THE CHAMBER TO BE PART OF THAT RICH, DIVERSE, PRESENT AND FUTURE. LASTLY I WANTED TO THANK MY TEAM WHO IS HERE WHO WORK EVERY DAY TO DO THIS WORK FOR OUR COMMUNITY. WITHOUT IT THEM WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE ABLE TO DO WAS WE ACCOMPLISHED. MANY WHO WE WORKED WITH OVER THE YEARS. SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR BRINGING THIS PROCLAMATION AND ALLOWING US TO CELEBRATE NOT ONLY OUR CULTURE, AS A COMMUNITY, BUT AS A LOCAL COUNTY ENTITY, AS WELL. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. NOW IT'S YOUR TURN.

Orlando Zurito-Rodriguez: ALL RIGHT AM WELL, MY NAME IS ORLANDO ZURITA-RODRIGUEZ. I'VE BEEN ABLE TO WORK WITH THE COUNTY FOR NINE YEARS, STARTED WHEN I WAS 18. BUT I THINK THAT MOST IMPORTANTLY I LIVED IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY ALL MY LIFE. SO I WAS BORN AND RAISED HERE. SINCE MY TIME WITH THE COUNTY I'VE BEEN ABLE TO BRIDGE THE LANGUAGE BARRIER AND THE GAP. I'VE BEEN ABLE TO ADVOCATE FOR EQUAL ACCESS TO SERVICES FOR LATINOS AND BEING ABLE TO WORK WITH AT-RISK YOUTH AND MENTORING

YOUNG CHICANOS IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY. IF IT WASN'T FOR MOMENTS LIKE THESE TO BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE OUR HISPANIC HERITAGE, I THINK THAT I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO APPRECIATE ALL THE WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE BEFORE HAND IN THE PAST.

Orlando Zurito-Rodriguez: IF IT ALSO WASN'T FOR OUR EMPLOYEE OF COLOR GROUP CREATING SPACES, SAFE SPACES FOR US TO CONNECT AND UNITE I WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO BE AS ACTIVE AND BE AS ACTIVE AND IN A POSITION OF LEADERSHIP IN MY COMMUNITY AND IN MY POSITION AT WORK. I'VE BEEN ABLE TO BE INSPIRED AND CHALLENGED BY EOC MEMBERS THAT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CHALLENGE ME TO BE A BETTER VERSION OF MYSELF, AND IN TURN, IN THE COMMUNITY, AND I JUST WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR ACKNOWLEDGING LATINOS IN THE COMMUNITY AND IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND THEN ALSO, YOU KNOW, BEING ABLE TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF IMMIGRANTS MOVING HERE AND THAT HAVE BEEN HERE AND LIVED HERE AND THAT ARE ALSO WORKING, YOU KNOW, AS WE SPEAK, YOU KNOW, BREAKING THEIR BACKS FOR THEIR FAMILIES AND TO MAKE MULTNOMAH COUNTY EVEN, YOU KNOW, IS A GREATER PLACE TO LIVE. SO I WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR THAT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

Linda Castillo: GOOD MORNING CHAIR KAFOURY. COMMISSIONERS. HOLA. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THIS INVITATION TODAY AND THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON OUR LATINO COMMUNITIES' CONTRIBUTIONS AND OUR ASSETS AND ACKNOWLEDGE OUR PRESENCE HERE IN THE COUNTY AND IN THE UNITED STATES. MY NAME IS LINDA CASTILLO, AND I AM CURRENTLY THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION ON HISPANIC AFFAIRS. WE HAVE MANY THINGS THAT WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR. THE COMMISSION WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1983 ASSESS PART OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, AND OUR FOCUS IS TO REALLY ADVOCATE FOR EQUITY AROUND ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, LEGAL, AND SOCIAL ISSUES FOR LATINOS. AND WE HAVE BEEN DOING THIS IN A VARIETY OF WAYS. IN RECENT TIMES OUR FOCUS HAS REALLY BEEN AROUND PREDATORY PRACTICES WITH OUR LATINO COMMUNITY. BACK THEN WHEN COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON WAS REPRESENTING WE DID SOME FOCUS ON SOME WORK, ON SOME WORK, SO OUR COMMUNITY OFTEN IS LOOKING FOR WAYS TO ADJUST ITS STATUS TO FEEL COMFORTABLE AND FEEL SAFE IN THE COMMUNITY, AND AT THAT TIME THEY WERE LOOKING TO [INAUDIBLE] WHO WERE HELPING FOLKS TO ADJUST THEIR STATUS AND WOULD OFFER A LOT OF EMPTY PROMISES IN TERMS OF REALLY BEING ABLE TO DO THAT FOR THE COMMUNITY. TO THE END THAT, THE AUNTS AND UNCLES AND COUSINS WAS WOULD GO AND OFFER THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS ONLY TO FIND THESE INDIVIDUALS WOULD DISAPPEAR AND NEVER ADJUST THEIR STATUS.

SO WE DID SOME RESEARCH AROUND THIS, AND WE WERE ABLE TO PURSUE A BILL WITH THE HELP OF THE LEGISLATORS TO REALLY PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY AND NOW MAKE THAT KIND OF ACTION A FELONY. SO ANYBODY WHO IS PROVIDING THOSE SERVICES, WHO IS NOT AN IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY OR HAS THE LEGAL REPRESENTATION TO DO THAT IS NOW GOING TO FACE SOME SERIOUS LEGAL ISSUES. SO THAT WAS ONE BIG THING THAT WAS REALLY IMPORTANT FOR OUR COMMUNITY TO PROTECT THEM. WE ALSO RECOGNIZED THAT I AM, YOU KNOW, MY PRACTICE REALLY HAS BEEN AS A MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL AND WORKING AS A CHILD FAMILY THERAPIST AND DEVELOPING MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS,

AND MANY OF OUR COMMISSIONERS ARE ALSO MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, SO IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT OUR PLATFORM IN THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS HAS BEEN REALLY AROUND IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR LATINOS IN THE STATE OF OREGON. WE KNOW AS PRACTITIONERS AND FOLKS WHO RECEIVE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES THAT THERE IS NOT SUFFICIENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Linda Castillo: THERE AREN'T ENOUGH PLACES TO GO. THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH PROVIDERS OR BEST PRACTICES TYPE OF SERVICES. THE RESOURCES TO ENGAGE OUR COMMUNITY ARE NOT REALLY THERE. SO WE BEGAN A THREE-YEAR PROCESS OF DOING RESEARCH AROUND SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT OUR COMMUNITY WAS FACING. WE DID SOME QUALITATIVE RESEARCH AROUND MEDICAID DATA, AND THOUSANDS OF DATA SETS THAT NEVER WERE REVIEWED BEFORE IN THE LAST 30 YEARS, WHICH I FOUND PROFOUNDLY AMAZING. NO ONE HAD LOOKED AT THIS INFORMATION. AND ALSO QUANTITATIVE DATA IN TERMS OF LOOKING AT THE QUALITATIVE DATA WITH RESEARCHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY AND WHAT THEIR EXPERIENCES HAVE BEEN. SO WE FOUND SOME SIGNATURE FINDINGS THAT WE FOUND VALIDATED OUR EXPERIENCE. ONE THAT MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS WERE RECEIVING REFERRALS FOR LATINO STUDENTS AT A YOUNGER AND HIGHER RATE OVER MANY CONSECUTIVE YEARS, AND THAT PROVIDERS WERE AWARE THAT THERE WAS NOT SUFFICIENT MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS CULTURALLY COMPETENT, BILINGUAL AND ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS OF COMMUNITY AND FAMILY.

SOME OF THOSE MAIN DATA SETS WERE IMPORTANT FOR US TO KNOW ABOUT BECAUSE WE REALLY WANT TO COME FORWARD TO THE LEGISLATIVE BODY WITH THIS RESEARCH, WITH SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND MAKE THE CASE FOR STARTING TO DEVELOP SOME LEGISLATIVE CONCEPTS SO THAT WE CAN BEGIN TO MOVE FORWARD WITH OUR LEGISLATORS TO DEVELOP BILLS TO CHANGE SOME OF THESE THINGS. AND SOME OF THINGS THAT WE ARE LOOKING AT IS DEVELOPING LEGISLATIVE BILLS TO HAVE MORE SO WORKERS AND MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS IN THE SCHOOLS AND DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURALLY-SPECIFIC PROGRAMS IN THE SCHOOLS, AND ALSO THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS PATHWAY IN THE PROFESSIONALISM FROM PEER COUNSELORS TO PSYCHIATRISTS AND PHYSICIANS. AND WE FIND THAT THERE ARE NOT SURVEY PROVIDERS AT ALL, SO WE REALLY ARE LOOKING AT HOW TO CHANGE THAT IN WORKING WITH THE LICENSING BOARDS AND CREATING BETTER PATHWAYS, WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THIS WORK. WE HAVE DONE OUR RESEARCH AND WE HAVE DONE THE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND NOW WE ARE WORKING WITH OUR LEGISLATORS, AND I'VE BEEN VERY EXCITED TO HAVE PRESENTED SOMETHING EARLY IN THE SPRING TO ALL OF YOU REGARDING THE WORK THAT WE ARE DOING AND THE WONDERFUL ANALYSIS THAT COMES SO IT'S REALLY WONDERFUL TO HAVE THAT INFORMATION AND ALL YOUR SUPPORT TO REALLY MOVE THIS FORWARD. AND SO WE ARE REALLY EXCITED FOR THIS NEXT TO REALLY PROVIDE THE SERVICES AND MEET THE NEEDS THAT OUR COMMUNITY HAS.

GIVEN THE PRECEDENT THAT WE HAVE IN TERMS OF THE POLICIES IN THE COMMUNITY, IT'S NEEDED MORE THAN EVER. OUR COMMUNITY IS SUFFERING FROM TOXIC STRESS, AND WE KNOW TOXIC STRESS HAS AN IMMEDIATE EFFECT, PARTICULARLY IN BABIES AND YOUNG

PEOPLE, IT CHANGES THEIR BRAIN STRUCTURE AND THEIR BODY AND WE'RE GOING TO SEE THESE EFFECTS FOR YEARS TO COME. SO WE REALLY NEED TO BE READY TO TAKE CARE OF THE FOLKS THAT ADDRESS THE TRAUMA THAT THEY ARE FACING. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. ANY OTHER SPEAKERS? ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?

Board Clerk: NO, MADAM CHAIR.

Chair Kafoury: JUST A LOT OF SUPPORTERS IN THE AUDIENCE WHO ARE HERE, BUT SILENT. AND DO WE HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD? GO AHEAD COMMISSIONER MEIERAN.

Commissioner Meieran: MUCHAS GRACIAS [SPEAKING IN SPANISH]. I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU VERY MUCH, AND COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON FOR BRINGING THIS PROCLAMATION FORWARD. THANK YOU FOR NOT JUST BEING HERE TODAY, WHICH IS FANTASTIC, BUT FOR ALL OF THE WORK THAT YOU DO EVERY DAY. AND AS AN EMERGENCY ROOM DOCTOR, ISLA CONTINUE PATIENTS WHO COME IN, WHO ARE SCARED ENOUGH, YOU KNOW, IN THE BEST OF TIMES, THEY ARE FACING A MEDICAL EMERGENCY WHEN THEY COME TO SEE ME OR FEAR THAT THEY ARE. AND WHAT I HAVE SEEN OVER THE PAST YEARS WITH THE CURRENT FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION IS JUST PEOPLE WITH SO MUCH MORE FEAR AND STRESS AND ANXIETY, AND IT'S PALPABLE. THERE IS NOT MUCH THAT I CAN DO ABOUT THAT AS AN INDIVIDUAL PROVIDER EXCEPT TRY TO BE AS SUPPORTIVE AS POSSIBLE, TRY TO SPEAK MY BROKEN SPANISH TO CREATE YOU KNOW, A BRIDGE, A CONNECTION. WE DO TRY ON THAT PROVIDER LEVEL. AS A COMMISSIONER I FEEL VERY FORTUNATE TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY ON A BROADER LEVEL IN TERMS OF BEING ABLE TO DO WORK LIKE THE MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT AND ADDRESS SOME OF THE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND LOOK AT WELLBEING IN CULTURALLY SPECIFIC WAYS AND ALSO TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT OUR COUNTY STAFF AND OUR BARNE ORGANIZATIONS IN DOING THE WORK THAT THEY DO IN THE COMMUNITY THAT MAKES SUCH A DIFFERENCE ON SUCH A BROAD LEVEL. AND ALSO ALLOWS ME TO BE HERE TODAY TO SUPPORT THIS PROCLAMATION, WHICH I AM SO HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT WITH YOU. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR BEING HERE. THANK YOU AGAIN TO COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON, AND I AM JUST HAPPY IT'S A DAY OF CELEBRATION.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR. THANK YOU COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP IN BRINGING THIS UP, PROCLAMATION TOGETHER TODAY. I SO ENJOYED LISTENING TO ALL OF YOU, DIANA AND ANDREA AND LINDA, JUAN, ORLANDO -- GREAT COMMENTS. THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR LATINO COMMUNITY TO THIS REGION, THEY ARE NUMEROUS, TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION, BUT YOU ALL BRIEFLY TALKED ABOUT EACH SEGMENT THAT YOU REPRESENT, SO THAT WAS REALLY GOOD FOR US BECAUSE WE ALWAYS NEED TO BE REMINDED OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS, PARTICULARLY, OF UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES. AND THE ENGAGEMENT IN CIVIC AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, IT ENRICHES ALL OF US. THE EFFORTS TO PROVIDE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE NEED OF LATINO FAMILIES, FROM HEALTH CARE TO HOUSING TO MENTAL HEALTH TO EDUCATION.

EMPLOYMENT TO IMMIGRATION. IT SERVES TO HIGHLIGHT HOW CLOSELY CONNECTED WE ARE AS PEOPLE.

Commissioner Smith: I HAVE ENJOYED SUPPORTING THE CONNECTIONS AND THE RECOGNITION OF OUR COMMUNITY-BASED PARTNERS, AND I AM SO HONORED TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THIS PROCLAMATION TODAY. I HAVE GOOD NEWS. JUAN PROBABLY KNOWS ABOUT IT. YOU ARE WITH LATINO NETWORK NOW, BUT WE HAVE SECURED THE PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. AND MANY OF YOU KNOW I HAVE BEEN ON THIS JOURNEY FOR FOUR YEARS, EVEN TO THE POINT OF CREATING MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S OWN PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD SO THAT WE COULD LEVERAGE THE FEDERAL DOLLARS, SO NOW WE HAVE 27 MILLION THAT IS GOING TO BE AWARDED TO THE COALITION, SEI IS THE LEAD, BUT LATINO NETWORK DID SIGNATURE AMOUNT OF WORK, AND TO CONTINUE TO COME BACK YEAR AFTER YEAR AFTER WE WERE TOLD THAT WE HAD 100%, 102%, AND WE STILL DIDN'T GET THE GRANT.

IT WAS HEART-BREAKING, SO WHEN WE LEARNED ABOUT IT LAST WEEK I WAS OVERWHELMED, BUT WHAT IT SUGGESTS TO ME IS THAT THIS PROCLAMATION TODAY, THAT IF WE WORK TOGETHER IN COALITIONS, THAT WE ARE ABLE TO DO THINGS TOGETHER THAT WE COULDN'T DO SEPARATELY. AND BECAUSE OF THIS COALITION WE ARE GOING TO BRING NEW FEDERAL RESOURCES TO THE TUNE OF ALMOST \$30 MILLION. THAT'S LIKE UNHEARD OF, AND I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOREVER. IT'S UNHEARD OF PREVENTION MONEY SO I WANT TO THANK MY COLLEAGUES FOR GOING ON THIS JOURNEY WITH ME BECAUSE I KNOW PEOPLE ARE TIRED OF TALKING ABOUT THE PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD. TRUST ME I WAS TIRED OF APPLYING FOR IT, TOO, BUT IT HAS COME OUT TO OUR FAVOR, AND I THINK THAT WE HAVE A GREAT COALITION THAT REPRESENTS WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE WANT TO DO FOR OUR UNDERSERVED FAMILIES, AND WE NEED TO CONTINUE EVERY YEAR. THIS IS GOING TO BE -- THIS IS MY LAST PROCLAMATION, JESSICA, SO IT'S KIND OF REALLY BITTER SWEET TO ME. BUT ALWAYS, ALWAYS CONTINUE TO DO THIS EVERY YEAR BECAUSE THIS IS SO IMPORTANT. WE ALWAYS HAVE TO REMIND PEOPLE OF, YOU KNOW, THE SUCCESSES AND THE CHALLENGES.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE. I APPRECIATE THE REQUESTS, THE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY BUT ALSO [INAUDIBLE].

Chair Kafoury: IS YOUR MICROPHONE ON?

Commissioner Vega Pederson: OH, THANK YOU. SHOULD I START OVER? I WAS SAYING A LOT OF THANK YOU'S. AND YOU KNOW, IN LIFTING UP OUR NEXT GENERATION, AND I THINK THAT IS ALSO REFLECTED SO MUCH IN THE LATINO NETWORK, WHAT THEY DO FOR THE COMMUNITIES. WE HAVE A STRONG PARTNERSHIP HERE WITH THE COMMUNITY WITH LATINO NETWORK, AND YOU TALKED ABOUT THE GROWTH OF THE ORGANIZATION, SO I WOULD BE REMISS IF I DIDN'T, YOU KNOW, ALSO MENTION CARBON RUBIO, WHOSE LEADERSHIP HAS LIFTED UP THAT ORGANIZATION AND MADE AN IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY. ORLANDO THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TALKING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF

THE EMPLOYEES OF COLOR TO SUPPORT YOUR WORK HERE AT THE COMMUNITY, WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A LATINX WORKING AT MULTNOMAH COUNTY.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: I THINK THAT'S A WONDERFUL THING TO HAVE TODAY, AND LINDA, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR BEING HERE AND TALKING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE STRONG ADVOCACY THAT THE COMMISSION DOES FOR IMPACTING LATINOS ACROSS THE STATE, AND YOU TALKED ABOUT [INAUDIBLE], IT WAS GREAT TO WORK WITH THE COMMISSION ON THAT, BUT ALSO COVER ALL KIDS AND THE ISSUES THAT WE ARE WORKING ON TODAY, YOU KNOW, MENTAL HEALTH, WAGE STUFF, THOSE ISSUES STILL HAVE WORK TO DO ON THAT. YOU KNOW I HAVE REALLY BEEN PLEASED TO BE BOTH AT THE STATE AND THE COUNTY TO BE ABLE TO PASS LAWS AND WORK ON POLICIES THAT REALLY IMPACT AND BENEFIT OUR LATINX COMMUNITY THROUGHOUT THE STATE, BUT WE ALWAYS HAVE TO STAY VIGILANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY, ESPECIALLY FROM THINGS LIKE MEASURE 105, WHICH THE REPRESENTATIVE TALKED ABOUT WHICH ARE REALLY ATTEMPTS TO DIVIDE AND ISOLATE THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS SO WE NEED TO PUSH BACK AGAINST THAT AND REALLY CONTINUE TO CELEBRATE THE VAST CONTRIBUTIONS THAT OUR COMMUNITY HAS MADE TO OUR STATE AND COUNTY SO THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE.

Chair Kafoury: I SHOULD LET YOU READ THE PROCLAMATION. WE WILL READ IT AFTERWARDS. THANK YOU COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON FOR DOING THE GREAT WORK ON BRINGING THIS PROCLAMATION TODAY AND FOR PUTTING TO GO SUCH A GREAT PANEL. I THINK YOU DID A WONDERFUL JOB OF DESCRIBING WHAT EACH PERSON'S BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE HAS BROUGHT TO THIS CONVERSATION THIS MORNING. IT'S REALLY BEEN WONDERFUL TO LISTEN TO YOU ALL, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR COMING THIS MORNING. ALMOST EVERY DAY WHEN I TURN ON THE TV OR LOOK AT ANY OF THE NEWS MEDIA OUTLETS I GET REALLY ANGRY. IT'S NOT HEALTHY, I KNOW, BUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE MESSAGES COMING FROM THE PERSON WHO HAS THE TOP OFFICE IN THE LAND CAN BE REALLY DISCOURAGING. IT CAN BE DISCOURAGING BUT ALSO CAN BE DAMAGING AS LINDA TALKED ABOUT FROM THAT WONDERFUL, FABULOUS REPORT THAT THE COMMISSION OF HISPANIC AFFAIRS DID TO TALK ABOUT THE MENTAL HEALTH EFFECTS ON OUR YOUNGEST RESIDENTS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

IT MAKES ME ANGRY, AND IT INSPIRES ME TO ACTION. THAT'S ONE OF THE GREAT REASONS OF HAVING THIS PROCLAMATION TODAY AND LISTENING TO THE POSITIVE THINGS THAT WE ARE DOING IN OUR COMMUNITY THAT WE ARE NOT JUST SITTING HOME WITH OUR HEAD UNDER THE PILLOW. WE ARE OUT THERE FIGHTING ON THE FRONT LINES. WE ARE FIGHTING AT THE MACRO-LEVEL AND THE MICRO-LEVEL AND REALLY COVERING ALL OF OUR BASES TO TRY TO CHANGE AT LEAST OUR OWN COMMUNITY TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERY CHILD RECEIVERS THE CARE THEY NEED. THAT EVERY STARTING BUSINESS RECEIVES THE SUPPORT THAT THEY NEED TO THRIVE, AND THAT EVERY MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY GETS THE SUPPORT THAT THEY NEED. I JUST AM REALLY HAPPY THAT WE ARE DOING THIS PROCLAMATION TODAY, AND I THINK THAT IT'S SO IMPORTANT THAT WE SHOUT FROM THE ROOFTOPS THAT MULTNOMAH COUNTY IS A UNITED COMMUNITY.

Chair Kafoury: WE WILL NOT BE DIVIDED BY ATROCITIES THAT PEOPLE ARE ESPOUSING AT A DIFFERENT LEVEL. THIS IS WHO OUR COMMUNITY IS, AND WE ARE WARM AND WE ARE EMBRACING AND WE ARE WELCOMING AND WE WILL JUST KEEP FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT. AND THANK YOU. I FEEL SO MUCH BETTER KNOWING THAT WE HAVE A WONDERFUL PARTNERSHIP WITH ALL OF YOUR ORGANIZATIONS TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE. AND NOW WE GET TO READ THE PROCLAMATION.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: I WILL READ IT, AND WE WILL VOTE AND TAKE A PICTURE. AND THEN I WANTED TO SAY WE HAVE [INAUDIBLE] FOR PEOPLE TO ENJOY IN THE BACK WHEN WE ARE DONE HERE. DON'T FORGET THAT.

Chair Kafoury: THE BEST PART. THE FOOD.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: AND I WANTED TO THANK MY STAFF AND ALSO THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY ERG'S THERE TO SUPPORT THIS PROCLAMATION TODAY. THANK YOU. PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 15 THROUGH OCTOBER 15, 2018 AS HISPANIC AND LATINX HERITAGE MONTH IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON. THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FINDS MULTNOMAH COUNTY HAS BEEN HOME TO PEOPLE WHO IDENTIFY AS HISPANIC, LATINO, LATINX, CHICANO OR INDIGENOUS FROM MEXICO OR SOUTH AMERICA FOR OVER 100 YEARS. IN THE 1920 CENSUS, 37 MEXICANS WERE LISTED AS LIVING IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY. LATINX INCLUDE PEOPLE WHOSE FAMILIES HAVE BEEN HERE FOR GENERATIONS AND SOME OF THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY. LATINX IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY ARE AMONG THE FASTEST GROWING POPULATIONS IN OREGON AND ARE ESTIMATED TO MAKE UP 11.6% OF OUR POPULATION. LATINX CONTRIBUTE TO OUR CULTURE AND ARTS, AS SINGERS, PERFORMERS AND WRITERS. THEY DRIVE OUR SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMY AS WORKERS, OWNERS AND ENTREPRENEURS. THEY ENRICH OUR ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT AS TEACHERS, PROFESSORS, AND ENGINEERS. THEY ARE DRIVING SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CHANGE AS ADVOCATES, ACTIVISTS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS. THEY ENSURE OUR HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY AS NURSES, DOCTORS, CARETAKERS AND CHILDCARE WORKERS. MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S OWN WORKFORCE COMPRISES 10% LATINX EMPLOYEES. THE APPROXIMATELY 500 LATINX COUNTY EMPLOYEES ALLOW US TO BETTER SERVE OUR COMMUNITY BY BRINGING MULTI-LINGUAL AND CULTURAL CAPACITY TO THE WORKFORCE.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY TAKES GREAT PRIDE IN THE GROWING DIVERSITY OF THE COMMUNITY AND IN THE IMPRESSIVE AND VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY OUR LATIN X RESIDENTS TO THE COUNTY'S GROWTH, PROSPERITY AND WELLBEING. LATINX HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATES AND RECOGNIZES THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT LATINX HAS MADE TO SOCIETY AND CULTURE. THIS MONTH WE HONOR THE RICH HERITAGE OF LATINX COMMUNITIES AND CELEBRATE THEIR COUNTLESS ACHIEVEMENTS. THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIMS SEPTEMBER 15 THROUGH OCTOBER 15, 2018 AS HISPANIC AND LATINX HERITAGE MONTH IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON, AND IN RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF HISPANICS TO THE COUNTY AND TO OUR COMMUNITY. WE CALL UPON ALL RESIDENTS OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY TO CELEBRATE THE

HISTORY AND RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF LATINX'S IN OUR COMMUNITY, STATE AND NATION. ADOPTED THIS 6TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2018.

Chair Kafoury: ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE. [UNANIMOUS AYES] THE PROCLAMATION IS ADOPTED. [APPLAUSE] BEFORE WE GET TO THE CELEBRATORY PIECE WE ARE GOING TO FINISH THE AGENDA.

#### **BOARD COMMENT**

BC.1 Opportunity as time allows, for the Commissioners to provide comment on non-agenda items.

Chair Kafoury: SO THAT CONCLUDES THE BUSINESS SECTION OF OUR BOARD MEETING THIS MORNING BUT NOW WE HAVE TIME FOR COMMISSIONERS TO PROVIDE COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS.

Commissioner Meieran: THANK YOU CHAIR. I WANTED TO TAKE A MOMENT TO CALL OUR ATTENTION TO SEPTEMBER, ALSO BEING NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH. THIS MORNING, BEFORE THE HEARING I WAS AT THE SIXTH ANNUAL VETERAN'S MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT. IN OREGON ONE IN FIVE VICTIMS OF SUICIDE IS A VETERAN, AND SUICIDE AND MENTAL HEALTH ARE SOME OF THE MAIN CONCERNS THAT WE HEAR ABOUT FROM OUR VETERANS IN THE COMMUNITY. I KNOW THE COUNTY RECEIVES SOME FUNDS EARLIER THIS SUMMER FROM THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO PROMOTE LOCAL AWARENESS OF RESOURCES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS, AND THAT'S REALLY EXCITING. I HAVE ALSO BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS LATELY, ESPECIALLY WITH THE START OF SCHOOL LAST WEEK FOR MY KIDS, ANYWAY. AND THINGS MIGHT NOT SEEM CONNECTED BUT SUICIDE IS ACTUALLY THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG 10 TO 24-YEAR-OLDS IN OREGON. AND THAT'S PRETTY SOBERING. I LOOKED RECENTLY AT THE 2017 DATA FROM THE OREGON HEALTHY TEENS SURVEY AND THE QUESTION WAS DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS DID YOU EVER FEEL SO SAD OR HOPELESS EVERY DAY FOR TWO WEEKS OR MORE IN A ROW THAT YOU STOPPED DOING SOME USUAL ACTIVITIES?

37% OF EIGHTH GRADE GIRLS AND 19% OF EIGHTH GRADE BOYS, EIGHTH GRADE, AND 39% OF 11TH GRADE GIRLS AND 22% OF 11TH GRADE BOYS ANSWERED YES. AS THE MOM OF KIDS WHO FALL SQUARELY IN THOSE AGE RANGES I AM NOT NECESSARILY SURPRISED TO KNOW THAT MANY KIDS SELF IDENTIFY AS FEELING SAD AND HOPELESS. BUT THE DATA REALLY DRIVES HOME HOW DEEP THIS ISSUE RUNS AMONG SO MANY YOUTH. SO SEPTEMBER IS AN OPPORTUNITY REALLY FOR US, FOR ALL OF US IN THE COUNTY TO SHARE RESOURCES AND STORIES AND TO REACH OUT TO THOSE AFFECTED BY SUICIDE, RAISE AWARENESS, AND CONNECT WITH PEOPLE AND SUPPORT THEM. SO I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE KNOWS THERE IS A BIG EVENT COMING UP NEXT WEEK ON TUESDAY FOR VETERANS. THE ANNUAL VETERAN PORTLAND STAND DO YOU KNOW AT THE MEMORIAL COLISEUM FROM 7:30 TO 2:00 P.M. AND IT'S A WAY FOR VETERANS TO CONNECT WITH ALL SORTS OF SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY. IT'S A REALLY FANTASTIC EVENT TO ATTEND, AND THEN JUST BE AWARE DURING THIS MONTH AND REACH OUT TO THOSE YOU KNOW AND THOSE YOU CAN OFFER

SUPPORT TO, AND IF YOU NEED SUPPORT YOURSELF REACH OUT. THERE ARE PEOPLE THERE TO HELP YOU. OKAY.

Chair Kafoury: THANKS.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR. THIS IS ANOTHER DAY WHY IT'S BITTERSWEET. I WOULD LIKE TWO OF MY INTERNS FROM THE SUMMER TO STAND UP. MISS HANNAH AND ZURIEL HAMMOND. I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE WORK THAT YOU HAVE DONE, NOT JUST FOR THIS SUMMER BUT LAST SUMMER AND FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS. YOU'VE BEEN GREAT. YOU HAVE BEEN SO INVALUABLE TO THIS OFFICE IN DISTRICT 2, AND I WISH YOU WELL. I KNOW THAT YOUR COLLEGE IS GOING TO BE GREAT. HANNAH IS GOING TO STANFORD AND ZURIEL, YOU CHANGED COLLEGES. CENTRAL WASHINGTON. SO CONGRATULATIONS. YOU ALL HAVE A BRIGHT FUTURE, AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO DO NEXT. I KNOW IT WILL BE FUN BUT COME BACK EVEN THOUGH I WILL NOT BE HERE, COME BACK. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SERVICE. [APPLAUSE]

Chair Kafoury: I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR COMMUNITY KNOWS THAT MY COLLEAGUES AND I ARE SIGNING ON TO A LETTER TO OUR CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT, WHICH IS HR-6545. THE BIPARTISAN VOWA ACT IS SET TO EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 30. AND WE STRONGLY URGE OUR CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO REAUTHORIZE THIS BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION, WHICH RESPONDS TO THE URGENT NEEDS OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT BY INVESTING IN PREVENTION, ALASKA TO HOUSING AND SURVIVORS, THIS IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AND WE URGE OUR CONGRESS TO PASS IT. ALL RIGHT. SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS. IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE. [GAVEL]

**ADJOURNMENT - 10:55 a.m**

[CAPTIONS PROVIDED BY LNS CAPTIONING AND MAY INCLUDE INACCURATE WORDS OR PHRASES DUE TO SOUND QUALITY, OTHER TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES AND/OR SOFTWARE ERRORS.]

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