

**TRANSCRIPT FOR THE MEETING OF THE
MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MULTNOMAH BUILDING, BOARD ROOM 100
501 SE HAWTHORNE BLVD., PORTLAND, OREGON**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2018 @ 9:30 AM

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CHAIR DEBORAH KAFOURY CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:38 A.M. WITH VICE-CHAIR LORI STEGMANN AND COMMISSIONERS SHARON MEIERAN, LORETTA SMITH AND JESSICA PEDERSON PRESENT.

ALSO ATTENDING WERE JENNY MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY, AND LYNDIA GROW, BOARD CLERK.

[ALL CAPS TEXT IS THE BYPRODUCT OF CAPTIONING THIS PROGRAM.]

CHAIR KAFOURY: GOOD MORNING, WELCOME TO THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

CHAIR KAFOURY: GOOD MORNING, WELCOME TO MULTNOMAH COUNTY, TODAY IS OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING, AND BEFORE WE DIVE INTO OUR AGENDA THIS MORNING I WANTED TO ADDRESS MY REGRETTABLE BEHAVIOR FOLLOWING OUR LAST MEETING. DISAGREEMENTS ARE A NATURAL AND IMPORTANT PART OF A HEALTHY DEMOCRACY. BUT NAME CALLING HAS NO PLACE IN IT. I KNOW THAT SOME OF YOU ARE HERE TODAY BECAUSE YOU FEEL AS I DO THAT THIS IS NOT THE WAY THAT WE SHOULD BE CONDUCTING OUR COUNTY BUSINESS. I FEEL EXTREMELY FORTUNATE TO SERVE ON A COMMISSION THAT IS NOT ONLY COMPRISED OF STRONG WOMEN LEADERS, BUT A MAJORITY OF WOMEN OF COLOR. I AM ALSO PROUD TO HAVE SUCH INTELLIGENT AND TALENTED WOMEN OF COLOR ON OUR MULTNOMAH COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEAM, LIKE MARISSA, WHO HAS A DEEP COMMITMENT TO ADDRESSING INSTITUTIONAL RACISM AND FACING THESE TOUGH ISSUES HEAD-ON. THERE IS NO COUNTY IN AMERICA BETTER EQUIPPED OR MORE DEDICATED THAN OURS TO LIFTING UP WOMEN IN MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES. AFTER OUR BOARD MEETING, I IMMEDIATELY CALLED COMMISSIONER SMITH TO APOLOGIZE. I ALSO ISSUED A PUBLIC STATEMENT AND E-MAILED AN APOLOGY TO ALL MULTNOMAH COUNTY EMPLOYEES. TODAY I WOULD LIKE TO ECHO THOSE WORDS AGAIN. I AM ONLY SORRY COMMISSIONER SMITH IS OUT SICK TODAY BUT HOPEFULLY SHE WILL BE SEEING THIS ON TV AND WILL KNOW THAT I HAVE NOW PLAYED THESE COMMENCE PUBLICLY. IT WAS UNPROFESSIONAL AND DISRESPECTFUL FOR ME TO EXPRESS MY FEELINGS TO HER IN SUCH A MANNER. I WOULD ASK COMMISSIONER SMITH TO JOIN ME IN MOVING FORWARD IN OUR PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP TO CONTINUE TO RESPECT

EACH OTHER AND ALL OF OUR MULTNOMAH COUNTY COLLEAGUES AND DISAGREE WITH EACH OTHER WITHOUT MUDSLINGING OR NAME CALLING.

CONSENT AGENDA – 9:30 am

- C.1 Budget Modification # HD-29-18: Authorizing three position reclassifications within the Health Department**
- C.2 Budget Modification # DCJ-12-18: Reclassifies a Vacant 1.00 FTE Records Technician to Office Assistant Sr in the Adult Services Div.**

CHAIR KAFOURY: DO WE HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT? I AM SORRY, FIRST WE WILL HAVE A VOTE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA. MAY I HAVE A MOTION? COMMISSIONER MEIERAN MOVES, COMMISSIONER STEGMANN APPROVES THE CONSENT CALENDAR, ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE, THE CONSENT CALENDAR IS APPROVED. WE WILL RECESS AS THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND CONVENE AS THE PUBLIC CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD.

CONSENT AGENDA – 9:30 am

Acting as the Public Contract Review Board

- C.3 Amended Approval of a Formal Special Procurement Exemption to contract with multiple existing vendors to provide Multi-family and Single Family Weatherization services**

CHAIR KAFOURY: COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON MOVES, COMMISSIONER STEGMANN SECONDS APPROVAL OF C3. THE PCRB CONSENT AGENDA IS APPROVED.

COUNTY ATTORNEY: NOW CHAIR, WE WILL APPOINT THE VICE CHAIR.

CHAIR KAFOURY: WE DO NOT NEED TO TAKE A VOTE JUST MERELY READING TO INTO THE RECORD. SINCE WE HAVE THE NEW YEAR BEFORE US, 2018, WE ALSO HAVE A NEW VICE CHAIR, AND I WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THAT COMMISSIONER LORI STEGMANN FROM DISTRICT 4 IS APPOINTED VICE CHAIR TO THE CALENDAR HERE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2 OF RESOLUTION 2013-021 AND 3.60 OF THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER. CONGRATULATIONS. [APPLAUSE] A VERY SPECIAL ROLE.

PUBLIC COMMENT – 9:30 am

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. Fill out a speaker form available at the back of the board room and give it to the Board Clerk. Unless otherwise recognized by the presiding officer, testimony is taken in the order the forms are submitted.

CHAIR KAFOURY: NOW WE HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT.

BOARD CLERK: WE HAVE 18 SIGNED UP. PUBLIC COMMENT. WHEN I CALL YOUR NAME PLEASE COME FORWARD. I WILL CALL FOUR AT A TIME. [READS NAMES]. PLEASE COME FORWARD.

JOHN SWEENEY: I AM JOHN SWEENEY, AND I WOULD LIKE TO START THIS MEETING WITH A PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. WOULD YOU PLEASE STAND?

ALL: I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.

CHAIR KAFOURY: GOOD MORNING.

BRUCE BROUSSARD: GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONER CHAIR, I APPRECIATE THE APOLOGY AT THE START OF THE MEETING, IT WISH THE OTHER COMMISSIONERS WOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME THING BECAUSE THEY WERE ALL HERE TOO SO IT WOULD BE VERY APPROPRIATE BUT THE STATEMENT MADE.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THIS IS NOT A TIME FOR BOARD DELIBERATION.

BRUCE BRUSSARD: IT'S A VERY SERIOUS SITUATION. THAT WOULD HAVE SORT OF -- I AM TAKING UP MY TIME BUT IT IS MY SPEECH, AND BASICALLY, WHAT -- HOW I REACTED. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE COUNTY COMMISSION AND EXPRESS MY DEEPEST CONCERN AS WE ENTER INTO A NEW YEAR, WE NEED TO REFLECT BACK ON A NUMBER OF RECENT PROPOSALS AND ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CURRENT COMMISSION. ACTIONS THAT I FIND TO BE EXTREMELY DISTURBING. FIRST OF ALL IT'S EVIDENT THAT THERE IS AN INCREASING AMOUNT OF TENSION AND DISTRUST BEING DEMONSTRATED BETWEEN THE COMMISSIONERS AND THE CHAIRPERSON, THIS IS, OBVIOUS, AFTER THE COMMISSION MEETING ON DECEMBER 21, 2017. OVER TIME THIS TENSION HAS BEEN EXTREMELY DISRUPTIVE AND HINDERS THE COMMISSION'S ABILITY TO ADDRESS THE MOST CHALLENGING ISSUES FACING OUR COUNTY. IN ADDITION ADDRESSING THIS DISSENSION I MIGHT MENTION THAT THE CHAIR KAFOURY'S DISRESPECT FOR OUR POSITION IN SAYING TO COMMISSIONER SMITH, BITCH WAS INEXCUSABLE, AND LIKING THAT TO PRESIDENT TRUMP'S STATEMENT BY THE SON OF A BITCHES, WITH MY OFFENSE BY USING THAT WORD, BY CHAIR KAFOURY AND THAT OF PRESIDENT TRUMP IMPLIES RACIAL INTEND AS MUCH AS HISTORICALLY SPEAKING PLANTATION OWNERS SEXUALLY ABUSE AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMALES, AFRICAN FEMALES, SLAVES, AND REFER TO THEM AS BITCHES, WHICH CAST A SHADOW ON ALL BLACK AMERICAN WOMEN. AND FURTHERMORE, ITEMS AS DEMANDING AS THE HOMELESS ISSUES IN OUR COUNTY, NOT HAVING THE ABILITY TO TAKE

ADVANTAGE OF A FACILITY, FOR SHELTER, THE COMMISSION'S DECISIONS DO NOT HAVE THIS, BUT TELLING IT AT A LOSS IS A MISUSE OF THE COMMISSION'S POSITIONS, THE LACK OF TRUST AND OPEN DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE COMMISSION AND THE CITIZENS OF THE COUNTY DEMONSTRATES THE COMMISSION'S ABILITY TO RATIONALLY ADDRESS THE CITIZEN'S CONCERNS.

BRUCE BRUSSARD: ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS I FILED THE PROTOCOL FOR THE OPEN DOOR POLICY, HOWEVER, AFTER ADDRESSING THE COMMISSION, AND THE COMMISSIONER'S STAFF I HAVE NEVER RECEIVED A MEANINGFUL RESPONSE, THE LACK OF ABILITY SPILLS INTO ISSUES LIKE TRANSPARENCY, LACK OF RESPONDING TO REQUESTS AND AS WELL AS HOMELESSNESS, MENTAL ILLNESS, DISRUPTNESS OF THE PART OF THE CHAIR AND OTHER COMMISSIONERS IS CAUSING MANY CITIZENS IN LOCAL AREA BUSINESSES AND LARGE AND SMALL TO LEAVE THE COUNTY AND LEAVE A AVOIDED FOR VIABLE REPUTATION FOR THOSE WHO REMAIN, IN THE PAST DEBRA, MY ACQUAINTANCE WITH YOU AND YOUR MOM, FORMER CITY COMMISSIONER GRETCHEN KAFOURY AND FAMILY PROMPTED ME TO MAKE THIS STATEMENT, DEBRA, YOU ARE NOT A RACIST. SAID THAT TO YOU. AND REFERRING TO COMMISSIONER SMITH THE ALLEGATION THERE SEEMS TO BE INSTITUTIONAL RACISM THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY WHICH NEEDS DISCUSSION AND SOLUTIONS. LASTLY CHAIR KAFOURY I WOULD -- I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU TO EXPLAIN YOUR INTENT IN SAYING TO THE COMMISSIONER SMITH, BITCH, YOU ARE DONE. THAT'S A LOADED WORD. THAT'S A LOADED PHRASE.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU.

BRUCE BROUSSARD: DID NOT RESPOND FOR AN INTERVIEW BUT SMITH AGREED TO TALK ABOUT IT ON FRIDAY. WISH THAT EACH OF YOU HAD RESPONDED TO IT AT THE SAME TIME.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. THANK YOU.

BRUCE BROUSSARD: I WISH YOU WOULD HAVE RESPONDED. JUST LEAVING HER THERE MAKING A STATEMENT.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, SIR.

BRUCE BROUSSARD: CAN WE GET AN APOLOGY FOR THE REST OF YOU? CAN WE GET AN APOLOGY?

CHAIR KAFOURY: THIS IS NOT A TIME FOR PUBLIC DISCOURSE. THEY HAVE MADE STATEMENTS ON THE RECORD AND I AM HAPPY --

BRUCE BROUSSARD: CAN WE GET AN APOLOGY IN REGARDS TO COMMISSIONER SMITH? HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT IT?

CHAIR KAFOURY: MR. BROUSSARD WE HAVE 18 PEOPLE SIGNED UP.

BRUCE BRUSSARD: WANT AN APOLOGY FROM THESE OTHER INDIVIDUALS.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THERE IS A PROTOCOL WE NEED TO FOLLOW IN OUR MEETINGS. WE HAVE 17 OTHERS WHO SIGNED UP TO TESTIFY. SO IF WE CAN LET THOSE OTHERS TESTIFY AND FOLLOW OUR RULES.

BRUCE BROUSSARD: SO THAT'S WHERE YOU ARE AT, SO I TAKE IT -- I WILL JUST ASK ONE COMMENT, ONE MORE COMMENT, CAN WE USE THIS PODIUM TO FURTHER HAVE THIS DISCUSSION ON THE WHOLE ISSUE OF BITCH, EXCUSE THE FRENCH, NI GER, CAN I USE THIS PODIUM?

CHAIR KAFOURY: DURING YOUR THREE-MINUTE TESTIMONY WHICH HAS CONCLUDED YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY.

BRUCE BROUSSARD: I WILL BE HERE NEXT WEEK. WILL READ THE SAME POINT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [APPLAUSE]

CHAIR KAFOURY: IF YOU COULD WIGGLE YOUR FINGERS IN APPRECIATION AS OPPOSED TO CLAPPING. I KNOW. THANK YOU. JOE, YOU ARE UP NEXT.

JOE WALSH: GOOD MORNING. FOR THE RECORD I AM JOE WALSH. I REPRESENT INDIVIDUALS FOR JUSTICE. I CAME HERE TODAY TO TALK BUT THE RESULTS THAT WE FOUND OUT THAT THERE WERE 80 PEOPLE THAT DIED ON OUR STREETS IN 2016. IT TOOK US A YEAR TO GET THAT REPORT A. I MADE NUMEROUS PHONE CALLS AROUND THE COUNTY, AND WE COULDN'T GET THE REPORT, AND THEY GAVE IT TO US IN DECEMBER OF 2017. WHAT IS THAT ABOUT? WE CAN'T EVEN GET THE DAMN REPORT. THAT IS GARBAGE. 80 PEOPLE, IT DOES NOT INCLUDE PEOPLE THAT MAKE IT TO THE HOSPITAL BUT DIE THERE. IT DOES NOT INCLUDE THEM. THEY ARE INCLUDED IN NATURAL CAUSES. IT DOES NOT INCLUDE PEOPLE DYING ON THE COUCHES. IT DOES NOT INCLUDE PEOPLE DYING IN THE GARAGES OR INCLUDE PEOPLE DYING IN THE NEW THING THAT WE HAVE GOING, SO THE R.V.S. I HAVE BEEN DOING THIS NOW FOR TEN YEARS. I'VE BEEN COMING TO YOU FOR THREE, YELLING AT THE CITY COUNCIL TO SET UP WARMING BUSES. IT'S SO SIMPLE TO DO THAT. PICK UP THE PHONE AND CALL TRI-MET AND SAY PUT OUT A COUPLE OF BUSES. WHEN YOU SHUT OFF THE WATER, PUT A WATER FOUNTAIN, CITY HALL, THAT SHOULD BE THE CATALYST TO PUT OUT WARMING BUSES FOR HUMAN BEINGS. WE ARE WORRIED ABOUT WATER FOUNTAINS AND PIPES BUT LET PEOPLE DIE ON THE STREETS. I AM REALLY GLAD THIS HOUSE IS FULL TODAY BECAUSE I WANT EVERYBODY IN THIS ROOM TO GO HOME AND LOOK IN THE MIRROR AND SAY, AM I DOING

ENOUGH, AND IF THE ANSWER IS YES, YOU ARE A LIAR. THAT'S WHAT I DO EVERY MORNING, I GET UP AND LICK IN THE MIRROR AND SAY ARE YOU DOING ENOUGH AND THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS NO. I AM NOT. I AM ASKING YOU TO DO MORE. WHY AREN'T THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BUILDINGS USED AS WARMING PLACES? WHY DON'T WE SET UP IN APRIL AND MAY? WE ARE TOTALLY PREPARED FOR EARTHQUAKES. TOTALLY PREPARED. WHY CAN'T WE DO THE SAME THING? IF WE YOU A AN EARTHQUAKE TODAY, WE WOULD HAVE THE NATIONAL GUARD SETTING UP HUGE TENTS IN YOUR PARKS. TO HOUSE PEOPLE. AND EVERYBODY WOULD CHEER. WE HAVE 80 PEOPLE DYING, AND EVERYBODY JUST, YOU KNOW, THAT'S THE WAY THAT IT IS. NO, IT'S NOT! SOME DAY WE'RE GOING TO ADD SOMETHING TO THIS. IF YOU ARE A RELIGIOUS PERSON, SOME DAY YOU ARE GOING TO STAND BEFORE GOD AND GOD IS GOING TO SAY WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO?

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU JOE.

JOE WALSH: YOU ARE GOING TO SAY, NOTHING! I SPENT MILLIONS DOING NOTHING, AND THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE DOING, SPENDING MILLIONS ON NOTHING.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU FOR COMING THIS MORNING.

JOE WALSH: I KNOW I WENT OVER AGAIN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU.

THANK YOU JOE.

CHAIR KAFOURY: GOOD MORNING.

SHEDRICK WILKINS: YOU CARE ABOUT FREEZING PEOPLE. I AM SHEDRICK WILKINS AND I JUST VOTED FOR MEASURE 101 WHICH IS, WHICH PROPS UP THE AMERICAN HEALTHLAND, WAITING ON WHAT HAPPENS WITH THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT, IT'S VERY IMPORTANT. I THINK IF THIS DOES PASS, WHICH COVERS BASICALLY YOUNG PEOPLE'S HEALTH CARE NEEDS, MY DAUGHTER IS ON THE OREGON HEALTH PLAN, I WAS BRIEFLY ON THE PLAN FOR DENTISTRY. I AM A VETERAN AND I GET COVERED FOR CATASTROPHIC STUFF BUT THEY DON'T DO MY TEETH BUT I WAS AT THE BRAD PITT CLINIC FOR THREE YEARS AND ACTUALLY I LOST COVERAGE AND I BLAME OBAMA -- I BLAME TRUMP FOR THAT. THERE WAS A MISHAP. I LIKE COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND TO GO OUT AND HAVE MY TEETH CLEANED AND SPEND SIX HOURS TO BE A GUINEA PIG. SO I AM COVERED FOR EVERYTHING, AND I TEND TO -- I BELIEVE IN PERSONAL THINGS. YOU KNOW. TRY NOT TO SMOKE AND DO THESE THINGS. I BELIEVE THIS. THIS IS KIND OF WHAT IS CALLED A SALES TAX ON HMOS. AND THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF LIBERAL PEOPLE WHO

DON'T LIKE THE FACT THAT CANADA HAS A 5% SALES TAX, AND THEY HAD NATIONAL HEALTH CARE IN 1971. IN THE YEAR 2020 IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WE COULD HAVE A PAYROLL TAX WHICH WOULD COVER OLDER PEOPLE'S HEALTH CARE, RIGHT, FROM THE AGES OF 30-65, AND THAT WOULD VIRTUALLY MEAN IF THAT PASSED EVERY PERSON THIS STATE HAS COVERED LIKE CANADA, AND I CAN TELL YOU THAT VERMONT BACKED OUT, AND I LIKE BERNIE SANDERS BUT THEY DID NOT GO THROUGH WITH THE SINGLE PAYER SYSTEM OR THE ELIMINATION OF THE HMOS, SO I AM SAYING THIS, IF THIS DOES PASS IT'S A SIGNAL FOR ME IN TWO YEARS TO TRY TO GET A PAYROLL TAX FOR THIS. I KNOW JIM ROBINSON, YOU HAVE TO MIX THIS INSURANCE TAX FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, MIX IT WITH WORKING PEOPLE PAYING SOME SORT OF PAYROLL TAX, AND IN 2002 MAX WILKINS, WHO IS NOT RELATED TO ME GOT A LOT OF FLACK BECAUSE IN HIS SYSTEM OF A 10% PAYROLL TAX THAT WOULD GO TO HMOS AND A LOT OF PEOPLE DIDN'T LIKE THAT. A LOT OF PEOPLE WANTED TO ELIMINATE HMOS. I THINK THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE IN THIS COUNTRY, BUT IT IS POSSIBLE TO GET EVERYBODY COVERED BY THE YEAR 2020 REGARDLESS OF WHAT -- AND ACTUALLY IN THE SOUTH, THE SOUTH IS TERRIBLE ON HEALTH CARE. THEY DON'T GO ALONG WITH THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT, SO OREGON COULD BE ABOVE THE THING AND BE THE FIRST STATE TO BE LIKE CANADA. OK, FROM THE YEAR -- FROM THIS YEAR, 2018 TO 2020, REMINDS ME OF THE 1992 TIME FRAME FOR PEOPLE WE ARE TALKING ABOUT HAVING CANADIAN HEALTH CARE, AND OREGON WAS ACTUALLY SHOWCASED BY CANADA

CHAIR KAFOURY: YOU CAN BEGIN. YOU CAN GO.

MARCIA HOOKER: GOOD MORNING, CHAIR KAFOURY AND COMMISSIONERS. I AM MARCIA HOCKER, EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH CHAIR FOR THE PDX [INAUDIBLE] BOARD OF DIRECTORS. I AM HERE THIS MORNING AS A RESIDENT OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY FOR OVER 18 YEARS. A RETIREE OF CORPORATE AMERICA IN NEW YORK CITY AND A FORMER MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC CORE SERVING AT AMERICAN EMBASSIES IN SOUTH AMERICA AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC. I AM GOING TO REGISTER MY DEEP CONCERN FOR THE CHAIRS OUT OF CONTROL, UNPROVOKED VERBAL ATTACK ON COMMISSIONER LORETTA SMITH. COMMISSIONER SMITH ASKING QUESTIONS AND SEEKING LEGAL CLARIFICATION DID NOT IN ANY WAY JUSTIFY THE VULGAR, DEGRADING USE OF THE B WORD. IN JANUARY OF 2017 FOLLOWING TRUMP'S INAUGURATION OVER 500,000 WOMEN MARCHED ON WASHINGTON D.C., AND OVER 650 SISTER MARCHES AROUND THE WORLD ON ALL SEVEN CONTINENTS INCLUDING ANTARCTICA. THE PURPOSE OF THESE MARCHES WERE FOR WOMEN TO HAVE A VOICE AND A PLACE AT THE TABLE. UNFORTUNATELY WHEN YOU CHOSE TO ATTEMPT TO SHUT DOWN THE VOICE OF COMMISSIONER SMITH YOU ACTED IN AN APOLOGY MANNER, UNBECOMING OF A MULTNOMAH COUNTY LEADER AND COMPLETELY IN OPPOSITION TO EVERYTHING WOMEN IN THIS COUNTRY AND AROUND THE WORLD IS STANDING FOR. YOUR CONDUCT REFLECTED THAT OF BILL

O'REILLY AND SEAN SPENCER AND THE LIKE. THE ABILITY TO RAISE ISSUES OF CONCERN IN A CIVIL MANNER SUCH AS A COUNCIL BOARD MEETING WITH THE EXPECTATION OF RECEIVING THE COURTESY OF CARING ON A DISCUSSION AND HAVING QUESTIONS OPENLY ADDRESSED IS REASONABLE AND APPROPRIATE. AND FINALLY I BELIEVE THAT THE HONORABLE DECENT THING THAT YOU DID IN APOLOGIZING TO HER, UNFORTUNATELY SHE'S NOT HERE FOR YOU TO DO IT TO HER FACE IN THIS PUBLIC ARENA IN THE CHAMBER. BUT I AM GLAD THAT YOU DID IT. AND INCIDENTALLY YOUR WRITTEN PUBLIC APOLOGY THAT INCLUDED YOUR JUSTIFICATION FOR UNCONTROLLED ACTION WAS NOT GENUINE BECAUSE THE TRUE A APOLOGY NEEDS NO EXPLANATION.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

KENNETH DOSWELL: GOOD MORNING, I AM KENNETH DOSWELL. I AM TESTIFYING AS A FATHER OF AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN DAUGHTER. AS A BUSINESS LEADER AND AS A VOTING MEMBER OF COMMISSIONER SMITH'S DISTRICT. CHAIR KAFOURY YOUR REFERENCE TO COMMISSIONER SMITH, AND I QUOTE, "BITCH, YOU ARE DONE," WAS AS INSULTING AS IT IS RACIST. BUT OF SUCH GRAVER CONCERN WAS YOUR OBVIOUS LACK OF LEADERSHIP BECAUSE YOU SAID IT IN A PUBLIC FORUM ON A HOT MICROPHONE. THAT DEMONSTRATES TO ME A SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT. THE AUDACITY TO THINK THAT YOU CAN REFER TO ONE OF OUR MOTHERS IN A HIGHLY, AND A HIGHLY RESPECTED, DULY ELECTED AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMALE AS A BITCH DEMONSTRATES YOU ARE NOT FIT TO SERVE EITHER AS CHAIR OR AS A MEMBER OF THIS COMMISSION. APOLOGY NOT WITHSTANDING. IT IS MY EXPECTATION THAT YOU SHOULD TEND TO YOUR RESIGNATION, CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY. [APPLAUSE] COMMISSION MEMBERS YOU CANNOT SIT IDLY BY. YOU ARE DULY ELECTED LEADERS IN YOUR OWN RIGHT, IN YOUR OWN DISTRICTS, AND YOU COULD HAVE BEEN THE VERY ONE CALLED A BITCH YOU CAN'T REMAIN SILENT ON THIS ISSUE BECAUSE YOUR SILENCE IMPLIES CONSENT. AND BY ISSUING -- SO MY EXPECTATION IS THIS, THAT YOU ISSUE A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE IN YOUR CHAIR AND THAT YOU COLLECTIVELY EXPECT HER TO TENDER THAT RESIGNATION NO LATER THAN CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY. UNFORTUNATELY COMMISSIONER SMITH ISN'T HERE. BUT I PUBLICLY WANT TO APPLAUD HER AS PARENT, AS GRANDPARENT, AS A WOMAN OF COLOR, THAT MY DAUGHTER PROUDLY LOOKS UP TO. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE] GOOD MORNING.

LIGHTNING: GOOD MORNING, I AM LIGHTNING. I REPRESENT LIGHTNING SUPER WATCHDOG X. IN MY OPINION COMMISSIONER SMITH IS ONE OF THE MOST PROFESSIONAL COMMISSIONERS THAT I HAVE DEALT WITH. VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE AT WHAT SHE DOES, AND I HAVE ALWAYS ENJOYED THE BACK AND FORTH DISCUSSIONS ON THE OVERALL BUDGET BECAUSE I KNOW THAT SHE IS VERY FOCUSED ON THE NUMBERS AND THE OUTCOME. I WAS SURPRISED OF THE LANGUAGE THAT WAS USED BY CHAIR KAFOURY. AN

APOLOGY HAS BEEN MADE. BUT IT'S GOING TO TAKE A LOT MORE THAN THAT. AGAIN TO COMMISSIONER SMITH, THE UTMOST PROFESSIONAL THAT I HAVE EVER DEALT WITH. NOW MOVING ON SOME OF THE ISSUES PERTAINING TO THE EPA CLEANUP AND THE SUPERFUND CLEANUP, I STILL THINK THAT GOVERNOR BROWN NEEDS TO STEP IN AND UNDERSTAND THAT WE'VE BEEN DEALING ON THE SUPER FUND SITE FOR 17 PLUS YEARS AND NOTHING IS GETTING DONE. THE STATE NEEDS TO STEP IN AND UNDERSTAND IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY BECAUSE YOU DO OWN OR CONTROL THE SUBMERSIBLE LAND UNDERNEATH THE WATER ON THESE RIVERS. YOU NEED TO CLEAN IT UP, BEGIN CLEANING IT UP, AND THEN COME BACK AND BUILD THE PEOPLE THAT YOU THINK ARE RESPONSIBLE. IT IS STILL YOUR FIRST RESPONSIBILITY TO CLEAN THE RIVER AND QUIT GOING BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN ALL PARTIES AND DRAGGING THIS OUT FOR MANY, MANY YEARS. YOU NEED TO FOCUS ON THE TREATIES AND MAKE SURE THAT THE NATIVE AMERICANS ARE TAKEN CARE OF FOR THE DAMAGE THAT HAS BEEN DONE ON THESE RIVERS IN THESE, AND THESE NEED TO BE LOOKED AT AND FOLLOWED AND COMPENSATED FOR THE DAMAGE ON THE RIVERS. AGAIN TO GOVERNOR BROWN, I AM ASKING YOU TO STEP DOWN AS GOVERNOR AND AS YOU KNOW BY NOW I AM IN SUPPORT OF DR. BUEHLER STEPPING IN AND BECOMING THE NEXT GOVERNOR BECAUSE I DON'T THINK THAT YOU ARE DOING A GOOD JOB. THAT IS MY OPINION. I DON'T THINK YOU ARE DOING A GOOD JOB AND I WOULD LIKE YOU TO STEP DOWN ALSO. THANK YOU.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU.

BOARD CLERK: [READS NAMES]

CHAIR KAFOURY: YOU CAN GO FIRST MA'AM.

DR. AUDREY TERRELL: YES. I AM DR. AUDREY TERRELL AND I AM HAVE CLACKAMAS COUNTY AND I WANTED TO MAKE REFERENCE ALSO TO THE DECEMBER 21ST MEETING. BASICALLY STATING THAT THERE IS NEVER AN EXCUSE FOR BAD MANNERS, OK. AND THE MISUSE OF POWER, OK. WHEN YOU REPRESENT -- WHEN YOU DISRESPECT REPRESENTATIVES YOU ALSO DISRESPECT THE PEOPLE THAT THEY REPRESENT, AND THE NAME-CALLING AND DEROGATORY LANGUAGE IS MOST INAPPROPRIATE ESPECIALLY IN A PUBLIC ENVIRONMENT. THAT'S BASICALLY THE MESSAGE I WANTED TO GIVE. THANK YOU.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

DR. ROSA COLQUITT: GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONER KAFOURY AND COMMISSIONERS. I COME TODAY AS A BIT OF AN [INAUDIBLE]. I DROVE IN FROM WASHINGTON COUNTY, AND AFTER THE DRIVE ON 217 I THOUGHT THAT I SHOULD COME TODAY AND SPEAK ABOUT A TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE.

CHAIR KAFOURY: WOULD YOU STATE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD?

DR. ROSA COLQUITT: DR. ROSA COLQUITT. THANK YOU. I DROVE IN ON 217, AND AFTER THAT, AFTER ABOUT THAT HOUR I THOUGHT MAYBE I SHOULD TALK TO THEM ABOUT A TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE INSTEAD OF WHAT I CAME TO TALK ABOUT. BUT REALLY I HAVE TO SPEAK UP TODAY IN THE WORDS OF WHY KING, THERE IS A TIME WHEN VIOLENCE IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. IT IS COMFORTABLE BUT NOT ACCEPTABLE. TODAY I COME AS A MOTHER AND AS A PROFESSIONAL WOMAN. I HAVE SPENT THE PAST 26 YEARS OF MY LIFE AS AN EDUCATOR AND A RESEARCHER IN THE STATE OF OREGON, AND SUCCESSFULLY RAISING MY CHILDREN. I COME ALSO TODAY AS A BLACK WOMAN WHO IS STILL IN A BIT OF EMOTIONAL TURMOIL AND RECOVERY FROM HAVING BEEN ADDRESSED BY THE B WORD IN MY WORKPLACE ALMOST A DECADE AGO. ONE WOULD THINK THE RESIDUAL EFFECTS WOULD HAVE MITIGATED BY THIS DATE IN TIME, BUT INDEED THEY HAVE NOT. THE IMPACT WAS TERRIBLE FOR MY CHILDREN, FOR MY COMMUNITY OF FRIENDS, FOR MY CHURCH COMMUNITY AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS AROUND ME. SO WHAT I WANTED TO ASK TODAY, AND I KNOW THAT THERE IS HUMAN ERROR BECAUSE I COMMITTED IT SO MANY TIMES, BUT WHAT I WANT TO ASK TODAY IS A COMMITMENT FROM THIS BODY THAT THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER INCIDENT IN WHICH A BLACK WOMAN IS ADDRESSED BY THE B WORD. IT WAS ATROCIOUS, AND I AM SADDENED BY IT, AND I ASK FOR THAT COMMITMENT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU FOR COMING AND I AM SORRY BUT THE TRAFFIC. GOOD MORNING.

I AM [INAUDIBLE], AND I COME HERE BASICALLY TO SPEAK FOR THE YOUTH IN MY COMMUNITY, AND IN THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMUNITY, AND I WANT TO SAY FOR YOU TO SAY, THE INAPPROPRIATE STUFF TO A WOMAN HELPING TO REPRESENT MULTNOMAH COUNTY, AND YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO HELP REPRESENT OUR COMMUNITY, AND IT'S VERY INAPPROPRIATE FOR YOU TO SAY THAT AND MAKING IT FEEL LIKE IT'S APPROPRIATE FOR THE YOUTH TO SPEAK LIKE THAT. I AM A YOUTH AND I KNOW IT'S DISRESPECTFUL AND I KNOW NOT TO SPEAK TO THAT TO A WOMAN, SOMEBODY SITTING NEXT TO YOU, AND SUPPOSED TO HELP YOU, TOO. AND FOR THE REST OF THE WOMEN SITTING THERE, TOO, YOU COULD HAVE SPOKEN UP, YOU KNOW. YOU GUYS BEING SILENT, AT THAT MOMENT, I WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN. YOU ARE CONDONING, AND FOR HER TO BE THE ONLY WOMAN OF COLOR TO SIT UP THERE AND FOR YOU TO CALL HER THAT WORD, IMAGINE IF SHE CALLED YOU THAT WORD SHE WOULD NOT EVEN GET THIS SPOT NO MORE. THAT'S HOW I FEEL.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. THANKS FOR COMING. [APPLAUSE]

I AM ANTHONY MOHAMMED.

CHAIR KAFOURY: GOOD MORNING.

MR. MOHAMMAD: GOOD MORNING. THANKS FOR HAVING US. THANKS FOR HAVING US. JUST ON BEHALF OF A GRIEVING COMMUNITY AS YOU CAN SEE, WORDS CAN'T EXPLAIN THE DEEP GRIEF THAT THIS HAS CAUSED. IT WAS A VERY EGREGIOUS ACT, I THINK ALL OF US CAN AGREE TO THAT. I HAD A LOT OF PEOPLE CALL MY OFFICE IN RESPONSE TO THIS TO SEE WHAT THEY COULD DO. THEY WANTED TO SEE SHOULD THEY COME DOWN OR PROTEST. I SAID NO. LET'S SEE HOW THE BODY WILL RESPOND TO THIS. IN TERMS OF TRYING TO SELF CORRECT THEMSELVES. I SEE THE APOLOGY. BUT IN THE SPIRIT OF ATONEMENT ONE HAS TO FIRST ACKNOWLEDGE, AND I THINK YOU HAVE DONE THAT, THE NEXT STEP THAT YOU HAVE TO COME TO A POINT WHERE YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT. YOU JUST CANNOT SPILL GRAPE JUICE ON MY WHITE SUIT AND SAY THAT I AM SORRY. IT DON'T FIX IT. SEE. AND WHAT HAPPENED IS THAT YOU HAVE TO BECOME CREATIVE AND FIX THIS AND MAKE THIS BACK AT ONE. THAT'S WHAT ATONEMENT IS. SEE. I DON'T KNOW HOW ON GOD'S GREEN EARTH MISS KAFOURY THAT YOU COULD DO THAT AFTER INJURING NOT JUST THE COMMISSIONER, BUT A WHOLE COMMUNITY, AND IF YOU CARED ABOUT A COMMUNITY, THERE WOULD BE ONLY ONE CHOICE THAT YOU COULD MAKE TODAY.

ONLY ONE CHOICE. IF YOU CARED ABOUT JUST NOT THE BLACK COMMUNITY BECAUSE WHAT WILL HAPPEN IS THAT EACH ONE OF YOU WOMEN STAND IN JEOPARDY WHEN YOU DON'T SPEAK UP BECAUSE SHE KNOWS THAT SHE CAN GET AWAY WITH IT. SEE. SO NOW TODAY THERE IS A DECISION THAT HAS TO BE MADE BEFORE YOU FIND THAT WHERE THERE IS NO JUSTICE, THERE WON'T BE NO PEACE NOW. SO NOW IF WE COME IN THE NAME AND WE WANT PEACE TODAY, WE HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION. SOMETIMES DECISIONS ARE HARD BECAUSE YOUR LIVELIHOOD IS AT JEOPARDY. BUT FOR THE SAKE OF THE PEOPLE THAT YOU SAY THAT YOU REPRESENT, BECAUSE THOSE SEATS ARE NOT PERSONAL, THEY REPRESENT SOMETHING, AND WHEN YOU DISRESPECT THE SEAT, NOW IT'S NOT PERSONAL. SO AT THIS TIME I WOULD LIKE TO ECHO AND SECOND THAT WITH [INAUDIBLE], THERE IS ONLY ONE CHOICE TO BE MADE MISS KAFOURY, AND I KNOW YOU HAVE DONE WONDERFUL WORK, BUT FOR THE SAKE OF PEACE AND FOR THE SAKE OF THE INTEGRITY OF THE SEAT THAT YOU SIT IN, MA'AM, THERE IS NO OTHER CHOICE, AND I LEAVE IT IN YOU GUYS' COURT TODAY BECAUSE LIKE I SAID, WE CAN SIT HERE AND MY TIME IS SHORT. I THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

BOARD CLERK: [READS NAMES]

CHAIR KAFOURY: YOU CAN GO FIRST MA'AM.

DR. AUDREY TURRELL: THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY, MY NAME IS DR. AUDREY TURRELL, A RETIRED STAFF EXECUTIVE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTO WORKERS OUT OF DETROIT AND RELOCATED HERE SEVERAL YEARS AGO, AND I AM JUST GOING TO SAY THIS QUICKLY BECAUSE IT GIVES RISE TO WHY I FEEL A NECESSITY TO SIT HERE AND SPEAK, AND I WILL CERTAINLY TRY TO BE TIMELY. I WAS THE HEAD OF THE WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT, I HAVE 250,000 WOMEN AT GENERAL MOTORS CHRYSLER AND FORD AND OTHER UNIONS, AND WORKPLACES, AND IT WAS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO TRAIN ON LEADERSHIP. TO DO SEXUAL HARRASSMENT TRAINING ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. PLEASE DO YOUR RESEARCH. YOU WILL FIND FOR 15 YEARS I DID THIS INTERNATIONALLY. SO IF PREPARING WOMEN FOR LEADERSHIP, YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS, TAUGHT CONDUCT, HOW TO RUN FOR OFFICE, DO YOUR RESEARCH ON THIS. I DID THIS. SO AS I BECAME AWARE OF WHAT OCCURRED I SAID OH, MY GOODNESS. THERE IS NOTHING, SOMETHING MUST BE SAID, AND I AM ALSO PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE DOCTOR AUDREY TYRELL INSTITUTE WHERE I MENTOR YOUNG WOMEN AND MEN BUT ESPECIALLY WOMEN TO BE SUPREME COURT JUSTICES, TO BE GOVERNORS, TO BE THE PRESIDENT.

I MENTOR THEM AND FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS I'VE BEEN DOING THAT, AND WHICH I DO IT FROM THE HEART NOT FOR FINANCIAL REASONS OR BACKING, I DO IT BECAUSE AT THIS TIME IN MY LIFE I'VE BEEN A RETIRED EXECUTIVES. 'S TIME TO TURN AROUND AND REACH BACK AND HELP. SOME OF THESE YOUNG PEOPLE TRYING TO GET POSITIONS IN LIFE, FINDING A POSITION IN LIFE. I LIKE TO SAY AND I AM GOING TO TRY TO GO TO MY DOCUMENTARY BECAUSE I AM A LONG WINDIER IN SPEAKING. PLUS I AM A PREACHER, TOO, SO, YOU HAVE GOT TO CUT US OFF. BUT I AM JUST SAYING THAT THIS INCIDENT THAT OCCURRED TOUCHED ME DEEPLY BECAUSE I REALLY BELIEVE IN WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP. I BELIEVE WOMEN CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BUT SOMETIMES YOU CAN SAY AND DO THINGS THAT WILL HURT YOU. YOUR MOUTH CAN RUIN WHAT YOU ARE TRYING TO DO. CAN SET A TONE FOR WHAT OTHERS THINK THAT THEY CAN SAY AND DO, ESPECIALLY MEN, AND OTHERS, BUT THIS DAY IN TIME WE HAVE GOT TO WATCH WHAT WE SAY, AND BEING A PART OF THE DAT, DR. AUDREY TYRELL INSTITUTE, AND I AM GETTING MORE HIGH SCHOOLS AND THEY CAN TELL YOU THEY ARE GOING -- ONE JUST SPOKE EARLIER, THEY ARE PRIME FOR LEADERSHIP, AND THEY ARE WATCHING YOU. THEY ARE WATCHING WHAT YOU SAY AND WEAR. THEY ARE WATCHING YOU. THEY CAME TO ME, WHY DID THAT HAPPEN? SO ALL I AM SAYING TODAY TO WRAP UP WHAT I HAVE GOT TO SAY, IS THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP, THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU SAY. APOLOGY IS COOL BUT LIKE THAT MAN SAYS EARLIER, IT'S LIKE PULLING SOMETHING ON A WHITE SUIT, YOU MESSED IT UP. SO HOW CAN YOU COVER THAT UP? WHAT YOU NEED TO DO, YOU ARE BEING WATCHED, YOU ARE BEING WATCHED, THESE WOMEN HERE, I HAVE ANOTHER ONE HERE, THEY HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, I DON'T WANT TO BE

LIKE THAT. I DON'T WANT TO SAY THAT BECAUSE YOU RUIN YOURSELF FOR ALMOST THE REST OF YOUR CAREER. YES, WE HAVE SOMEONE THAT SAID, CAUSED A DEROGATORY IN THE PRESIDENCY, THAT DOESN'T MAKE IT OK. THAT DOES NOT MAKE IT OK. YOU ALSO WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WHAT YOU SAY AND DO DOES NOT MAKE IT OK FOR OUR FUTURE WOMEN LEADERS TO CONDUCT THEMSELVES ACCORDINGLY.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU FOR COMING. YOU ARE UP NEXT. GOOD MORNING.

BIANCA DEDMAN: HI, I AM BIANCA DEDMAN, AND I GO TO PARKROSE HIGH SCHOOL, AND I AM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BLACK CITY UNION, BSU. AND I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT LIKE I AM DISGUSTED. NO WOMAN SHOULD BE TREATED LIKE THAT. NO WOMAN SHOULD BE CALLED THAT ESPECIALLY IF SHE MADE IT THIS FAR. SHE MADE IT WHERE YOU ARE AT. SO IT'S LIKE YOU DISRESPECTING HER IS LIKE KIND OF DISRESPECTING EVERYONE. WHY WOULD YOU CALL SOMEBODY THAT BECAUSE OF WHAT THEIR OPINION IS. DON'T YOU ALL DISAGREE WITH EACH OTHER? DON'T WE LIKE -- DON'T YOU LIKE OH, AGREE AND DISAGREE, WHY DOES SHE HAVE TO BE THAT BECAUSE SHE DISAGREED WITH SOMETHING SAID, I DON'T GET IT. I THINK WE SHOULD BE BETTER, HELPING WOMAN COME TOGETHER AND BE TOGETHER AND WE SHOULD NOT BASH EACH OTHER AND THAT'S WHY OUR OWN MEN CALL US THAT BECAUSE OF OUR WOMEN CALLING OTHER WOMEN THAT WORD. THE MEN SEE IT AND THINK IT'S OK FOR THAT TO HAPPEN. WHAT I HAVE TO SAY IS BEING THAT I AM A YOUTH, BEING THAT I AM A SENIOR AND I AM OPENED UP TO THE REAL WORLD AND I AM SEEING THAT IT'S NOT HOW I THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE. 'S NOT HOW IT SHOULD BE. YOU BEING IN THAT SEAT, YOU SHOULD HAVE ALL RESPECT FOR EVERYBODY. YOU GOT THAT SEAT FOR A REASON. SO TO DISRESPECT SOMEBODY IS JUST UNCALLED FOR. THE APOLOGY, OK, YOU DID AN APOLOGY. BUT DID YOU DO IT JUST BECAUSE EVERYBODY ELSE HEARD THAT YOU SAID IT? OR DID YOU REALLY MEAN IT? YOU WASN'T SORRY WHEN YOU SAID IT, THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

BORA HARRIS: GREETINGS, GOOD MORNING. I AM BORA HARRIS. I AM PRESIDENT OF THE HARRIS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE, LLC, A COMMUNITY SERVANT, WOMAN OF FAITH, AND FORMER CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR IN THE CITY OF PORTLAND. TO CHAIR KAFOURY, THE OCTOBER 1, 2017 OREGONIAN POSTED YOUR COMMENT IN REGARDS TO INSTITUTIONAL RACISM ADS HOLDS ME ACCOUNTABLE. MY THOUGHTS WERE IT TAKES COURAGE TO MAKE THAT STATEMENT. MORE RECENTLY THE PAST DECEMBER YOU ALLEGEDLY SPOKE VERGE YACK THAT WAS DISRESPECTFUL AND A NEGATIVE SETBACK FOR WOMEN OF COLOR AND ALL WOMEN. THE IMPACT OF THIS STYLE OF LANGUAGE, WHETHER IT WAS USED TO EXHALE ON A PERSONAL NOTE OR NOT, IT NEGATIVELY AFFECTED WOMEN IN MULTNOMAH

COUNTY AND ACROSS AMERICA. WE HAVE WORKED SO HARD AND SO LONG TO CHANGE THE ABUSIVE CONNOTATION OF THE WORD. WE HAVE WORKED TIRELESSLY TO REBUILD SELF-ESTEEM OF COUNTLESS NUMBER OF WOMEN PLAGUED BY THE SINGLE ABUSIVE USE OF THE WORD. ON THIS OCCASION YOU OFFERED AN APOLOGY. FROM MY PERSPECTIVE I HAVE LEARNED TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES AND OFFER HEALTHY SKILLS TO AVOID THE RECURRENCE OF ISSUES OF THIS NATURE ON BEYOND. THERE IS A BOOK CALLED ECCLESIASTES 3 THAT STATES, "FOR EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON AND A TIME, TO EVERY PURPOSE UNDER THE HEAVEN. WE ARE IN A SEASON OF CHANGE FOR PAST PRACTICES, PATTERNS, BEHAVIORS AND MINDSETS. WE MUST AVERT TO A SEASON OF CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP.

BORA HARRIS: WE THE PEOPLE CAN NO LONGER BE SHACKLED BY FATALISM, WHICH MEANS THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS. TO COMMISSIONER SMITH, IN HER ABSENCE, THE HARRIS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE LLC WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT HOW DISTURBING IT IS FOR A COUNTY COMMISSIONER WITH TENURE WHO IS A WOMAN OF COLOR WHOM WE ASSUME UNDERSTANDS THE CHALLENGES AND ROADBLOCKS OF PEOPLE OF COLOR TO APPEAR TO HAVE WORN BLINDERS IN THE ENVIRONMENT AND ATMOSPHERE THAT YOU COMMITTED OF SYSTEMIC RACISM, YOU FAILED TO PUBLICLY ADDRESS THE ISSUE UNTIL JUST RECENTLY. UNTIL RECENTLY WHEN IT IMPACTED YOU PERSONALLY. [INAUDIBLE] YOUR ACCOUNTABILITY. SCENARIO. HUMPTY DUMPTY SAT ON THE WALL. HUMPTY DUMPTY HAD A GREAT FALL. ALL THE KING'S HORSES AND ALL THE KING'S MEN COULD NOT PUT HUMPTY TOGETHER AGAIN. IN CLOSING LIKE HUMPTY DUMPTY, COUNTY STAFF, PAST AND PRESENT, EITHER FELL OFF THE WALL OR WERE FORCED OR INTIMIDATED ARE DULIED OFF THE WALL. TARGETED PLEASE ARE STILL FALLING OFF THE WALL. EXPERIENCING THE FATE OF HUMPTY DUMPTY. MY VISION FOR THE COUNTY IS TO REDIRECT ITS FOCUS AND OPEN THAT FLOOD GATE TO CREATE A FAIR AND MORE EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE WORK ENVIRONMENT FOR PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

CALVIN HALL: GOOD MORNING. HAPPY NEW YEAR. CHAIR, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. MY NAME IS CALVIN HALL. I AM A PROFESSOR. I AM THE PRESIDENT OF THE YORK INSTITUTE AND ADVOCACY FIRM. I HAVE THE DISTINCT -- UNIQUE EXPERIENCE OF RUNNING FOR DISTRICT 2 TWICE, WHICH IS THE SEAT THAT COUNTY COMMISSIONER LORETTA SMITH HOLDS. I RAN IN 1998 AND LOST AND I RAN AGAINST COMMISSIONER SMITH AND LOST. I AM HERE TODAY TO EXPRESS A SOLUTION AS WELL AS MY DISSENT. BUT FIRST I WANT TO SAY THAT I HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER THAT HAS FOURTH DEGREE CANCER. AND THEY ASKED ME TO RETURN THIS TO YOU CHAIR KAFOURY. YOUR MOTHER ASSISTED THEM AS THEY NAVIGATED UNJUST POLICE PRACTICES, AND THEY FOLLOWED YOUR CAREER WITH GREAT

GLEAM AND EXCITEMENT, AND THEY HAD THIS IN THEIR OFFICE DATED 2005-2008. IT WAS AN ADVERTISING IN THE PORTLAND OBSERVER, AND THIS IS WHAT IT SAID. THERE IS NOTHING MORE DANGEROUS THAN TO BUILD A SOCIETY WITH A LARGE SEGMENT OF ITS PEOPLE IN THAT SOCIETY WHO FEEL THAT THEY HAVE NO STAKE IN IT, WHO FEEL THAT THEY HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE. PEOPLE WHO HAVE A STAKE IN THEIR SOCIETY PROTECT THAT SOCIETY, BUT WHEN THEY DON'T HAVE IT THEY UNCONSCIOUSLY WANT TO DESTROY IT. TO QUOTE YOU AS A REPRESENTATIVE IN THE SPIRIT OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. JOIN ME REPRESENTATIVE DEBORAH KAFOURY IN BUILDING TOMORROW'S LEADERS. YOUR COMMENTS WERE ANYTHING BUT BUILDING TOMORROW'S LEADERS. I WANT TO SAY THAT I AM A TECHNICAL GUY SO I WANT TO ADDRESS THIS FROM A TECHNICAL END CHAIR. THE CONTEXT, THE CONTEXT OF THAT ENGAGEMENT ABOUT YOUR OPERATIONS MANAGER BEING SELECTED HAS A MUCH LARGER NET THAT NEEDS TO BE EXPLORED.

CALVIN HALL: FIRST OF ALL FOR HER TO SERVE AS A REVIEWER OF COMPLAINTS BY COUNTY EMPLOYEES, WHEN SHE IS A POLITICAL APPOINTEE IS INAPPROPRIATE. IT IS INAPPROPRIATE FOR SOMEONE TO WRITE COMPLAINTS TO A POLITICAL APPOINTEE. WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN, AND I SAY THIS TO THE OTHER THREE COMMISSIONERS HERE, THAT THERE NEEDS TO BE A REORGANIZATION. YOU NEED TO HAVE THE CREATION OF OMBUDSMAN OFFICE THAT WILL BE PLANTED INSIDE THE AUDITOR'S OFFICE. THAT WAY IT WILL RESEMBLE WHAT THE GREATEST COUNTY CHAIRWOMAN GLADYS MCCOY HAD AS A MODEL, WHICH WAS CALLED THE MERIT COUNCIL. THE MERIT COUNCIL ALLOWED MANAGEMENT AND STAFF TO FILE COMPLAINTS WITHOUT FEAR OF RETALIATION FROM MANAGEMENT OR FROM THE LEAD SUPERVISORS. I ENCOURAGE YOU COMMISSIONERS TO LOOK AT GLADYS MCCOY'S MODEL OF THE MERIT COUNCIL. YOU WILL SEE THAT IT WILL ADDRESS THE ISSUES THAT ARE PLAGUING THIS COUNTY. THE SECOND COMPONENT IS TO HIRE A CONSULTANT WITHOUT HAVING AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN MAN INVOLVED IN THAT PROCESS IS EVEN MORE INJURY TO INSULT. AND IN CONCLUSION, IN CONCLUSION TO FOLLOW A BIBLICAL NARRATIVE, JUDAH RECEIVED 30 PIECES OF SILL SILVER TO BETRAY JESUS BUT AS JESUS SAT AND STRETCHED OUT HIS ARMS ON THE CROSS, HE SAID FATHER FORGIVE THEM FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO. SO WE WILL FORGIVE YOU, COUNTY CHAIR, BUT WE MUST ASK THAT YOU RESIGN. RESIGN FROM THIS SEAT.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU.

CALVIN HALL: MY CANCER-FILLED FAMILY ASKED ME TO RETURN THIS ARTICLE. AND I WILL LEAVE IT AT THE DESK THERE. AND LET ME JUST SAY THIS FINAL POINT. IN CONCLUSION, IN CONCLUSION I RAN AGAINST LORETTA SMITH, AND WE HAD DEEP DIVIDING POINTS. DEEP DIVIDING POINTS. BUT I NEVER WALKED AWAY FROM THAT TABLE WITH DISRESPECT FOR WORDS.

WHAT I SAID IS DISSENT IS THE GREATEST FORM OF LOYALTY BECAUSE IT MEANS THAT YOU CAN DEVELOP THE GREATEST FORM OF POLICY PRESCRIPTIONS AND TO THE THREE COMMISSIONERS I WANT TO SAY TO YOU HAVE A SUPERMAJORITY. LET IT NOT BE SAID IN YOUR FINAL YEAR AFTER YOU SERVE YOUR TWO TERMS THAT YOU DID NOT ADDRESS THIS ISSUE. LET IT SAID THAT YOU STOOD UP AND PUT IN THE MERIT COUNCIL AND SAID NO WOMAN, NO ONE WILL EVER SUFFER SUCH A DEGRADING STATEMENT. THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE, AND I WANT TO SAY TO YOU DEBRA THAT THIS IS NOT THE PERSON THAT I KNOW. THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AT ALL. THIS IS HURT. THE BLACK AND WHITE. THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE, BUT I SAY TO THE THREE COMMISSIONERS IN CONCLUSION, SILENCE IS BETRAYAL. IF YOU SIT SILENT AND DO NOT MAKE THE RECOMMENDATION TO ADDRESS THIS BY CREATING GLADYS MCCOY, MERIT COUNCIL AND DEMANDING SOME TYPE OF REALIGNMENT FOR REVIEWS OF COMPLAINTS NOT TO GO TO A POLITICAL APPOINTEE, YOU ARE DOING NOTHING MORE THAN POLITICAL THEATER. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [APPLAUSE]

BOARD CLERK: [READS NAMES] CHARLES JOHNSON. PASTOR MATT HENNESSEY. CHUCK CROCKETT, PLEASE COME FORWARD. AND MARGARET CARTER.

CHAIR KAFOURY: I AM SORRY SENATOR, I DID NOT SEE YOU IN THE AUDIENCE. I WOULD HAVE ALLOWED YOU TO COME UP AND TESTIFY. THANK YOU FOR COMING. YOU CAN BEGIN SENATOR CARTER. IF I HAD SEEN YOU I WOULD SOMEWHERE ALLOWED YOU TO COME UP AND TESTIFY.

SENATOR CARTER: GOOD MORNING BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, I AM SUFFERING WITH A COLD SO MY VOICE WILL BE SOUNDING WEIRD. BUT I APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO COME BEFORE YOU TODAY. I COME AS A WOMAN OF COURAGE FOR YOU AS WOMEN TO HAVE COURAGE AND ALSO REPRESENTING MANY VOICES OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN WHO HAVE CALLED ME ON THE PHONE. I HAD NOT PLANNED ON COMING TODAY BECAUSE OF BEING IN BED WITH THIS COLD. MANY OF THEM EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERNS CHAIR KAFOURY REGARDING WHAT THEY CONSIDER ABUSIVE AND DEMEANING LANGUAGE AT THE CLOSE OF A FORMAL HEARING. MY NEXT STATEMENT WOULD HAVE BEEN TO ASK YOU CHAIR KAFOURY TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT FROM YOUR SEAT. NOW IN AN APOLOGY IN PERSON TO COMMISSIONER SMITH, AND I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE DONE THAT SO THANK YOU FOR THAT. THAT DOES SHOW COURAGE. BUT IN DOING SO WE FIND IT A MORAL IMPERATIVE TO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. THERE WAS A TIME WHEN I REMEMBER A LETTER THAT WENT OUT TALKING BUT THE FIVE WHITE AMIGOS, WHICH WAS VERY INSULTING. THEY WERE ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION. I AM SO EXCITED TO SEE WOMEN HERE. I EXPECT GREAT THINGS FROM YOU IN TERMS OF EXAMPLES TO OUR COMMUNITY IN TERMS OF YOUR LEADERSHIP AND YOUR COMMITMENT TO WISE AND GOOD PUBLIC POLICY. I THINK THAT IT IS

IMPORTANT THAT AS WE LOOK FORWARD, NEEDLESS TO SAY MADAM CHAIR, WHEN YOU INSULT ONE WOMAN YOU INSULT ALL WOMEN. FOR THE BLACK WOMEN THAT CALLED ME ON THE PHONE THEY WERE SAYING WHEN YOU INSULT ONE BLACK WOMAN YOU INSULT ALL BLACK WOMEN. BUT I DON'T THINK THAT THAT IS JUST LIMITED TO BLACK WOMEN. I THINK THAT IT IS TO ALL OF US AS WOMEN REGARDLESS TO THE MARKETPLACE IN WHICH WE HOLD. IT IS IMPORTANT ALSO THAT THIS ADMINISTRATION BE MORE FORWARD THINKING IN TERMS OF HOW YOU CAN PROTECT THE PEOPLE THAT ALL OF YOU SERVE. NOT JUST IN TERMS OF THIS AT THIS TIME TODAY, BUT MADAM CHAIR AS I HAVE LOOKED OVER THE PAST 35 YEARS OF MY BEING IN THE PUBLIC MARKETPLACE EVEN THOUGH IT WAS IN SALEM BUT I STILL KEPT IN TOUCH WITH WHERE I LIVED, WHICH IS ON NORTHEAST 10TH AVENUE, AND I FORGOT TO SAY THAT I AM MARGARET CARTER, THANK YOU.

CHAIR KAFOURY: YOU NEED NO INTRODUCTION.

SENATOR CARTER: MY APOLOGIES FOR THAT, BUT I THINK IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT WE KEEP THE EXPECTATION OF THE KIND OF LEADERSHIP THAT WOMEN HAVE HAD HERE, WHEN I LOOK AT GRETCHEN KAFOURY, I LOOK AT THE WOMEN WHOSE SHOULDER YOU ARE STANDING ON TODAY. I EXPECT DIGNITY AND RESPECT FOR WHAT YOU DO, AND I PROMISE, GIVE ME A FEW MORE MINUTES. MAY I RECALL FOR YOU OUR GREAT NATION'S PRESIDENT, AND IN HIS REFERRAL TO A MIXED RACE AFRICAN-AMERICAN NFL PLAYER AS SON OF A BITCH. I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I AM STILL SHAKING IN MY SHOES. I AM STILL HURT. I AM UPSET THAT ANYONE COULD BE SUCH -- I LIKE TO JUST USE THE TERM "POTTY MOUTH" BUT THAT IS BEYOND POTTY MOUTH. IT'S IGNORANT FOR A PERSON IN LEADERSHIP TO USE LANGUAGE THAT IS SO LOW THAT IS SO DEGRADING. YOU HAVE TO HAVE OTHER WORDS TO USE AND TO PUT IN THE PLACE. OUR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE -- INCLINED TOWARDS HIGHER EDUCATION, AND LEARNING WORDS SO THEY DON'T HAVE TO USE LOW CLASS WORDS ARE LISTENING AND WATCHING, SO WE WANT THEM TO HAVE ACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE PRACTICES TO BE ABLE TO SERVE US, AND YES, WE WILL SUCCEED AS PORTLANDIANS, AS OREGONIANS, AND ULTIMATELY AS AMERICANS, BY LOVING AND RESPECTING EACH OTHER AND BY DEMANDING THAT WHEN AN ERA IS MADE IN A PUBLIC FORUM, IT IS CORRECTED IN THAT SAME MANNER. THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. THANK YOU FOR COMING. [APPLAUSE]

JAY MATT HENNESSEY: MADAM CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSION AND CERTAINLY TO MY SISTER AND YOUR COLLEAGUE LORETTA SMITH WHO I HAVE NO DOUBT IS WATCHING THIS PROCEEDING TODAY. MY NAME IS JAY MATT HENNESSEY, THE PASTOR OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HERE IN PORTLAND. I TALKED WITH COMMISSIONER SMITH, AND

GAVE HER MY TESTIMONY AND MY TESTIMONY WAS ALSO SENT TO YOUR OFFICE, MADAM CHAIR AND I PRAY GIVEN TO EACH OF YOU. SO I WILL DO SOMETHING THAT PREACHERS DON'T NORMALLY DO, AT LEAST THIS ONE DOESN'T, AND THAT IS READ FROM WHAT I HAVE SAID. FIRST OF ALL I WANT TO BE VERY CLEAR FIRST I APPRECIATE YOUR APOLOGY THIS MORNING. I ALSO WANT TO SAY THAT I FEEL AND SUPPORT THE COMMENTS OF MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO HAVE COME BEFORE ME TODAY.

JAY MATT HENNESSEY: MY WORDS ARE THESE. IT IS AN HONOR AND A PRIVILEGE TO WRITE TO YOU AND SPEAK BEFORE YOU TODAY REGARDING THE PUBLICIZED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RECENTLY. LET ME SAY FROM THE OUTSET THAT I LOVE YOU AND SUPPORT YOU CHAIR KAFOURY AND I LOVE AND SUPPORT MY SISTER DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONER LORETTA SMITH. YOU ARE BOTH GREAT PEOPLE AND IMPORTANT SPOKES PERSONS FOR OUR COUNTY WHERE I HAVE LIVED AND WORKED IN THIS REGION FOR NEARLY 30 YEARS. I APPRECIATE THE PEOPLE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUES THAT YOU SPEAK TO OF OUR TIME. IT IS MY HOPE THAT THE UNFORTUNATE RIFT THAT TOOK PLACE AT YOUR LAST MEETING CAN BE RECONCILED IN A WAY THAT IS RESTORATIVE AND ALLOWS EVERYONE INVOLVED TO HEAL AND MOVE FORWARD ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND ITS EMPLOYEES. WE LIVE IN INTERESTING TIMES, AND THERE IS A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF PUBLIC HATING, STRIFE, AND DISCORD ON DISPLAY EVERYWHERE. WHAT I KNOW IS THAT WE ARE ALL BETTER THAN THAT. NO MATTER WHAT ONE'S BELIEF OR UNBELIEFS ARE WE ARE CITIZENS OF A HIGHER POWER THAN OURSELVES. I BEG EACH OF YOU TO WORK TOGETHER ON BEHALF OF YOUR CONSTITUENCIES AND TO NOT BE DISTRACTED BY AN ATMOSPHERE OF EVIL THAT PERMEATES OUR POLITICS. WE NEED YOU TO WORK TOGETHER.

JAY MATT HENNESSEY: WE NEED YOU TO BE ABLE TO PUBLICLY TO DO THE -
- TO BE THE STATE'S PEOPLE THAT YOU WERE ELECTED TO BE SPECIFICALLY AT A TIME LIKE THIS. NO MATTER HOW YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE IT'S MY HOPE THAT EVERY ONE OF YOU AND ALL OF YOU, ALL OF US IN THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REMEMBER THAT WHAT MATTERS MOST IS WHY YOU WERE ELECTED OR APPOINTED AND THE GREAT VISION THAT YOU HAVE TO SUPPORT AND SUSTAIN THE IMPORTANT ISSUES OF ALL HUMANITY. I AM NOT CALLING FOR ANYONE TO RESIGN NOR TO CAUSE FURTHER HARM TO WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE IN THIS VERY SAD SITUATION. IN THE SPIRIT OF THE GREAT PEACE-MAKER THAT WE CELEBRATE THIS MONTH THE LATE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., I AM ASKING FOR GRACE, MERCY, MEDIATION, AND RECONCILIATION. CAN I JUST FINISH REAL QUICK. I BELIEVE THAT SERVES EVERYONE'S INTERESTS THE BEST, AND IF DR. KING COULD FORGIVE OTHER LEADERS OF DIVISION AND HATE AND MOVE FORWARD, SO CAN WE. MY EXPERIENCE TELLS ME ALL OF US HAVE FAILED, ALL OF US HAVE MADE MISTAKES, AND HAVE SAID AND DONE THINGS THAT WE WISH THAT WE HADN'T. IF THE TEST OF THE HUMAN

SPIRIT WERE ABOUT OUR MISTAKES, NONE OF US COULD SERVE. THE GOOD THING IS THAT THE TEST OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT IS NOT ABOUT OUR MISTAKES, BUT ABOUT OUR POSSIBILITIES. WHETHER IT'S FIND A WAY TO GRACIOUSLY AND MERCIFULLY MOVE FORWARD AND KEEP OUR EYE ON THE BALL AND NOT GIVE VICTORY TO EVIL BUT GIVE VICTORY TO THE BEST OF WHO WE ARE AND WHY WE SERVE. I AM HAPPY TO DO ALL I CAN TO HELP. IT IS SINCERE HOPE THAT YOU WILL HEAR, UNDERSTAND AND CONSIDER MY APPEAL TO YOU TO WORK TOGETHER AND HEAL TO GO BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN EACH OF YOU AND PRAY YOU WILL WORK TOGETHER AND HEAL FOR OUR COUNTY'S SAKE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

CHUCK CROCKETT: GOOD MORNING. I AM CHUCK CROCKETT. I AM NOT AS NAIVE AS EVERYONE TO THINK THAT YOUR APOLOGY WAS GENUINE BECAUSE YOUR MOTHER SHOWED SIGNS OF RACISM AND YOU ARE DOING THE SAME THING. I REVIEWED YOUR BUDGET FOR 2018, AND I SHOW NO SIGNS OF YOU TRYING TO SOFTEN THE BLOW OF THE ECONOMIC CRUSH ON AFRICAN-AMERICANS AS FAR AS HOUSING, JOBS, YOU KNOW, FURTHERMORE YOU HAVE BUDGETS FOR LGBT, SEXUAL OFFENDERS AND SO ON AND SO FORTH BUT HAVE NOT TAKEN THE TIME OR CARED TO MAKE A BUDGET FOR THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY WHO HAS BEEN DEVASTATED SINCE TIME BEING HERE. VAN PORT WAS NEVER TAKEN CARE OF FOR THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY, THEY WERE JUST MOVED INTO HOUSING UNITS AND WE CONTINUE TO GO DOWN THIS ROAD WHERE WE ARE DEALING WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THAT REALLY DON'T CARE ABOUT US. YOU ADDRESS US AS PEOPLE OF COLOR BUT DON'T VIEW US AS THE SAME AS THIS WOMAN OVER HERE BECAUSE YOU WOULD NEVER SAY THAT TO THAT WOMAN. SO NO, I AM NOT THAT NAIVE. I AM SITTING HERE TODAY TO LET EVERYONE KNOW THAT I AM THE CANDIDATE RUNNING TO UNSEAT YOU.

FOR EVERYTHING YOU HAVE DONE AND TO CHANGE THE ACTUAL COUNTY, TO OVERSEE THE COUNTY AND TO SHOW PEOPLE THAT YOU CAN ACTUALLY TRUST SOMEONE. WHAT YOU ARE DOING IS GIVING DISTRUST TO EVERYONE. NO ONE TRUSTS YOU. NO ONE BELIEVES YOU, AND YOU HAVE DONE THAT TO YOURSELF. THAT IS WHY ME, WHAT PEOPLE WOULD CONSIDER A THUG, A GANG MEMBER, WHATSOEVER YOU WANT TO CALL IT, WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME, I AM RUNNING TO UNSEAT YOU BECAUSE THAT IS HOW DEEP YOU HAVE CUT OUR COMMUNITY. IT'S NOT JUST YOU. IT'S ALL OF THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM THE CITY HALL TO MULTNOMAH COUNTY TO THE UPPER STATE GOVERNMENT TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. SO I AM LETTING YOU KNOW THAT I DON'T BELIEVE IT, AND A LOT OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS DON'T BELIEVE IT IF THEY SAID THAT THEY ACCEPT YOUR APOLOGY. WE'VE BEEN GOING THROUGH THIS SINCE THE BIRTH OF THIS COUNTRY, AND I THINK IT'S BEFORE TIME THAT YOU

UNDERSTAND AS PEOPLE ARE CALLING FOR YOU TO GIVE UP YOUR SEAT, IT'S ABOUT TIME THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THAT AND REALLY ABSORB THAT. I KNOW YOU DON'T CARE BECAUSE HOW YOU ARE LOOKING AT ME, I SEE HOW YOU SMILE AT SOME OF THE COMMENTS THE AFRICAN-AMERICANS HAVE SAID IN DISDAIN TO WHAT YOU HAVE DONE AND THE REST OF THE COMMISSIONERS I AM LOOKING AT YOU. YOU HAVE NOT DONE ANYTHING OR SHOWN ANYONE WHY YOU SHOULD HAVE YOUR JOB. SO WHEN I REPLACE YOU, I WILL MAKE SURE THAT THE COUNTY IS RUN PROPERLY, EQUALLY, AND PEOPLE DON'T HAVE TO LIVE IN FEAR LIKE THIS AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMAN WHO IS NOT HERE RIGHT NOW. I DON'T HAVE TO FINISH MY TIME.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE] GOOD MORNING.

CHARLES BRIDGECRANE JOHNSON: GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS. CHARLES BRIDGECRANE JOHNSON BACK AGAIN AFTER SITTING HERE TWO WEEKS AGO FOR THAT TRAUMATIC AND DISGUSTING EPISODE. THAT BUSINESS IS STILL UNRESOLVED. WE NEED TO REALLY KNOW HOW OUR COUNTY IS GOING TO IMPLEMENT BEST PRACTICES, NOT JUST FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF REPLACEMENTS FOR COMMISSIONERS WHEN THEY RESIGN OR OTHERWISE LEAVE OFFICE, BUT HOW ARE WE GOING TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE WHICH CAME UP MOST CLEARLY DURING [INAUDIBLE] HARRIS' TESTIMONY A FEW MINUTES AGO. THOSE COUNTY EMPLOYEES THAT ARE GETTING SCREWED OVER AND FEEL THAT THERE IS A RACIAL BIAS FACTOR IN THAT, WE NEED TO QUICKLY MOVE AND TAKE ACTION ON THAT. AND RELATED TO THAT, NOT PARTICULARLY COUNTY EMPLOYEES, WE HAVE A DISPARITY THING, USUALLY EVEN THOUGH THIS ROOM IS LED BY WOMEN, THIS ROOM USUALLY IS JUST A WHITE SUPREMACY GATHERING, AND TODAY WE HAVE GOT SOME DIVERSITY, BUT WHEN WE LOOK AT THAT, WE NEED TO ALSO CONSIDER THE REASON, THE REASONS THAT AMANDA LAMB WAS FIRED FOR TALKING ABOUT DISPARITY AND RACISM PROBLEMS IN THIS COUNTY.

NOW OF COURSE THERE IS THE COVER STORY OF SHE DISCLOSED IN A PUBLIC WAY SOMETHING THAT SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN DISCLOSED BECAUSE GOD KNOWS WE HAVE GOT TO FIRE PEOPLE WHO AIR THEIR DIRTY LAUNDRY WITHOUT PERMISSION. SO YOU HAVE A FULL PLATE THIS MONTH. IT'S JUST 11 DAYS, AND WE WILL BE DEALING WITH AN ALL TOO COMMON ISSUE OF PEOPLE OF COLOR BEING KILLED BEFORE THEIR TYPE, IN PARTICULAR A 39-YEAR-OLD BLACK MAN KILLED BY THE FBI, DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING. BUT THAT PROBLEM EXISTS ONTO TODAY THAT AS MR. CROCKETT POINTED OUT OUR GOVERNMENT IS NOT MAKING -- ALL OF OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE NOT MAKING SUFFICIENT PROGRESS IN DELIVERING EQUITY AND EQUITABILITY. SOME PEOPLE TALKED ABOUT ATONEMENT, RESIGNATION OF CHAIR KAFOURY, BUT WHETHER OR NOT CHAIR KAFOURY RESIGNS, THOSE ISSUES WILL REMAIN, AND WHAT WE REALLY NEED FROM ALL THE COMMISSIONERS, WHETHER KAFOURY OR THE THREE WOMEN

HERE WHO HAVE THE POWER TO DO IT NOW IS TO LIVE UP TO YOUR BEST PRINCIPLES. WE HAVE HAD RECENTLY A PROBLEM WHERE IN THE LAST FEW YEARS JEFF COGEN'S CONDUCT HAS BEEN ADDRESSED FORMALLY. YOU COMMISSIONERS THAT ARE SITTING UP THERE WITH KAFOURY NEED TO DOCUMENT AND USE THE GOVERNMENTAL PROCEDURES TO SANCTION WHAT IS BAD AND TO PUT THAT IN THE RECORD TO ENCOURAGE US TO RISE TO BE THE BEST COMMUNITY THAT WE CAN BE. THANK YOU.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU.

BOARD CLERK: WE HAVE ONE MORE.

CHAIR KAFOURY: GOOD MORNING.

OMAR: GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONER KAFOURY AND YOUR FELLOW COMMISSIONERS. I FEEL A LITTLE NAKED HER BEING THE ONLY GUY AT THE MIC.

CHAIR KAFOURY: DO YOU WANT SOMEONE TO SIT NEXT TO YOU?

OMAR: NO. EVERYTHING THAT HAS BEEN SAID THIS MORNING I AM IN AGREEMENT WITH, AND PRIMARILY BECAUSE I AM NOT AS INFORMED ON ALL OF THE MATTERS THAT HAVE COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION THIS MORNING, AND REALLY AM ENCOURAGED BY THE SUPPORT BEHIND ME FOR WHAT THEY SEE AS AN INJUSTICE AND A FURTHER PATH THAT WE HAVE NOT REALLY ADDRESSED, WHICH IS THE RACE ISSUE. WE ALWAYS SEEM TO DODGE HERE OR THERE, AND I KNOW THAT THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH, BUT WHEN WE HAVE DISRESPECT FOR THE WONDERFUL AND THE OUTSTANDING WORK DONE BY A FORMER PRESIDENT, PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA, AND PEOPLE WERE ALLOWED TO ADDRESS HIM AS, YOU KNOW, OBAMA, OR BARAK WITHOUT GIVING HIM HIS PROPER TITLE TELLS US THAT WE ARE STILL IN A POSITION WHERE WE ARE VULNERABLE TO INSENSITIVITY, INTOLERANCE, INJUSTICE. THOSE SAME THINGS THAT HAS BEEN WITH US ALL ALONG THIS PATH TOWARDS OUR PROGRESS AND BEING ACCEPTED AS EQUAL HUMAN BEINGS. THIS IS WHAT WE REALLY ARE TALKING ABOUT. WE ARE TALKING BUT THE ACCEPTANCE TO THE FACT THAT WE ARE EQUAL HUMAN BEINGS WITH FLAWS, WITH MISTAKES, AND WITH THIS COLOR THAT WE BRING INTO THIS EXTERNAL REALITY. WORDS MOLD PEOPLE. ONCE DESTRUCTIVE WORDS CREATE A GAP IT'S VERY DIFFICULT FOR THAT GAP OR THAT VOID TO BE FULFILLED AGAIN WITH, WITHOUT SOME MEANINGFUL ACTION. I UNDERSTAND BECAUSE MY CONCERN WAS THAT WITH THE PROBLEMS THAT WE ARE HAVING IN THIS CITY AND THE LACK OF THINGS BEING ADDRESSED AS FAR AS HOMELESSNESS, YOU KNOW, THE GANGS. THE PROBLEM. ALL OF THESE THINGS THAT WE HAVE COME TO GRIPS WITH BUT WE ARE STILL IGNORING THE FUNDAMENTAL FACT THAT WORDS WITHOUT GOOD INTENTION ARE

DESTRUCTIVE. WE DON'T SEPARATE THE LANGUAGE THAT IS DESTRUCTIVE, AND WHAT IT DOES FROM AN APOLOGY. WE HAVE TO REALLY DIG DEEP AND LOOK AT HOW WE ADDRESS EACH OTHER WITH THE HURTFUL WORDS, MAYBE AN APOLOGY THAT SOUNDS REALLY INTELLIGENT AND, YOU KNOW, IT'S DIFFICULT TO SAY WHETHER IT WAS MEANINGFUL OR WHETHER IT WAS JUST SOMETHING THAT WAS SAID PASSE. BUT I THINK WHAT THE COMMUNITY IS LOOKING FOR IS RESULTS, AND I THINK THE RESULTS HAVE TO COME FROM YOUR CONSCIOUS TO SAY WHETHER OR NOT YOU HAVE THE COURAGE TO FOLLOW WHAT THE COMMUNITY DEMANDS OF YOU AND WHETHER OR NOT THOSE WHO SIT WITH YOU HAVE THE COURAGE TO REPRIMAND OR TO ADVISE AND SAY FOR THE BEST OF KEEPING PEACE IN THIS CITY AND COOPERATION FROM THE CITIZENS ON THE NORTHEAST SIDE OR WHEREVER WE ARE FOUND THAT MAYBE IT WOULD BE COMMENDABLE FOR YOU TO TAKE THE COURAGE TO STEP DOWN. THANK YOU.

CHAIR KAFOURY: I AM SORRY, WOULD YOU STATE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD?

OMAR: OMAR, MUSLIM COMMUNITY CENTER OF PORTLAND.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. ANY OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT? I THINK SOME OF THE COMMISSIONERS WANTED TO MAKE A ESTIMATE AS WELL. COMMISSIONER STEGMANN.

COMMISSIONER STEGMANN: THANK YOU CHAIR. THE WORDS THAT WE USE ARE IMPORTANT, AND I WAS APPALLED AND DEEPLY DISTURBED BY THE EVENTS OF OUR LAST MEETING. CHAIR THANK YOU FOR YOUR APOLOGY. I APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS TODAY AND HOPE THAT OUR BOARD CAN MOVE FORWARD AND STAY FOCUSED ON THE IMPORTANT WORK BEFORE US. I WANT TO BE RESPECTFUL OF THIS MOMENT AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE COURAGE IT TOOK FOR FOLKS TO COME FORWARD TODAY AND THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR TESTIMONY. EVERYONE DESERVES THE RIGHT TO SPEAK, ASK QUESTIONS, AND BE HEARD. NO ONE SHOULD HAVE THEIR VOICE SILENCED. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH ALL OF MY COLLEAGUES ON THIS BOARD AND THIS COMMUNITY TO ENSURE THOSE RIGHTS. ADDITIONALLY IF I HAVE OFFENDED ANYONE I HOPE THAT YOU WILL ACCEPT MY APOLOGY. THAT WAS NEVER MY INTENT. I HAVE HEARD YOU TODAY. I WELCOME A CONVERSATION WITH ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS HOW WE CAN MOVE FORWARD AND HEAL. MY CHIEF OF STAFF REBECCA, WOULD YOU RAISE YOUR HAND, IS IN THE BACK. PLEASE CONNECT WITH BECCA SO THAT WE CAN SET UP A TIME TO DISCUSS HOW WE CAN MOVE FORWARD AND HOW WE CAN HEAL. THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE.

CHAIR KAFOURY: COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON.

COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON: I WANT TO THANK EVERYBODY FOR COMING TODAY AND THANK YOU FOR THE TIME TO SPEAK. NORMALLY AS COMMISSIONERS WE DON'T INTERACT AFTER PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND ONLY SPEAK AT THE END OF THE MEETING BUT I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE TIME TO SPEAK TO THIS TODAY. AND LIKE SENATOR CARTER I HAVE A COLD SO I APOLOGIZE FOR THAT. I THINK THAT IT'S SO IMPORTANT FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS TO MAINTAIN OUR PROFESSIONALISM AND ESPECIALLY IN TIMES OF DISAGREEMENT AND STRESS. WE KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING NATIONALLY. THIS IS A TIME WHERE RESPECT FOR OUR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IS AT A LOW POINT, AND WE HAVE A REAL LACK OF PUBLIC DECORUM. THIS IS EXACTLY THE TIME WHEN WE NEED TO RISE ABOVE THIS AND TO SHOW ONE ANOTHER THE RESPECT THAT EACH INDIVIDUAL DESERVES. I WAS SO PROUD WHEN WE CAME IN A YEAR AGO AS AN ALL-WOMAN MAJORITY WOMEN OF COLOR BOARD, AND I HAVE TO SAY WHAT HAPPENED AFTER OUR LAST BOARD MEETING WAS TERRIBLE AND NOT IN ANY WAY IN THE VEIN OF THE SPIRIT AND THE HOPE THAT WE CAME IN A YEAR AGO AND WHAT WE WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHING AND HOW WE WOULD TREAT EACH OTHER. THERE IS NEVER AN EXCUSE TO DIRECT LANGUAGE LIKE THAT AT A COLLEAGUE, ESPECIALLY IN OUR MOST IMPORTANT INFORMAL SETTING, THE BOARD MEETINGS. SENATOR CARTER SAID THAT THE USE OF THE WORD -- IMPACTS A WOMAN, BUT I THINK THAT THERE NEEDS TO BE AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT FOR WOMEN OF COLOR AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR IT HAS AN ADDITIONAL MEANING AND HISTORY AND IMPACTS THAT, SO I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COME AND TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND YOUR WORDS, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF YOU FROM THE YOUTH WHO CAME TO TALK TODAY BECAUSE I KNOW IT IMPACTS YOU AS WELL. I APPRECIATE THE CHAIR'S APOLOGY AND LIKE COMMISSIONER SEG -- STEGMANN, I HOPE WE CAN MOVE FORWARD AS FAR AS HEALING AND DOING THE GOOD WORK AT THE COUNTY THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE AND WHAT WE WERE ELECTED HERE TO DO. THANK YOU.

CHAIR KAFOURY: COMMISSIONER MEIERAN.

COMMISSIONER MEIERAN: THANK YOU CHAIR. I, TOO, FIRST I AGREE WITH WHAT BOTH MY FELLOW COMMISSIONERS HAVE SAID, AND I ALSO DO TRULY APPRECIATE CHAIR KAFOURY'S APOLOGY HERE TODAY. I ALSO DEEPLY APPRECIATE YOUR COMING OUT HERE TO SPEAK YOUR MIND AND TO TELL US WHAT IS IN YOUR HEARTS BECAUSE WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU. IT DOES TAKE COURAGE TO COME OUT HERE AND SIT UP AT THAT THING AND SPEAK YOUR MIND. I HAVE OFTEN SAID THAT MY FAVORITE QUOTE IS SPEAK YOUR MIND EVEN WHEN YOUR CHOICE SHAKES BECAUSE IT IS SO IMPORTANT. SO MY VOICE MAY BE SHAKING A LITTLE TODAY SO JUST TO PUT THAT OUT THERE. I THINK THAT ONE OF THE HUGE VALUES TO HAVING THIS CONVERSATION AND TO HEARING FROM YOU IS LEARNING FROM YOU. I THINK ONE OF THE REALLY GREAT BENEFITS OF BEING ON THIS PARTICULAR BOARD IS THAT WE REALLY DO LEARN FROM EACH OTHER. WE REALLY DO

WORK TOGETHER. WE REALLY DO CARE ABOUT AND RESPECT ONE ANOTHER EVEN WHEN WE DO DISAGREE. SOMETIMES WE ARE, AND WE ARE ALL HUMAN, AND WE ALL DO ERR. AS I THINK THAT IT WAS MISS ROSA, SHE SAID THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR BAD MANNERS.

COMMISSIONER MEIERAN: I COMPLETELY AGREE WITH THAT, AND I DID WANT TO THROW SOMETHING OUT THERE BECAUSE THIS IS SOMETHING THAT I HAVE ACTUALLY LEARNED TODAY, THAT I AM SOMEWHAT ASHAMED THAT I AM JUST LEARNING IT NOW, BUT TO ME THE, HOW TO SAY, THE B WORD, I FEEL WEIRD UP HERE SAYING THAT, BUT THE TERM BITCH, I DID NOT REALIZE THAT WAS A RACIALLY CHARGED TERM. I HAD NO -- I AM SORRY, BUT THAT HAS BEEN MY REALITY. SO IT'S A TERM THAT I HAVE GROWN UP, THAT WAS USED, NOT A NICE TERM BY ANY STRETCH OF THE IMAGINATION. BUT I PERSONALLY WAS NOT AWARE OF THAT DEEP HISTORY THAT WAS INVOLVED. SO I AM APOLOGIZING FOR NOT KNOWING THAT, AND YOU KNOW I CAN'T -- I HAVE NOT DONE ANYTHING WITH THE WORD BUT I CAN COMMIT THAT I WON'T BE USING THAT TERM EVER AGAIN, THAT I WILL BE EDUCATING PEOPLE I KNOW THAT DO USE THAT TERM EVER, AND I WILL DO MY BEST TO MAKE SURE THAT MY ACTIONS REFLECT MY VALUES IN MY HEART. SO I JUST DID WANT TO PUT THAT OUT THERE. I THINK REGARDLESS, LIKE I SAID, REGARDLESS OF THE CONNOTATION, THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR BAD MANNERS, AND THAT WE ALSO NEED TO COMMIT TO MOVE FORWARD, AND I PERSONALLY COMMIT TO MOVE FORWARD.

CHAIR KAFOURY: I AM SORRY -- MA'AM IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COME AND SPEAK YOU CAN COME UP TO THE -- MARINA, COULD YOU GIVE HER A PIECE OF PAPER AND A PEN.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: THE POINT THAT I AM MAKING IS THE TIMING IS OFF. THE TIMING IS HORRIBLY OFF. A FEW MONTHS AGO WE SAT IN THIS BOARDROOM. THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, CHAIR KAFOURY INCLUDED, UNANIMOUSLY PASSED IS A WORKFORCE EQUITY INITIATIVE TO START THE WORK TO SOME HOW IMPROVE WORK CONDITIONS FOR THOSE -- FOR KNOWS -- FOLKS UNDERREPRESENTED. PEOPLE NUMBER ONE DID NOT TRUST THE PROCESS. YOU ARE ALREADY GOING INTO A SITUATION WITH A LACK OF TRUST. WHAT CHAIR KAFOURY DID COMPLETELY UNDERMINES THAT. MARISSA MADRIGAL, HER BEING APPOINTED, HER OFFERS BEING APPOINTED TO -- HER OFFERS BEING APPOINTED TO HANDLE CASES OF DISCRIMINATION, I DON'T KNOW WHAT ANYONE ELSE HAS EXPERIENCED WITH HER BUT THERE HAS BEEN SOME BENEFIT THERE. I CANNOT SAY SYSTEMICALLY THIS COUNTY HAS IMPROVED BUT I KNOW MY AREA WHERE I WORK HAS IMPROVED BECAUSE MARISSA IS NOW INVOLVED. WHAT YOU DID TOTALLY UNDERMINES THAT. TOTALLY AND COMPLETELY UNDERMINES THAT. AND YOU NEED TO ACCEPT THAT. AND HOW IN THE HELL CAN WE MOVE FORWARD WHEN WE HAVE NOT ADDRESSED THE HARM THAT THIS HAS CAUSED. I AM NOT GLOSSING OVER IT BECAUSE IT UNDERMINES THE WORK MARISSA HAS STARTED, AND FOR

THE EMPLOYEES WHO ARE ALREADY HAVE TREPIDATIONS ABOUT EVEN TALKING TO HER. YOU ALL HAVE PUSHED THEM FARTHER IN THE HOLE. CHAIR KAFOURY YOUR ACTIONS TOWARDS COMMISSIONER SMITH ARE REFLECTIVE TO WHAT I HAVE EXPERIENCED SINCE MY EMPLOYMENT STARTED AT THIS COUNTY. AS A BLACK PERSON YOU ARE EXPECTED TO GO ALONG, WHEN YOU TRY TO PRESENT A DIVERGENT VIEW YOU ARE IGNORED. YOU ARE RIDICULED, AND YOU ARE DISMISSED, AND THAT'S WHAT YOU DID TO COMMISSIONER SMITH. IT'S NOT ACCEPTABLE. I WANT YOU ALL, I WANT YOU ALL TO EXPLAIN TO ME WHAT DOES MOVING FORWARD MEAN WHEN YOU HAVEN'T EVEN ASSESSED AND DEALT WITH THE DAMAGE THAT CHAIR KAFOURY HAS CAUSED. [APPLAUSE]

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: I'VE BEEN LISTENING TO EVERYTHING AND I WROTE SOMETHING ON FACEBOOK CHAIR KAFOURY I WILL JUST SAY STRAIGHT YOU SHOULD RESIGN AS THE COMMISSIONER. AS AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMAN, I AM A MIDWIFE. I'VE BEEN WORKING IN THIS COMMUNITY FOR OVER 25 YEARS SERVING ALL WOMEN, PARTICULARLY WOMEN OF COLOR, PARTICULARLY BLACK WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES. AND SUPPORTING FAIR PRACTICES FOR WOMEN OF COLOR, PARTICULARLY BLACK WOMEN SO THE DOUBLE STANDARD I THINK, IT CAN'T HAPPEN. I THINK THAT YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT WHAT ANY BLACK WOMAN WHO ACCEPTED YOU WHO CALLED YOU THAT WORD TODAY. SHE WOULD NOT BE AT THE MEETING TODAY. I WANT TO END AGAIN THAT DOUBLE STANDARDS ARE NOT APPROPRIATE FOR WHITE WOMEN, THAT YOU NEED TO STEP UP TO WHAT YOU DID, IT'S NOT ACCEPTABLE AND THE RIGHT THING TO DO WOULD BE TO RESIGN, TO GIVE AN EXAMPLE THAT WHEN WE DO THINGS WRONG, THAT HAS TO HAPPEN. IT'S REALLY QUICK. WHEN I THINK ABOUT GOVERNOR KITZHABER, ALL THAT HE DID AND HIS GIRLFRIEND, NOTHING HAPPENED. EVERY TIME SOMEONE WHITE DOES SOMETHING, IT GETS WHITE WASHED NO MATTER WHAT. WHEN WE DO IT, WE GET ARRESTED, WE GET DEMOTED. AND SIMPLE POLICY IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH. WITH THAT I'LL END AGAIN THAT THE BEST THING WOULD DO IN MY OPINION AS AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN, MY SONS DON'T DO THAT, THEY DON'T USE THAT WORD, AND THEN YOU SAID IT PUBLICLY, IT'S JUST SO EMBARRASSING. I'M VERY UPSET, I'M HASH TAGGING RESIGN KAFOURY. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

CHAIR KAFOURY: IS THERE ANYONE ELSE WHO WANTED TO MAKE PUBLIC TESTIMONY?

JIMMY BROWN: MY NAME IS JIMMY BROWN. I AM AS YOU ALL KNOW A MEMBER OF STAFF TO COMMISSIONER SMITH. BUT I WANT TO TALK JUST FOR A MOMENT, BUT SOMETHING THAT I HAVE HEARD NO APOLOGIES FOR. AND THAT IS FOR THE STAFF OF COMMISSIONER SMITH. COMMISSIONER SMITH'S STAFF SAT HERE ON THE 21ST OF DECEMBER, LISTENED TO QUESTIONS THAT WERE POSED BY THEIR COMMISSIONER, ONLY TO END THE DAY WITH HEARING THEIR BOSS, THEIR COMMISSIONER, CALLED A

BITCH. I WANT YOU TO FEEL THAT FOR A MOMENT BECAUSE IT IS AN INCREDIBLY INSENSITIVE WORD. I WANT TO GIVE KUDOS TO YOU, CHAIR, FOR SEEKING AN APOLOGY, SPEAKING TO THAT TODAY. I WANT TO GIVE KUDOS TO THE BOARD AS A WHOLE FOR SPEAKING YOUR WORDS BASED ON WHAT YOU HEARD ON THE 21ST OF DECEMBER. BUT YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY, THE IMMENSE POWER THAT WAS DELIVERED IN THE SPACE OF 1.5 SECONDS. THAT POWER RESOUNDS THROUGHOUT THIS COMMUNITY. IT RESOUNDS THROUGH THE HISTORY, MYSELF THAT I HAVE EXPERIENCED OVER 43 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE, I STARTED MY CAREER IN 1974 AFTER I GOT OUT OF LEWIS AND CLARK COLLEGE.

JIMMY BROWN: I'VE BEEN UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIONS OF GOLDSCHMIDT, ADAMS, MCCREEDY, KATZ, HALES. I'VE SPENT TIME IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF MCCOY, MIGGINS, KAFOURY, LIN, MADRIGAL AND NEVER IN MY 43 YEARS HAVE I EVER HEARD SUCH WORDS UTTERED. NEVER. I KNOW PEOPLE GET EXCITED, THEY GET UPSET, AND IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS PEOPLE WILL SAY A NUMBER OF THINGS, BUT WE MUST HOLD OURSELVES TO A HIGHER STANDARD. WE MUST NEVER ALLOW OURSELVES TO BE UPSET WITH THE WORDS THAT ARE BROUGHT FORWARD BY ANOTHER COMMISSIONER SIMPLY BECAUSE ONE DOES NOT LIKE THE TENOR OR THE TONE OF WHAT IS BEING SAID. WHEN I HEAR THE BOARD SAY WE WOULD LIKE TO MOVE FORWARD, I APPLAUD THAT. AND NOW, I WAIT FOR THE NEXT SHOE TO DROP, WHICH IS HOW? HOW ARE YOU GOING TO MOVE FORWARD? I'VE HEARD NO DISCUSSION ABOUT PARTICIPATING IN MEDIATION SESSIONS. WHEN I SPENT 40 YEARS OF MY LIFE AS A PROBATION OFFICER WITH MULTNOMAH COUNTY, WE WOULD TALK TO OUR OFFENDERS ABOUT THE ABILITY AND THE NECESSITY TO PROVIDE APOLOGY, BECAUSE TO NOT GIVE THAT IS TO FURTHER VICTIMIZE A PERSON THAT HAS BEEN VICTIM. COMMISSIONER SMITH WAS A VICTIM. NOT SAYING HOW WE PLAN TO MOVE FORWARD FURTHER CONTINUES THE VICTIMIZATION. SO IT'S --

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU.

JIMMYBROWN: IT'S THAT, I WOULD LEAVE AND I WOULD HOPE TO HEAR GOING FORWARD THAT THERE IS A PLAN FOR HOW YOU INTEND TO MOVE FORWARD BEYOND JUST SIMPLY SAYING LET US MOVE FORWARD. THANK YOU.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

BOARD CLERK: WE HAVE ONE MORE.

CHAIR KAFOURY: IS THIS THE GENTLEMAN WHO SIGNED UP? OKAY. GOOD MORNING.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: I'M WITH THE OREGON ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION AND A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY. I JUST WOULD LIKE TO OUT OF RESPECT, I TRIED TO HOLD MY COMMENTS BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT THIS ISSUE WAS AN ISSUE THAT NEEDED TO BE ADDRESSED MAINLY AND SPEAR-HEADED MAINLY BY THE WOMEN WHO HAVE THE AUTHORITY AND SHOULD HAVE TAKEN THE FLOOR AND DID TAKE THE FLOOR TO LEAD THIS CONVERSATION. BUT I WOULD LIKE TO JUST BRING TO MEMORY COMMISSIONER SMITH'S AND A GENTLEMAN BY THE NAME OF BURUTHI. HE DIDN'T MAKE DEROGATORY COMMENTS NECESSARILY. HE MADE INAPPROPRIATE COMPLIMENTS TO THE COMMISSIONER AT A PUBLIC GATHERING AND AS SUCH, HE WAS ASKED TO RELINQUISH HIS POSITION BECAUSE IT WAS DEEMED INAPPROPRIATE AFTER THE OH, YEAH, FACTOR OF HIS BOSS THE MAYOR. AND I THINK THAT FOR YOU, CHAIR KAFOURY, TO HAVE MADE THE COMMENTS, EVERYONE UNDERSTANDS THAT IT WAS DEFINITELY INAPPROPRIATE.

I THINK YOU WERE RIGHT TO MAKE A PUBLIC APOLOGY IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER. AND I THINK THAT COMMISSIONER SMITH WOULD HAVE BEEN RIGHT TO ACCEPT YOUR APOLOGY AND I ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE COUNTY AND ITS PUBLIC IS RIGHT TO ASK FOR AND ACCEPT YOUR RESIGNATION. NOT BECAUSE OF YOU PERSONALLY. WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES, EVERYONE HAS SAID THAT. BUT IT'S THE CHAIR THAT YOU SIT IN, THE SEAT THAT YOU SIT IN, THAT YOU LOVE, AND AS THE PSALM GOES, IF YOU LOVE ME, LET ME GO. AND THAT IS WHAT'S IMPORTANT HERE, THE FACT THAT THE CHAIR THAT YOU SIT IN HAS BEEN DEFILED. AND BECAUSE YOU LOVE THAT POSITION, AND THE COUNTY THAT YOU SERVE, I THINK YOU NEED TO TAKE DEEP CONSIDERATION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT YOU STILL HAVE THE CAPACITY IN THAT POSITION TO HONOR THAT SEAT, TO HONOR THAT CHAIR, AND TO FURTHER THE GOALS OF THE COUNTY WITHIN THAT CAPACITY. AS IT HAS BEEN SAID, YOU CERTAINLY HAVE TO MAKE THE DECISION. BUT IT IS THE SEAT THAT YOU SIT IN AND THE HISTORY THAT IT CARRIES AND THE FUTURE THAT IT HOPES FOR THAT WEIGHS IN THE BALANCE. AND YOU HAVE TO MAKE THE DECISION THAT YOU LOVE THAT CHAIR ENOUGH TO LET IT GO. IF IT IS THE BEST THING IN YOUR OPINION FOR THE COUNTY, FOR THE HISTORY, AND FOR THE HEALING OF THIS COMMUNITY IN THIS TOXIC CLIMATE THAT WE LIVE IN TODAY. PEACE BE UNTO YOU.

CHAIR KAFOURY: AND ALSO UNTO YOU. THANK YOU, AND DID YOU WANT TO FINISH YOUR STATEMENT FROM EARLIER, COMMISSIONER MEIERAN? OR ARE YOU -- ARE THERE OTHER FOLKS WHO WOULD LIKE TO TESTIFY AS WELL? YOU'VE ALREADY TESTIFIED, SIR. IS THERE SOMEBODY ELSE WHO WANTS TO COME UP. WE ONLY ASK THAT IF YOU CAN SIGN THE FORM. IS THERE ANYONE ELSE? GREAT, THANK YOU.

COMMISSIONER MEIERAN: I WOULD LIKE TO AGAIN PAY RESPECT AND GRATITUDE TO THE GENTLEMAN WHO JUST CAME AND SPOKE BECAUSE I'M ACTUALLY GOING TO GO WHERE HE LEFT OFF AND I'M GOING TO KEEP IT

SUPER BRIEF. I WROTE IT DOWN. ONE, WHAT I HEAR HAPPENING TODAY IN THIS MEETING AND ALSO IN THE MEDIA, I HAVE HEARD IS HIDING BEHIND THE WORD BECAUSE YES, THE WORD CAME FORTH, BUT THERE'S FAR MORE THAN JUST THE WORD. AND WE SEEM TO BE IGNORE ING WHAT THAT WORD MEANS AND EVEN PUTTING THE WORD ASIDE, IF WE LOOK AT WHAT TOOK PLACE LEADING UP TO THE WORD, AND THAT IS LITERALLY A COMMISSIONER EXTENDING HER RIGHT TO ASK A QUESTION, THAT UP UNTIL NOW, I DON'T KNOW IF THAT WAS EVER ADDRESSED.

COMMISSIONER MEIERAN: WAS SHE EVER ABLE TO ASK THE QUESTION TO LEGAL? I DON'T KNOW THAT THAT WAS EVER ADDRESSED. THE MEETING WAS ENDED AND SHE WAS NOT ABLE TO EXERCISE THE RIGHT THAT HE HAD AFFORDED HER AS A COMMISSIONER. SO EVERYONE THAT SHE REPRESENTS, EVERYONE WHO VOTED INTO HER OFFICE WAS DISMISSED IN THAT MOMENT. WAS THAT EVER REVISITED? I DON'T KNOW. AS SOMEONE FROM THE PUBLIC, WE CAN'T REALLY KNOW. BUT I FEEL LIKE THAT NEEDS TO BE THE ONE PIECE OF THE -- AND WHAT DO WE DO NOW? THAT NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED, WE NEED TO REWIND, FINISH THAT CONVERSATION, AND THEN MOVE FORWARD. AND GOING BACK TO THE WORD ITSELF, NOT THE WORD, BUT WHAT IT REPRESENTS, WHAT IT STAND FOR. SOMEONE SAYS A LACK OF RESPECT. I WOULD FORESEE THAT AS OVERT DISRESPECT, WHICH IS VERY DIFFERENT. VERBAL ABUSE. VIOLENCE. THOSE ARE ALL THINGS THAT A FAIR APOLOGY SHOULD COME FROM, BUT NOT JUST AS A CHAIR, NOT JUST AS A COMMISSIONER, BUT AS A HUMAN BEING, FOR US AS A COMMUNITY TO MAKE A DECISION TO EXCUSE OVERT DISRESPECT, TO EXCUSE VERBAL ABUSE, TO EXCUSE VIOLENCE BETWEEN TWO INDIVIDUALS AND THAT IF WE DO IT IN THAT INSTANCE, THEN WE'RE SAYING THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO EXCUSE SUCH BEHAVIOR AND AGAIN, WHEN WE LOOK AT THE SEAT, WHEN WE LOOK AT THE CHAIR, WHEN WE LOOK AT THE RESPONSIBILITY AND THE INTEGRITY THAT IS REPRESENTED BY THE SHARE THAT YOU HOLD -- CHAIR THAT YOU HOLD, YOU WOULD HAVE TO GO BACK TO WE LOOK AT THE VALIDITY OF THAT POSITION OR THE LACK THEREOF IF WE CHOOSE TO MOVE FORWARD WITHOUT FULLY ADDRESSING THE ISSUE AT HAND.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU.

HI, I AM IN SMITH'S ZONE AND THE ONLY PIECE I WANTED TO ADD, BECAUSE I DO SO MUCH COMMUNITY WORK AROUND TRYING TO TALK PEOPLE INTO JOINING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, YOU KNOW, THINKING ABOUT BEING AN ELECTED OFFICIAL, I'M AN EDUCATOR BY HEART, THIS IS WHAT I DO IN THE COMMUNITY, I WORK WITH A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO FEEL VERY, VERY MARGINALIZED. I JUST WANT YOU ALL TO THINK, NOT JUST NECESSARILY KAFOURY, BUT AS COMMISSIONERS, YOU'RE ELECTED OFFICIALS. ELECTED. YOU'RE ELECTED BY US. SO THAT IS ANOTHER PIECE THAT'S PART OF THAT ATONEMENT. YOU HAVE TO THINK OF THE CONSTITUENCY THAT

YOU'RE DEALING WITH AND HOW DIFFICULT YOU'RE MAKING IT EVERY TIME I GO OUT TO THE COMMUNITY PERSON, I SAY YOU SHOULD JOIN THIS COMMISSION OR THIS BOARD AND I'VE SERVED ON SOME, I'VE BEEN TREATED WELL ON SOME AND POOR ON OTHERS. NEVERTHELESS, HOW WE GET OUR VOICES HEARD IS BY BEING WANTING TO JOIN THOSE COMMISSIONS, THOSE BOARDS, THOSE ADVISORY GROUPS. PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO DO THAT IF THEY KNOW THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BE TREATED WELL. SO I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU, THANKS FOR COMING. GOOD MORNING.

GEORGE HARKER: GOOD MORNING CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS. YOU MAY NOT SEE ME AROUND THESE HALLS AFTER TODAY BECAUSE I AM HERE DEFYING MY COMMISSIONER WHO SAID DON'T TESTIFY, DON'T SAY ANYTHING.

CHAIR KAFOURY: I'M SORRY, WOULD YOU JUST SAY YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD?

GEORGE HARKER: I'M GEORGE HARKER, PUBLIC ADVOCATE FOR COMMISSIONER SMITH, AND I SAID I MAY NOT BE HERE TOMORROW BECAUSE I AM COUNTERMANDING MY BOSS'S STATEMENT TO ME THAT I SHOULD NOT COME HERE BECAUSE I POSSIBLY WILL BE RETALIATED AGAINST BY THE CHAIR AND BY OTHER COMMISSIONERS. BUT I'M HERE TO SAY THAT CHAIR KAFOURY, WHEN YOU CALLED COMMISSIONER SMITH A BITCH AND I WAS SITTING THERE, YOU CREATED A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL OF US WHO WORK FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND PARTICULARLY FOR ALL OF US WHO WORK ON THE SIXTH FLOOR. THIS IS UNCONSCIONABLE BEHAVIOR. THE FIRST 14 YEARS OF MY LIFE I LIVED IN A SEGREGATED WASHINGTON, D.C. I STARTED WORKING FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AT 18 IN 1957. AND I HAVE BEEN WORKING 30 YEARS IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, SIX YEARS IN CORPORATE AMERICA, SIX YEARS, EIGHT YEARS AS A PASTOR OUT HERE, AND TWO OTHER CAREERS WITH THE CITY AND WITH THE COUNTY. AND I HAVE NEVER BEEN CALLED ANYTHING THAT IS COMPARABLE TO WHAT YOU DID. AND AGAIN, I THINK THIS CREATES A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT AND IT HAS TO BE WORKED ON AND CORRECTED. WE TALK ABOUT HOSTILE ENVIRONMENTS FOR WOMEN AND SOME WOMEN AND I KNOW THAT WHEN I WAS DOING DIVERSITY TRAINING, A WOMAN IN WASHINGTON, D.C. WHO WAS WITH FREDDY MAE GOT A \$6 MILLION PAYOUT BECAUSE OF A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT. A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT IS AS DETRIMENTAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE EMPLOYEES WHO WORK IN THIS COUNTY AS IF SOMEONE WAS PUTTING THEIR HANDS ON THEM. SO YOU DO NOT HAVE TO PUT YOUR HANDS ON ANYONE TO MAKE THEM UNEASY, ILL AT EASE AND INCAPABLE OF FUNCTIONING IN THE WAY THAT YOU HAVE HIRED THEM TO FUNCTION. AND I AM EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED THAT YOU OTHER THREE COMMISSIONERS WHO HAVE SPOKEN THIS MORNING HAVE

NOT EVEN MENTIONED COMMISSIONER SMITH'S NAME. AND YOU TALK ABOUT GOING FORWARD, BUT YOU HAVE NOT SAID ANYTHING ABOUT COMMISSIONER SMITH. AND I DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOU FEEL AS DEGRADED AS SHE DOES, AS HUMILIATED, AS MARGINALIZED, BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T EXPRESSED THAT AT ALL. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND I'M SORRY I DIDN'T SIGN UP EARLIER AND IF YOU DON'T SEE ME, YOU KNOW THAT THE BOSS HAS FIRED ME.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

CHAIR KAFOURY: ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU. I THANK EVERYONE FOR COMING TODAY AND I SAID MY STATEMENT EARLIER, I'M HAPPY TO HAVE CONVERSATIONS AFTER THIS MEETING. THIS HAS BEEN A DIFFICULT YET VERY IMPORTANT DISCUSSION THAT WE'RE HAVING THIS MORNING. I AM HAPPY TO CHAT WITH FOLKS LATER IF PEOPLE HAVE OTHER THINGS THAT THEY WANT TO TALK ABOUT, ESPECIALLY I KNOW PASTOR HENNESEY REACHED OUT WANTING TO HAVE MORE CONVERSATION, AND I THINK WE HAVE SOME OTHER BUSINESS WE WANT TO ATTEND TO TODAY. I KNOW IT FEELS A LITTLE ODD TO BE MOVING SO QUICKLY FROM AN IMPORTANT TOPIC TO OTHER ISSUES, BUT THE OTHER ISSUES WE HAVE ON OUR AGENDA TODAY ARE ALSO IMPORTANT. THANK YOU.

REGULAR AGENDA – 9:40 am

R.1 First Reading and Public Hearing of an Ordinance Amending Multnomah County Code Chapter 21 – Health to add §21.450 to §21.458 – Air Quality Regulation and Declaring an Emergency. Presenters: Jae Douglas, Environmental Health Services Director; Matt Hoffman, Senior Program Specialist, Environmental Health Services; Bernadette D. Nunley, Assistant County Attorney (45 min)

CHAIR KAFOURY: COMMISSIONER STEGMANN MOVES, COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON SECONDS APPROVAL OF THE FIRST READING. GO AHEAD.

COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON: SO THANK YOU, CHAIR. SO THIS IS AN ORDINANCE THAT I'VE BEEN WORKING ON WITH COMMISSIONER MEIERAN IN TERMS OF LOOKING AT THE IMPACT OF WOOD SMOKE IN OUR AIRSHED AIR QUALITY ISSUES AND THIS IS SOMETHING THAT WE'VE BEEN -- I WAS WORKING ON FOR SEVERAL YEARS. FIRST IN MY CAPACITY AS A STATE LEGISLATOR AND CHAIR OF THE ENERGY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE LOOKING AT HOW IT AFFECTS STATEWIDE BUT ALSO IN MY NEW ROLE WORKING WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND HOW IT'S IMPACTING FOLKS IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY.

CHAIR KAFOURY: COULD PEOPLE TAKE THEIR CONVERSATIONS OUTSIDE, UNFORTUNATELY, THE COMMISSIONER HAS A COLD, AND IT'S REALLY HARD TO HEAR HER SPEAK.

COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON: SO THIS IS AN ORDINANCE THAT WE'VE HAD, WE HAD A PREVIOUS PUBLIC HEARING HERE IN THIS MEETING. WE'VE HAD A COUPLE OF DIFFERENT MEETINGS IN THE COUNTY, REALLY WANTING TO DO SOME OUTREACH ON THIS EFFORT TO MAKE SURE THAT WE'RE LETTING PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT THE CHANGES THAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HERE AND MAKING SURE THAT WE'RE WORKING WITH OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS, NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS, COMMUNITY PARTNERS, ABOUT WHAT THIS ORDINANCE IS ABOUT. SO WE'RE GOING TO HAVE STAFF HERE WHO WILL TALK ABOUT THE DETAILS OF THIS, BUT BASICALLY, WHAT THIS DOES IN GENERAL IS TO SAY THAT ON THOSE DAYS WHERE THERE IS THE WORST AIR QUALITY, THAT WE'RE GOING TO ASK PEOPLE TO VOLUNTARILY - - WE'RE GOING TO ASK PEOPLE TO NOT BURN THEIR WOOD STOVES TO CONTRIBUTE TO AIR PARTICULATE MATTER, WHICH HAS HEALTH EFFECTS ON FOLKS, PARTICULARLY THE ELDERLY AND PEOPLE WITH RESPIRATORY AILMENTS AND THIS HAS BEEN A GREAT PUBLIC PROCESS.

WE'VE HAD SOME CHANGES TO THE ORDINANCE BECAUSE OF THIS PROCESS, WHICH STAFF WILL GO THROUGH. AND I'M REALLY PROUD OF THE RESULT THAT WE HAVE HERE TODAY. YOU KNOW, IN ADDITION TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH BENEFITS THAT THIS KIND OF ORDINANCE HAS, IT ALSO HELPS US MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH THE FEDERAL CLEAN AIR STANDARDS, WHICH KEEPS US OUT OF POTENTIALLY HEAVY-HANDED REQUIREMENTS THAT THE EPA REGULATIONS HAVE IF WE WERE TO GO OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OUR AIR QUALITY STANDARDS. WE KNOW THAT MEASURES LIKE THIS WORK, JUST SEVERAL YEARS AGO WASHINGTON COUNTY WAS CLOSE TO BEING OUT OF COMPLIANCE AND THAT SPURRED MAJOR INTEREST WITH INDUSTRY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUPS TO ENGAGE AND GET MOTIVATED INTO FIXING THE PROBLEM. SO MULTNOMAH COUNTY HAS WORKED WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY AND SOME OF THE THINGS THAT THEY'VE DONE AND BECAUSE OF THE WORK THAT WASHINGTON COUNTY HAS DONE, COMBINED WITH FEWER STAGNANT AIR DAYS OVER THE FOLLOWING WINTERS, THAT ACTUALLY HELPED MOVE WASHINGTON COUNTY OUT OF THE DANGER ZONE OF NONCOMPLIANCE.

WE KNOW THAT MULTNOMAH COUNTY, WE NEED TO TAKE THE SAME STEPS, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE WE'RE HAVING AN INCREASINGLY DENSE POPULATION AND THERE'S NO SIGNS OF THAT CHANGING IN THE FUTURE AND THERE'S ALSO THE POSSIBILITY OF THOSE FEDERAL AIR QUALITY STANDARDS TIGHTENING SO I THINK IT'S TIME THAT MULTNOMAH COUNTY TAKES THE STEP TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES OF WOOD SMOKE AND THE IMPACT IT HAS ON OUR AIR QUALITY. SO I'M HAPPY TO HAVE COMMISSIONER MEIERAN SAY A FEW WORDS IF SHE WANTS, AND THEN WE ALSO, LIKE I SAID, WE HAVE THE FOLKS FROM ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND OUR COUNTY ATTORNEY TO GIVE US MORE DETAILS.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER MEIERAN.

COMMISSIONER MEIERAN: THANK YOU, CHAIR AND THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON FOR YOUR -- FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP.

CHAIR KAFOURY: WE NEED A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE.

COMMISSIONER MEIERAN: I KNOW. SPEAKING OF RESPIRATORY ISSUES. SO I'M PLEASED THAT TODAY, WE ARE FIRST READING THE ORDINANCE TO IMPROVE OUR AIR QUALITY. I WAS INTERESTED IN JOINING WITH COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON TO INTRODUCE THIS ORDINANCE BECAUSE AS AN E.R. DOCTOR, MY LIFE REALLY HAS REVOLVED AROUND HELPING PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK SO I SEE MANY PEOPLE IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT WHO COME IN WITH ASTHMA AND OTHER BREATHING DIFFICULTIES AND HEART PROBLEMS AND STROKE AND OUR AIR QUALITY DIRECTLY INFLUENCES THESE HEALTH PROBLEMS. AS WE HEARD DURING A NUMBER OF BRIEFINGS IN DECEMBER ON THIS TOPIC, RESIDENTIAL WOODBURNING IS RESPONSIBLE FOR 20% OF TOTAL CANCER RISK FOR HAZARDOUS AIR POLLUTANTS. THAT'S A REALLY -- A NUMBER THAT SHOCKED ME PERSONALLY. THE ORDINANCE THAT WE'VE INTRODUCED SEEKS TO ADDRESS THAT 20% BY PROHIBITING WOOD BURNING DURING THE WORST AIR QUALITY TIMES IN WINTERTIME, AS WELL AS AND THIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT, EDUCATING PEOPLE ABOUT THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF BURNING. THE EFFECTS THAT THEY HAVE ON OUR HEALTH. SO THIS ISN'T THE ONLY SOLUTION, JUST TO BE CLEAR.

WE MUST WORK I BELIEVE TO FUND A WOOD STOVE CHANGEOUT PROGRAM IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY THAT HELPS PEOPLE TRANSITION AWAY FROM WOOD TO MUCH CLEANER SOURCES OF HEAT. WE ALSO MUST CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE LOUDLY AND EVERYWHERE THAT WE CAN FOR CLEAN DIESEL REGULATIONS AT THE STATE LEVEL AND TAKE STEPS LOCALLY ON CLEAN DIESEL. THIS ORDINANCE IS A REALLY GREAT PART OF THIS LARGER PROCESS. I ALSO WANT TO THANK ALL THE PEOPLE WHO WEIGHED IN ON THIS PROPOSAL AND THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER. I WAS PLEASED TO ATTEND ALL THREE OF THE PUBLIC HEARINGS THAT WE HELD ON THIS TOPIC, INCLUDING ONE IN EAST COUNTY, ONE IN LINTON IN NORTHWEST AND THE FINAL ONE HERE IN THE BOARD ROOM DURING ONE OF OUR REGULAR MEETINGS. I APPRECIATED EVERYONE WE HEARD FROM, INCLUDING PEOPLE WHO EXPRESSED CONCERNS. AND SO NOW, I THINK WE'RE GOING TO HAND IT OFF TO OUR PANEL.

DR, JAE DOUGLAS: I'LL GET US STARTED. GOOD MORNING MADAM CHAIR, COMMISSIONERS. FOR THE RECORD I'M DR. JAE DOUGLAS, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIRECTOR FOR THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT. WE ARE PLEASED TO BE HERE THIS MORNING TO ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THE ADOPTION OF A NEW ORDINANCE TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF WOOD BURNING IN THE

WINTER MONTHS. I'M JOINED BY MATT HOFFMAN, OUR LEAD TECHNICAL EXPERT IN AIR QUALITY AND THIS IS COUNTY ATTORNEY BERNADETTE NUNLEY. FIRST, WE AND BY WE I MEAN MATT WILL BE REVIEWING A FEW BASIC FACTS ABOUT THE PROBLEM WE'RE HOPING TO MITIGATE WITH THIS NEW ORDINANCE AND PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE PUBLIC INPUT WE'VE RECEIVED AND HOW THAT'S ACTUALLY SHAPED THE ORDINANCE. THEN WE'LL REVIEW THE ORDINANCE LANGUAGE IN DETAIL. I DO WANT TO TAKE A MOMENT AND THANK BOTH COMMISSIONERS VEGA PEDERSON AND MEIERAN FOR YOUR ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ORDINANCE AND ESPECIALLY YOUR ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE AND INPUT. ALSO WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN THIS EFFORT AND SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING MANY COMMUNITY VOICES IN THIS DISCUSSION SO I'M GOING TO TURN IT OVER TO MATT HERE, ARE YOU READY TO GO?

MATT HOFFMAN: SO GOOD MORNING CHAIR KAFOURY AND VICE CHAIR STEGMANN. AND COMMISSIONERS. FOR THE RECORD MY NAME IS MATT HOFFMAN AND I WORK ON AIR QUALITY ISSUES HERE FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES. WE ARE HAPPY TO BE BACK IN FRONT OF YOU PRESENTING ON THIS IMPORTANT MATTER OF WOOD SMOKE IN OUR COMMUNITY TODAY. SO IT'S BEEN ABOUT A MONTH SINCE OUR LAST PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD SO I'LL JUST KIND OF HELP US TO RECALL SOME OF WHAT WAS DISCUSSED AND I'LL TRY NOT TO OVERLAP TOO MUCH OF WHAT COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON AND COMMISSIONER MEIERAN HAVE ALREADY TALKED ABOUT. SO WE MENTIONED THAT WOOD SMOKE IS A HEALTH ISSUE. AND JUST TO GET INTO A LITTLE BIT MORE DETAIL, COMPONENTS OF WOOD SMOKE, SUCH AS FINE PARTICULATE MATTER NOT ONLY INCREASE RISK OF VARIOUS CANCERS BUT ALSO HAVE WELL DOCUMENTED NEGATIVE EFFECTS ON CARDIOVASCULAR, RESPIRATORY, AND DEVELOPMENTAL PROCESSES. VULNERABLE AND SENSITIVE POPULATIONS, SUCH AS CHILDREN, OLDER ADULTS AND THOSE WITH EXISTING DISEASE ARE MOST AT RISK. WOOD SMOKE IS ALSO AN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUE.

WE CAN'T CONTROL THE AIR WE BREATHE IN OUR EVERYDAY ENVIRONMENTS. JUST AS THOSE LIVING IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO FREEWAYS AND THOROUGHFARES EXPERIENCE DISPROPORTIONATE EXPOSURE TO MOBILE SOURCE EMISSIONS THOSE LIVING IN AREAS OF CONCENTRATED WOODBURNING ARE EXPOSED TO WOOD SMOKE SO IT'S IMPORTANT FOR THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT RULES TO MITIGATE THE IMPACTS OF NONESSENTIAL BURNING THAT CONSIDERS THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR NEIGHBORS. WE ALSO KNOW THAT MANY HOUSEHOLD USE WOOD AS A SOURCE OF HEAT BECAUSE IT'S A CHEAPLY AVAILABLE FUEL SOURCE. JUST AS OLDER WOOD STOVES EMIT MORE POLLUTION INTO THE AIR, THEY CAN ALSO NEGATIVELY IMPACT THE QUALITY OF AIR INSIDE A

HOME, AS WELL. THIS IS WHY IN ADDITION TO A CURTAILMENT ORDINANCE WE ALSO NEED TO EXPLORE WAYS TO HELP FAMILIES REPLACE THESE DEVICES WITH NEURO, MORE EFFICIENT AND LESS POLLUTING WAYS TO HEAT THEIR HOMES THROUGH A CHANGEOUT INCENTIVE PROGRAM. FINALLY AS COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON MENTIONED, WOOD SMOKE IS A REGULATORY ISSUE. TOO MUCH WOOD SMOKE IN OUR AIR COULD RESULT IN A NONATTAINABLE DESIGNATION FOR OUR REGION FOR EXCEEDANCE OF FINE PARTICULARLY POLLUTION WHICH COULD RESULT IN OPERATIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON EXISTING INDUSTRY, SITING RESTRICTIONS ON NEW INDUSTRY AND THE REQUIREMENT TO DEVELOPMENT A ROBUST WOOD SMOKE CURTAILMENT PROGRAM.

MATT HOFFMAN: SORRY IF I'M REPEATING A FEW THINGS. WE'VE COLLECTED PUBLIC INPUT THROUGH A VARIETY OF MEANS. WE'VE HELD THREE PUBLIC HEARINGS, ONE EACH IN FAIRVIEW, LINTON AND HERE IN THE BOARDROOM ON DECEMBER 7TH. WE'VE ALSO HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO DIRECTLY PRESENT TO FAIRVIEW CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF PORTLAND COUNCIL STAFF, AND OPENED OPPORTUNITY FOR ONLINE FEEDBACK ON THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE FOR APPROXIMATELY 60 DAYS. IN ADDITION, COMMISSIONERS VEGA PEDERSON, MEIERAN AND THEIR STAFF HAVE BEEN INTEGRAL IN COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER JURISDICTIONS WITHIN THE COUNTY, SUCH AS THE CITY OF GRESHAM. WE CONTINUE TO ACCEPT PUBLIC TESTIMONY THROUGH TODAY AND THROUGH THE PROPOSED SECOND READING ON JANUARY 11TH. WITH THAT I'LL HAND IT OVER TO COVER SOME OF THE TENETS OF THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE.

BERNADETTE NUNLEY: THANK YOU, CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS. I'LL BE GOING OVER THE MAIN COMPONENTS OF THE ORDINANCE JUST SO EVERYONE PRESENT CAN UNDERSTAND THE PIECES THAT ARE INVOLVED. FIRST OF ALL, THE ORDINANCE REGULATES RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL WOOD BURNING DEVICES. WOOD BURNING DEVICES IS A TERM THAT'S DEFINED IN THE ORDINANCE SO EVERYONE KNOWS WHAT IS CONSIDERED A WOOD BURNING DEVICE. THE ORDINANCE ALSO REGULATES RECREATIONAL BURNING. THERE'S A SECTION OF ALL THE DEFINITIONS, THE SPECIAL TERMS THAT ARE USED IN THE ORDINANCE SO THAT IT'S CLEAR WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT. THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL ACTUALLY PERFORM -- THE WAY THAT THIS WORKS GOING FORWARD IS THAT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL PERFORM AIR QUALITY FORECASTING SO THAT THEN THEY CAN ISSUE THE AIR QUALITY ADVISORIES OF YELLOW OR RED BASED ON THE QUALITY OF THE AIR. THE YELLOW DAYS CAUTION AGAINST WOOD BURNING OR USE OF WOOD BURNING DEVICES AND RECREATIONAL BURNING, AND THEN ON THE RED DAYS, WOOD BURNING IS PROHIBITED UNLESS THERE'S AN EXEMPTION. PEOPLE MAY ACTUALLY APPLY FOR THE EXEMPTION SO THEY'RE LISTED IN THE ORDINANCE, AND THE MAIN ONES ARE IF A WOOD BURNING DEVICE IS A SOLE SOURCE FOR HEAT, IF SOMEONE HAS ECONOMIC NEED AND ALSO, THERE'S AN EXEMPTION IF A WOOD

BURNING DEVICE IS CERTIFIED BY THE EPA OR DEQ AND THERE'S A SPECIAL CERTIFICATION THAT'S DESCRIBED IN THE ORDINANCE. THE WAY PEOPLE WILL ACTUALLY APPLY FOR THE EXEMPTIONS, THERE WILL BE AN AFFIRMATION PROCESS WHERE SOMEONE WILL SAY I MEET THE COMPONENTS TO ACTUALLY RECEIVE THIS EXEMPTION AND BURN WOOD ON A RED DAY. THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS THE AGENCY THAT WILL MONITOR AND ENFORCE COMPLIANCE AND THEN FINALLY THIS IS A COMPLAINT-BASED SYSTEM AND SO THAT MEANS THE DEPARTMENT WILL ACT WHEN THEY RECEIVE A COMPLAINT THAT SOMEONE IS BURNING WOOD ON A RED DAY. THE FIRST FOCUS OF THE ENFORCEMENT IS AS WE TALKED ABOUT THROUGH EDUCATION AND SO REALLY THE FIRST GOAL IS THAT PEOPLE UNDERSTAND WHY WOOD BURNING IS A PROBLEM AND UNDERSTAND WHAT THE ORDINANCE ACTUALLY DOES. AND IF A PERSON CONTINUES TO BURN WITHOUT AN EXEMPTION, THERE CAN BE VIOLATIONS THAT FOLLOW AND POTENTIAL CIVIL PENALTIES. THERE'S AN APPEAL PROCESS IF AN INDIVIDUAL DOES WANT TO APPEAL A VIOLATION THAT HE OR SHE HAS RECEIVED. I CAN TAKE QUESTIONS EITHER NOW OR AT THE END OF OUR PRESENTATION ABOUT THOSE DETAILS.

CHAIR KAFOURY: QUESTIONS? GREAT THANKS.

MATT HOFFMAN: I HAVE A LITTLE BIT MORE AND HOPEFULLY, THIS WILL -- IF THERE WERE ANY LINGERING QUESTIONS, THIS WILL HELP ANSWER THEM. I WANT TO HIGHLIGHT A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS AND HOW THAT AFFECTED CONSIDERATIONS WITHIN THE ORDINANCE. SO WE RECEIVED MORE THAN 50 ONLINE COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL. IN ADDITION TO MANY MORE IN PERSON AND CONSIDERED THESE WHEN EVALUATING CHANGES TO THE ORIGINAL DRAFT. THERE ARE SOME CHANGES THAT WERE MADE TO THE ORDINANCE ITSELF, WHILE OTHERS WILL BE MADE TO PROCEDURE WITHIN THE PROGRAM. I'LL BRIEFLY COVER THE TOP CONCERNS WE HEARD AND HOW THEY ARE ADDRESSED WITHIN THE PROPOSAL. IS THERE AN EXEMPTION PROCESS FOR RELIGIOUS OR CEREMONIAL FIRES? THE ANSWER TO THAT IS YES. THERE IS A PROCESS OF WHICH THAT CAN BE APPLIED FOR.

HOW WILL INFORMATION ABOUT THE ORDINANCE AND CURTAILMENT DAYS BE DISSEMINATED? THE COUNTY WILL UTILIZE ALL REASONABLE AND AVAILABLE OPTIONS TO SPREAD INFORMATION ABOUT THE ORDINANCE AND CURTAILMENT DAYS, INCLUDING SOCIAL MEDIA, WEBSITE, OPT-IN NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS, SUCH AS PUBLICALERTS.ORG, REPETITION THROUGH PARTNER AGENCIES, AND PRINT AND BROADCAST MEDIA TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE. AS MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY THE PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT STRUCTURE REQUIRES THAT TWO EDUCATIONALLY FOCUSED WARNING LETTERS BE SENT PRIOR TO POTENTIAL ISSUANCE OF ANY CIVIL PENALTY. OUR EPA OR DEQ CERTIFIED STOVES EXEMPT TO THE ORDINANCE? WE CONSIDERED FEEDBACK FROM A LOT OF PARTNER

AGENCIES, SUCH AS DEMOCRATIC, WASHINGTON COUNTY, WE SPOKE WITH HEARTH HEATING DEVICE EXPERTS, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE, AND HAD MUCH INTERNAL DELIBERATION AND AS SUCH THE BLANKET EXEMPTION FOR PELLET STOVES WAS REMOVED AND REPLACED WITH AN EMISSIONS RATE PER HOUR CERTIFICATION EXEMPTION SPECIFICALLY THAT ANY BURNING DEVICE, WOOD BURNING DEVICE RATED TO EMIT TWO AND A HALF GRAMS OF PARTICULATE MATTER OR LESS PER HOUR ARE EXEMPTED FROM THE ORDINANCE. THIS IS COMMENSURATE WITH EMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS THAT ALL NEW STOVES PRODUCED AFTER 2020 MUST MEET.

MATT HOFFMAN: IT'S OF NOTE TO MENTION THAT MANY PELLET STOVES CURRENTLY ON THE MARKET ALREADY MEET OR EXCEED THIS STANDARD. MY HOME IS EQUIPPED WITH A PRIMARY SOURCE OF HEAT, BUT IT IS EITHER INSUFFICIENT ON THE COLDEST DAYS TO EFFECTIVELY HEAT THE HOME OR IT IS PROHIBITIVELY EXPENSIVE TO OPERATE. I DON'T MEET THE INCOME EXEMPTION. ARE THERE CONSIDERATIONS FOR THIS TYPE OF HARDSHIP IN THE PROPOSAL? THIS WAS BASED HEAVILY ON PUBLIC INPUT AND YES, SIMILAR TO THE EXEMPTION PROCESS FOR RELIGIOUS OR CEREMONIAL FIRES, A HOUSEHOLD OR BUSINESS MAY APPLY FOR A HARDSHIP EXEMPTION WHERE SUCH FACTORS WILL BE CONSIDERED AND WE WILL DEVELOP THE PROCESS FOR EVALUATING THOSE FAIRLY AS WE DEVELOP INTERNAL PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE. SO WE ALSO HEARD SOME CONCERNS DIRECTLY FROM OUR COUNTY COMMISSION AND I'LL BRIEFLY HIGHLIGHT THOSE AND ANSWER TO WHAT WE'VE DONE WITH THEM. SO ONE CONCERN WAS IF I SEE MY NEIGHBOR BURNING ON A CURTAILMENT DAY WOULDN'T THAT INDICATE THAT THEY ARE A LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD OR THAT THEY ARE BREAKING THE RULES? HOW WILL PRIVACY BE PROTECTED?

REMEMBER THAT LOW-INCOME STATUS IS ONLY ONE OF SEVERAL EXEMPTIONS, INCLUDING SOLE SOURCE OF HEAT, UTILITY OUTAGE, PRIMARY SOURCE OF HEAT IS TEMPORARILY NONFUNCTIONAL, WOOD BURNING DEVICE FROM REGULATION, OR THAT ANOTHER HARDSHIP EXEMPTION HAS BEEN MET. EXEMPTIONS WILL BE DETERMINED THROUGH A REVIEW OF SUBMITTED AFFIDAVITS. UPON REQUEST, THE PROGRAM MAY DISCLOSE WHETHER A PERSON MEETS A QUALIFIED EXEMPTION, BUT WILL NOT ELABORATE ON WHICH EXEMPTION THAT IS, AS NO RECORD OTHER THAN THE AFFIDAVIT WILL BE RETAINED. AND THE AFFIDAVIT WILL NOT SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFY WHICH EXEMPTION WAS APPLIED FOR. ANOTHER CONCERN WE HAD WAS HOW WILL WE DETERMINE IF THE COMPLAINTS ARE VALID OR NOT? AND SO WE HAD AGAIN, SOME CONVERSATION WITH OUR CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT, WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TO GATHER BEST PRACTICES ON HOW THESE AGENCIES ARE DEALING WITH THAT. THE COUNTY WILL COLLECT INFORMATION FROM THE COMPLAINANT TO DETER FALSE REPORTING AND WILL REQUIRE SUBMISSION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE IF FEASIBLE,

SUCH AS A PICTURE OF A SMOKING CHIMNEY. CIVIL PENALTY, WHICH MAY BE ISSUED ON THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE WILL NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL NONEXEMPT BURNING DURING A CURTAILMENT PERIOD IS OBSERVED AND CONFIRMED BY PROGRAM STAFF OR COUNTY CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS. SO JUST TO REITERATE, TO ISSUE A CIVIL PENALTY, A STAFF MEMBER OR THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WILL HAVE TO VISUALLY CONFIRM THAT THE RULE IS BEING BROKEN ON A CURTAILMENT DAY AND THAT THAT HOUSEHOLD DOES NOT MEET A QUALIFIED EXEMPTION. THIRD AND FINALLY, HOW WILL THE COUNTY PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF PEOPLE CALLING IN THEIR NEIGHBORS? SO THE COUNTY TAKES PRIVACY VERY SERIOUSLY AND MAKES EVERY EFFORT TO SAFELY GUARD PERSONAL INFORMATION. HOWEVER, THE COUNTY MAY DISCLOSE IDENTIFYING INFORMATION SUBJECT TO A PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST PROCESS TO THE EXTENT THAT IS REQUIRED BY LAW. UNFORTUNATELY, THAT COMPONENT IS A SIDE EFFECT OF THE COMPLAINT BASED STRUCTURE, WHICH WE HAVE NOT FOUND A SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE THROUGH OTHER PROGRAMS WITHOUT THE HIRING OF A SPECIALIZED FULL-TIME POSITION THAT WOULD GO OUT AND DO THAT JOB FOR US. SO THAT CONCLUDES OUR PRESENTATION FOR TODAY.

CHAIR KAFOURY: VERY THOROUGH. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?
COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER STEGMANN?

COMMISSIONER STEGMANN: I WANTED TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION. I THINK YOUR TEAM DID AN EXCELLENT JOB OF REALLY LISTENING TO THE COMMUNITY AND EDUCATING THEM AND ANSWERING REALLY ALL OF THEIR QUESTIONS SO I JUST WANT TO COMPLIMENT YOU ON YOUR OUTREACH AND HOW YOU'VE INCORPORATED THOSE CONCERNS INTO WHAT YOU'RE PRESENTING TODAY SO THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, VICE CHAIR.

COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON: I THINK THIS IS A REALLY IMPORTANT PIECE OF THE WHOLE SOLUTION THAT WE WANT TO PUT IN REPLACE IN TERMS OF WOOD SMOKE. ANOTHER PIECE OF IT IS MAKING SURE WE HAVE A SWITCHOUT PROGRAM SO THAT SOMETHING, BUT I THINK THAT THE OTHER PIECE, WE DID WANT -- IT WAS IMPORTANT TO HAVE A PUBLIC PROCESS THAT REALLY INCORPORATED WHAT DIFFERENT FOLKS FELT ABOUT THESE, HOW IT WOULD IMPACT THEM AND THEN MAKING SOME CHANGES THAT INCORPORATED THOSE CONCERNS IS REALLY IMPORTANT SO I APPRECIATE YOUR WILLINGNESS TO DO THAT AND REALLY GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND IN TERMS OF MAKING SURE THAT WAS A PRIORITY SO THANK YOU, GUYS SO MUCH FOR ALL OF THIS.

COMMISSIONER MEIERAN: I ECHO WHAT MY FELLOW COMMISSIONERS HAVE SAID AND REALLY WANT TO EMPHASIZE JUST A COUPLE OF THINGS THAT I

PARTICULARLY APPRECIATE AND THAT IS THE DEPTH AND EXTENT OF THE PUBLIC PROCESS THAT WE HAD ABOUT THIS AND YOUR INCANNY ABILITY TO SYNTHESIZE A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF PUBLIC INPUT COMING FROM DIFFERENT WAYS AND TO REALLY ACTUALLY ADDRESS IT. THAT HAS BEEN SO IMPRESSIVE AND NOTICEABLE AND REALLY MAKES A DIFFERENCE AND I JUST FEEL SO CONFIDENT ABOUT THIS ORDINANCE, THAT IT'S REALLY THE BEST THAT WE CAN DO IN A REALLY GREAT WAY.

COMMISSIONER MEIERAN: I ALSO WANTED TO NOTE ONE OF THE THINGS THAT CAME UP AT ONE OF THE HEARINGS I WAS AT WAS A WOMAN WHO MENTIONED HAVING A CHIPPER PROGRAM BECAUSE A LOT OF PEOPLE BURN WOOD BECAUSE THEY HAVE SO MUCH WOOD ON THEIR PROPERTY AND DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THAT AND SO SHE MENTIONED A CHIPPER PROGRAM THAT THEY HAVE IN SANDY WHERE THEY CAN TAKE A CHIPPER AROUND AND HELP PEOPLE USE THAT TO HELP DISPOSE OF THEIR WOOD AND MAKE IT MORE USABLE AS MULCH OR WHATEVER ELSE, AND I THINK THAT'S AN INTERESTING IDEA AND I'M ACTIVELY LOOKING INTO THAT AT MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND SO I JUST REALLY WANT TO THANK STAFF, ESPECIALLY MATT HOFFMAN AND JAE DOUGLAS FOR THEIR COMMAND OF THE TECHNICAL DETAILS AND THEIR ABILITY TO EXPLAIN IT IN NORMAL HUMAN TERMS. SO THANK YOU ALSO TO COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP ON THIS AND JUST FOR BRINGING THE DEGREE OF EXPERTISE YOU HAVE IN THIS ARENA AND YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THE LEGISLATURE, WHICH REALLY ALSO MADE SUCH A DIFFERENCE. SO I'M VERY EXCITED, SO THANK YOU.

CHAIR KAFOURY: I WANT TO THANK YOU, AS WELL. I HAVE TALKED WITH A FEW PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY AS QUESTIONS HAVE COME ABOUT, AND I THINK IT'S REALLY EXCITING THAT WE'RE TAKING THIS STEP, IT'S A BIG STEP, BUT IT'S WELL THOUGHT OUT AND WELL RESEARCHED AND ALSO, WE'RE NOT THE FIRST. THAT'S HELPFUL, AS WELL. BUT I'VE ALSO TOLD PEOPLE THAT WE CAN MAKE CHANGES. YOU HAVE TO START WITH SOMETHING SO I THINK THAT WE'RE STARTING WITH SOMETHING THAT'S REALLY GOOD AND WELL THOUGHT OUT AND WELL RESEARCHED, BUT IF AS WE'RE GOING DOWN THE ROAD WE FIND THAT WE NEED TO MAKE CHANGES WE CAN ALWAYS DO THAT AND SO IF PEOPLE WHO ARE IN THE COMMUNITY ARE LISTENING TO THIS OR HEARING THIS AND HAVE QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS, IT'S STILL APPROPRIATE TO BRING THOSE FORWARD SO AGAIN, I WANT TO THANK COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON, COMMISSIONER MEIERAN FOR SPEARHEADING THIS. WE DO HAVE A FEW PUBLIC COMMENTS SO THANK YOU SO MUCH AND HOW MANY FOLKS DO WE HAVE SIGNED UP?

BOARD CLERK: THREE.

CHAIR KAFOURY: GREAT.

BOARD CLERK: WHEN I CALL YOUR NAME, PLEASE COME FORWARD.
[READING NAMES]

AKAH SING: GOOD MORNING, I'M THE ORGANIZER FOR NEIGHBORS FOR CLEAN AIR. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MATT HOFFMAN, JAE DOUGLAS FOR ALL THEIR HARD WORK PRESENTED HERE THIS MORNING. AND TO THE OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY FOR ALWAYS LETTING ME KNOW WHEN ALL THESE VOTES ARE HAPPENING.

CHAIR KAFOURY: VERY IMPORTANT.

AKAH SING: IT IS CRITICAL FOR US TO RECOGNIZE THAT IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE HEALTH OF OREGONIANS FROM AIR POLLUTION, THAT WE NEED TO APPROACH THIS ISSUE FROM MULTIPLE PATHWAYS AND ACROSS SEVERAL JURISDICTIONS. THROUGHOUT THIS WORK, I HAVE BEEN THRILLED TO HAVE THE CONSISTENT SUPPORT OF THE COUNTY AND THIS ORDINANCE IS ANOTHER INDICATOR OF THE COUNTY'S COMMITMENT TO CLEAN AIR. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU, THANKS FOR COMING.

GREGORY BERKHOLTZ: GOOD MORNING AGAIN COMMISSIONERS, OF COURSE, HE IS THE CONSUMMATE CITIZEN AWARE VOLUNTEER, BUT I THINK THAT ONE TINY RIPPLE OF TROUBLE IN THE WATERS THAT THOSE OF US WHO ARE HARD CORE ZEALOUS CLEAN AIR ADVOCATES, WHEN WE SEE THE AMOUNT OF TIME AND RESOURCES THAT HAVE GONE INTO CRAFTING THIS EXCELLENT ORDINANCE AND THE SPECIFICATION FOR ABOUT TWO AND A HALF GRAMS PER HOUR, WE WANT YOU TO BE EQUALLY ZEALOUS AND FORCEFUL ON ALL FRONTS WITH THE DEQ, ON ALL TYPES OF EMISSIONS. SO I HOPE THERE WAS IN YOUR MINDS THE TINY SLIVER OF A DOUBT WELL IF WE GET THIS ONE PIECE OF GOOD LEGISLATION, IT WILL TAKE THE PRESSURE OFF ON OTHER FORMS OF POLLUTANTS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOU WORKING WITH THESE TEAMS TO CRAFT OTHER EXCELLENT LOCAL RESOLUTIONS AND TO WRING FROM THE DEQ THE BEST HEALTH BASED STANDARDS WE CAN GET. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

BOARD CLERK: DO WE HAVE ANOTHER PERSON WHO SIGNED UP? I CAN CALL HIS NAME AGAIN.

CHAIR KAFOURY: IT'S FINE. ANYBODY WANT TO TESTIFY? OKAY. WELL, THANK YOU. ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? BEFORE WE TAKE OUR VOTE? ALL RIGHT. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, VOTE AYE. [CHORUS OF AYES] THE FIRST READING IS APPROVED AND THE SECOND READING IS THURSDAY, JANUARY 11TH. THANKS. YEAH, WE SHOULD CLAP. [APPLAUSE]

**R.2 Resolution Adopting the Multnomah County 2018 State Legislative Agenda.
Presenters: Jeston Black, Director of Government Relations; Rosa Klein,
Deputy Director, Office of Government Relations; and, Rhys Scholes, Policy
Manager, Office of Government Relations (30 min)**

CHAIR KAFOURY: CAN I HAVE A MOTION? COMMISSIONER STEGMANN MOVES, COMMISSIONER MEIERAN SECONDS APPROVAL OF R.2. WE'VE BEEN ANXIOUSLY AWAITING TO HEAR OUR LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE YEAR. IT'S A SPECIAL SHORT SESSION. WHATEVER YOU CALL IT.

JUSTIN BLACK: THANK YOU. CHAIR KAFOURY, MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION, FOR THE RECORD MY NAME IS JUSTIN BLACK. I AM YOUR NEWISH DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FOR THE COUNTY. THIS IS MY FIRST TIME GETTING TO TALK TO THE GROUP OF YOU AND I ALSO HAVE TO APOLOGIZE, I'M SUFFERING FROM A COLD AS WELL SO MY VOICE IS A LITTLE IN AND OUT, AS WELL. SO OUR GOAL TODAY IS TO GET A POWERPOINT UP AND RUNNING AND START PRESENTING, WHICH WILL HAPPEN VERY SHORTLY. BUT THE REAL GOAL HERE IS TO GIVE A LITTLE LAY OF THE LAND OF WHAT'S AHEAD DURING THE SHORT 2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING A LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE COUNTY AND THEN DIVE A LITTLE BIT DEEPER INTO THE PRIORITY ISSUES AND THEN ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT YOU MAY HAVE. SO AS WE GET THIS UP AND ROLLING, WITH ME I HAVE ROSA KLEIN, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND RHYS SCHOLES, THE POLICY MANAGER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OR FOR THE OFFICE. AS WE GO INTO THE SHORT SESSION, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN FEBRUARY 5TH AND GO UNTIL MARCH 9TH, IT'S A VERY SHORT TRUNCATED PROCESS WHERE MOST BILLS IF YOU DON'T HAVE A FOOTHOLD BEFORE YOU ENTER THE BUILDING ARE NOT GOING TO GO ANYWHERE. THE TURN-AROUND TIME TO GET THEM OUT OF THE HOUSE AND OUT OF THE SENATE IS VERY SHORT.

IT'S ABOUT TWO WEEKS PER CHAMBER, WHICH IS INCREDIBLY SHORT COMPARED TO OUR NORMAL LONGER SESSION. IT'S AN INTERESTING SESSION BECAUSE THERE'S BEEN SUCH DRAMATIC TURNOVER BETWEEN THE LAST TIME THEY MET. CURRENTLY, WE'LL HAVE TWO NEW SENATORS AND FOUR NEW REPRESENTATIVES SO WE'VE LOST TWO LONG-TERM SENATORS. THE COCHAIR OF WAYS AND MEANS AND THE MINORITY LEADER IN THE SENATE. SENATOR WINTERS IS THE MINORITY LEADER NOW AND SENATE PRESIDENT COURTNEY HAS TAKEN OVER COCHAIR FOR SENATOR DEVLIN. WE HAVE NEW FACES TO TALK TO, NEW OLD FACES TO TALK TO AND TWO NEW SENATORS TO TALK TO AND THEN ON THE HOUSE SIDE WE'VE HAD RESIGNATIONS FROM REPRESENTATIVE HACK, REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON, REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN WHO HAVE ALL BEEN REPLACED, ALL BUT ONE OF THEM HAVE BEEN REPLACED NOW SO WE'LL HAVE FOUR NEW REPRESENTATIVES AND THE POSSIBILITY OF ALSO A VACANCY IN THE

HOUSE WITH -- SO THE TURN-AROUND TIME ON THAT WILL BE INTERESTING. I'M NOT TOTALLY FIRM ON THE TIME LINES, BUT WE COULD POSSIBLY FACE A VACANCY IN THE HOUSE FOR ALL OR PART OF THE SHORT SESSION WHICH SHOULD MAKE IT INTERESTING. THE OTHER THING LOOMING OVER THE SESSION IS BALLOT MEASURE 101. I'LL HAND IT OVER TO RHYS.

RHYS SCHOLLES: THE RECENT DECEMBER REVENUE FORECAST SHOWS AN INCREASE IN THE STATE GENERAL FUND AND LOTTERY ABOVE THE CLOSE OF SESSION FORECAST OF \$150 MILLION. THIS COULD MEAN SOME ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR STATE SERVICES. THE OUTCOME OF BALLOT MEASURE 101 REFERENDUM WILL ALSO AFFECT THE STATE BUDGET. AS YOU KNOW, BALLOT MEASURE 101 IS A REFERRAL TO THE VOTERS OF PORTIONS OF 2017'S HOUSE BILL 2391, WHICH PROVIDES FOR ASSESSMENTS ON HOSPITALS AND HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS TO HELP FUND MEDICAID. THE REDUCTION TO STATE REVENUE IF THE MEASURE FAILS AND THE ASSESSMENTS ARE NOT COLLECTED IS ESTIMATED AT 210 TO \$320 MILLION. FEDERAL MATCHING FUNDS THAT WOULD BE LOST WITHOUT THAT STATE CONTRIBUTION ARE ESTIMATED AT 630 TO \$960 MILLION FOR A POSSIBLE TOTAL LOSS OF \$840 MILLION TO \$1.3 BILLION IN FUNDING FOR MEDICAID RECIPIENTS. FOR COMPARISON, THE STATE'S GENERAL FUND AND LOTTERY BUDGET TOTALS ABOUT \$21.5 BILLION. THE 210 TO \$320 MILLION THAT WOULD NOT BE COLLECTED IF MEASURE 101 FAILS IS EQUIVALENT TO ONE TO 1.5% OF THAT BUDGET. SIX MONTHS OF THE 24 MONTH BIENNIUM ARE BEHIND US AND THAT INCREASES THE DIFFICULTY IN MAKING ANY BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS.

JUSTIN BLACK: AND I HAD RHYS TALK ABOUT THAT BECAUSE IT WILL IMPACT THE TENOR AND WHAT WILL BE ABLE TO BE ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION. IF THE STATE IS FACING A LARGE BUDGET DEFICIT WE'VE HEARD MANY REPRESENTATIVES TELL US THAT MOST POLICY WILL GO TO THE SIDE AND THAT THEY WILL, IN FACT, SPEND ALL OF THEIR TIME WORRYING ABOUT HOW TO FILL THAT BUDGET HOLE AND SPENDING ALL THEIR CAPITAL ON THAT AND THE EXPECTATIONS ON ANY OTHER POLICY SHOULD BE VERY LOW. IF THE BALLOT MEASURE PASSES, THE EXPECTATION IS THAT THEY WILL TAKE UP A MUCH BROADER POLICY PACKAGE AND LOOK AT A LOT OF OTHER AREAS TO ADDRESS. NOW TO KIND OF THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING THE COUNTY AGENDA. PRIOR TO ME COMING ON BOARD, ROSA AND RHYS DID A GREAT JOB OF BRINGING TOGETHER STAFF FROM ALL OF THE DIVISIONS, ALL OF THE COMMISSION OFFICES AND WENT THROUGH A PROCESS OF COLLECTING EVERYTHING THAT WAS OUT THERE. ALL THOSE IDEAS THAT CAME OUT OF COMMISSION OFFICES, THAT CAME OUT OF PROGRAMS THAT WOULD MAKE THE LIVES OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY CITIZENS BETTER, THAT WOULD MAKE THE COUNTY OPERATE BETTER, WHICH WOULD GENERALLY BE A BETTER SCENARIO. THEY CAME UP WITH A LONG LAUNDRY LIST OF IDEAS, THAT GROUP SAT DOWN, HONED IN ON SOME OF THOSE IDEAS, LOOKED AT THE 2017

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA TO SEE HOW MANY OF THOSE IDEAS WOULD FIT UNDER THOSE CATEGORIES, AND THEN TO SEE IF THERE WAS ANY NEW ADDITIONS THAT NEEDED TO BE ADDED TO THE 2018 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA. THERE WAS NOT A LOT OF ADDITION KIND OF CATEGORIES THAT WE NEEDED TO ADD TO THE AGENDA. BUT THERE WERE SOME KIND OF NEUROIDEAS ON THERE THAT WILL BE REFLECTED IN WHAT WE TALK ABOUT, BUT I'M GOING TO HAND IT OVER TO ROSA NOW TO KIND OF TALK ABOUT OUR FIRST PRIORITY AS WE ENTER THE SHORT SESSION.

ROSA KLEIN: THANKS, ROSA KLEIN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES IS THE AREA WHERE WE'LL BE VERY FOCUSED ON POTENTIAL CUTS RESULTING FROM A BUDGET DEFICIT. LAST BUDGET SESSION WE PLAYED DEFENSE ALL SESSION ON THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET AND ENDED UP BEING FAIRLY SUCCESSFUL IN PROTECTING THE PROGRAMS THAT SERVE MOST OF THE VERY VULNERABLE PEOPLE THAT THE COUNTY SERVES. THE ONE EXCEPTION TO THAT WAS A \$12 MILLION UNSPECIFIED CUT TO INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PROGRAMS. THAT IS SOMETHING THAT DEPENDING ON THE BUDGET SCENARIO WE ARE EITHER HOPING THAT THEY CAN FILL THAT CUT BACK IN WITH ANY OVERAGES. IF THE MEASURE DOESN'T PASS, WE'RE GOING TO BE VERY FOCUSED ON MAKING SURE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET IS LEFT AS INTACT AS POSSIBLE.

JUSTIN BLACK: GREAT. AND TO KIND OF CONTINUE THAT CONVERSATION, THE NEXT PRIORITY FOR US IS TO TAKE ACTION ON HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS. I THINK IT IS SPEAR-HEADED BY A REQUEST FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE TO THE LEGISLATURE FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$5 MILLION TO DEAL WITH THE CRISIS DURING THE WINTER, INCLUDING \$2.6 MILLION FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY THAT WILL HELP KEEP THE FAMILY SHELTER RUNNING AT FULL CAPACITY AND RUNNING AS A NO TURNAWAY SHELTER.

ROSA KLEIN: AND THEN THE OTHER ISSUE IN HOUSING THAT WE'VE BEEN VERY FOCUSED ON IS RAISING THE DOCUMENT RECORDING FEE. THIS IS A FEE THAT IS CHARGED WITH THE FILING OF REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS AT EACH COUNTY AND CURRENTLY IT'S AT \$20 AND THE INTENT IS TO RAISE IT TO \$75 AND THESE FUNDS ARE USED, IT'S ABOUT \$28 MILLION BIENNIUM AND THEY ARE USED TO FUND THE EMERGENCY HOUSING ACCOUNT, WHICH AS YOU KNOW GOES TO PREVENT EVICTIONS, TO ASSIST WITH RENTAL SUBSIDIES FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE KIND OF ON THE EDGE OF EVICTION AND IT GOES TO FUND THE HOME OWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND THE VAST MAJORITY OF IT GOES TO THE GENERAL HOUSING ACCOUNT PROGRAM, WHICH IS SPENT ON DEVELOPING AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

JUSTIN BLACK: AND THEN WE MOVE ON TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. THIS IS A CONTINUED PRIORITY. HOUSING AND FUNDING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ARE

CONTINUED PRIORITIES OF THE COUNTY COMING FROM 2017 AND THIS IS REALLY, YOU KNOW, LOOKING AT COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND BOLSTERING COMMUNITY RESOURCES SO WE HAVE FEWER INDIVIDUALS GOING TO THE STATE HOSPITAL, FEWER INDIVIDUALS BEING INCARCERATED, BEING INSTITUTIONALIZED. ALSO -- YOU KNOW, AS THE OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY IS WORKING ON THIS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVE, THERE'S A LOT OF MOVING PARTS ON HOW THEY CHANGE UP GOVERNANCE AND FUNDING STRUCTURES FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND WE WANT TO MAKE SURE WE CONTINUE TO PUSH THAT THERE BE LOCAL COMMUNITY SETTINGS FOR PEOPLE TO GET TREATMENT AND GET RESOURCES. WE WANT TO CONTINUE TO BOLSTER THAT. WE ALSO WANT TO CONTINUE TO DRIVE TO INCREASE CAPACITY AT EVERY LEVEL OF THE SYSTEM, YOU KNOW. THERE ARE WORKFORCE SHORTAGES, THERE ARE BED CAPACITY ISSUES, WE WANT TO CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE FOR INCREASES IN BOTH OF THOSE SO THAT WE CAN MEET THE DEMAND THAT IS NEEDED AND WE'LL HAND IT OVER TO RHYS.

RHYS SCHOLLES: GOVERNOR BROWN IS GOING TO BRING THREE PROPOSALS ABOUT GUN SAFETY. AND MANY OF YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH THESE BECAUSE THEY'VE BEEN THERE BEFORE. ONE OF THEM IS THE -- IS THE CHARLOTTE LOOPHOLE AND CLOSING THAT WOULD PREVENT PEOPLE BEING ABLE TO PURCHASE A GUN BEFORE THEIR BACKGROUND CHECK IS COMPLETED. THE SECOND IS THE BOYFRIEND LOOPHOLE AND THIS IS ABOUT EXTENDING THE REQUIREMENT FOR GUNS TO BE REMOVED FROM SOMEONE'S HOME TO ALL CASES OF DOMESTIC ABUSE. RIGHT NOW THERE ARE A FEW GAPS IN THAT. AND THE THIRD PROPOSAL FROM THE GOVERNOR IS ADDING MISDEMEANOR STALKING AS ONE OF THE CRIMES ON THE LIST THAT WOULD PREVENT A PERSON FROM BUYING A GUN. SO THOSE -- THAT'S THE GOVERNOR'S BIG THREE. WE'VE ALSO HEARD THAT THERE MAY BE A PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD INCREASE THE COMMUNICATION TO LAW ENFORCEMENT WHEN SOMEONE ATTEMPTS TO PURCHASE A GUN AND IS DENIED FOR SOME REASONS. SO THAT'S ANOTHER THING WE MAY SEE.

JUSTIN BLACK: SO THOSE ARE THE TOP FOUR KIND OF PRIORITIES AND THE WAY WE THINK ABOUT THESE, THOSE ARE THE IDEAS THAT, YOU KNOW, WE AS A TEAM WILL BE SPENDING A LARGE CHUNK OF OUR TIME ON. WE WILL PROBABLY BE FRONT AND FOREMOST IN A LOT OF THOSE CONVERSATIONS AND PUSHING VERY HARD. WE HAVE ALSO, YOU KNOW, A VERY -- A LONGER LIST OF PRIORITIES FOR THE COUNTY. THESE ARE ISSUES THAT WE WILL BE WORKING ON IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, YOU KNOW, AND MAYBE NOT TAKING THE FULL FRONT FACE OF IT, BUT WE WILL BE WORKING VERY HARD ON THESE ISSUES, AS WELL. AND I'LL LET ROSA KIND OF KICK IT OFF HERE.

ROSA KLEIN: SO WE MADE HUGE PROGRESS LAST SESSION WITH 3440, THE BILL THAT ADDRESSED OPIOID USE DISORDERS AND INCREASED ACCESS TO NALOXONE. THE GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE THAT'S CURRENTLY MEETING IS EXPECTING TO HAVE SOME ADDITIONAL -- WE LOOK FORWARD TO SUPPORTING SOME RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THAT TASK FORCE. WE'RE ALWAYS HOPEFUL TO REDUCE YOUTH SMOKING AND ACCESS TO TOBACCO. AND THEN IN TERMS OF OREGON HEALTH PLAN AND ACCESS FOR HEALTHCARE, WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING AT WHETHER OR NOT THE BENEFITS REMAIN INTACT AND WHETHER OR NOT COVERAGE IS MAINTAINED AT 95% ACROSS THE STATE NOW SO WE'RE LOOKING EVERY WAY POSSIBLE TO KEEP PEOPLE COVERED AND FOR HUMAN SERVICES, I THINK THE TWO BIG ISSUES THAT WE EXPECT TO SEE POTENTIALLY TO SEE OREGON PROJECT INDEPENDENCE COME BACK UP, IF THERE'S BUDGET SHORTFALL, AND THEN WE KNOW THAT THERE'S A WORKFORCE TRAINING BILL THAT WORK SYSTEMS ARE PUTTING TOGETHER CALLED PROSPERITY 1,000.

JUSTIN BLACK: AND THEN BACK TO PUBLIC SAFETY, OR NOT TO PUBLIC SAFETY, THIS IS REALLY -- WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THE STATE CONTINUES INVESTING IN SERVICES THAT KEEP PEOPLE OUT OF BEING INCARCERATED AND GIVES THEM THE SERVICES ON THE FRONT END SO THEY DON'T END UP IN OUR JAILS.

ROSA KLEIN: IN SUSTAINABILITY, WE'RE LOOKING AT THE CLEANER AIR OREGON PACKAGE COMING BACK IN FRONT OF THE LEGISLATURE. WE ARE ALSO LOOKING AT TWO DIESEL BILLS THAT I KNOW OF, AND THEN THE CLEAN ENERGY JOBS ACT WILL BE SOMETHING THAT'S VERY MUCH IN THE NEWS.

JUSTIN BLACK: AND THEN ON TRANSPORTATION, WE WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK AT THE BURNSIDE BRIDGE AND THE UPDATES THAT ARE NEEDED THERE AND WHAT FUNDING REVENUE IS AVAILABLE FOR US HERE AT THE COUNTY AND AT THE STATE THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO USE TO START THE WORK, YOU KNOW, ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY SIDE OF THE BURNSIDE BRIDGE. AND THAT KIND OF WRAPS UP, YOU KNOW, WHERE WE'RE COMING FROM, WORKING WITH STAFF, WORKING WITH YOUR STAFF, WE FEEL LIKE THIS IS AN AMBITIOUS AGENDA FOR A SHORT AGENDA SESSION. IT'S ALSO A SESSION THAT DOES HAVE SOME UNCERTAINTY TO IT RIGHT NOW. SO WE WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE DID HAVE AN AGGRESSIVE AGENDA, AN AGENDA THAT WOULD ALLOW US TO PUSH ON MANY DIFFERENT LEVERS DEPENDING ON KIND OF WHAT SESSION STARTS FIRING UP LIKE. LEGISLATIVE DAYS ARE NEXT WEEK, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY. WE'LL HAVE A LITTLE BETTER SENSE OF WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT REALLY NOT UNTIL JANUARY 3RD, 23RD, WILL WE HAVE A REAL IDEA OF WHAT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION IS GOING TO LOOK LIKE.

CHAIR KAFOURY: QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON: THANK YOU, CHAIR. THANK YOU, GUYS FOR THIS. I THINK WE'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES WHO ARE IN THAT POSITION OF NOT KNOWING EXACTLY WHAT FEBRUARY IS GOING TO LOOK LIKE UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTION. SO IT'S IMPORTANT THAT EVERYBODY VOTES. AND I ACTUALLY WANT TO COMMEND YOU ON, YOU KNOW, FOCUSING ON THE PRIORITIES BECAUSE I THINK THAT IT'S REALLY HARD, ESPECIALLY IN A SHORT SESSION TO HAVE TOO MANY ASKS GOING IN BECAUSE THERE'S ONLY LIKE -- IT'S, YOU KNOW -- VERY QUICKLY YOU SEE WHAT'S GOING TO MOVE AND WHAT'S NOT GOING TO MOVE, AND I THINK FOR THE COUNTY ESPECIALLY, FOR THE SERVICES WE PROVIDE, WE WANT TO MAKE SURE WE STAY WHOLE AND WE'RE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES TO MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OUR MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMUNITY THAT PEOPLE RELY ON AND WE KNOW THAT ARE VERY CRITICAL SO I'M REALLY PLEASED TO SEE THAT THOSE ARE THE TOP THREE PRIORITIES. AND THEN, YOU KNOW, I'M -- I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO DOING SOME TRIPS TO SALEM MYSELF TO TALK ABOUT SOME OF THE PARTIES, ESPECIALLY THE CLEAN ENERGY JOBS AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH THING SO LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU GUYS ON THAT.

COMMISSIONER STEGMANN: THANK YOU, CHAIR. [LAUGHTER] I'M GLAD YOU'RE FEELING BETTER AND ROSA DID AN EXCELLENT JOB OF MEETING WITH ME AND ANSWERING SOME OF MY QUESTIONS THAT HE HIGHLIGHTED TODAY SO I THANK YOU FOR YOUR EXCELLENT WORK.

COMMISSIONER MEIERAN: I ALSO WANT TO THANK YOU AND I AGREE THESE ARE CLEAR PRIORITIES FOR THE COUNTY AND, YOU KNOW, HOUSING HOMELESSNESS, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN PARTICULAR, SUCH MULTIFACETED ISSUES. I THINK THEY WILL BE WITH US FOR SEVERAL LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS TO COME, BUT WE NEED TO KEEP CHIPPING AWAY SO I THINK THAT THAT'S GREAT AND I REALLY WANT TO THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR WORK NEXT MONTH. SO I KNOW THAT THINGS MOVE EXTREMELY QUICKLY DURING A SHORT SESSION AND JUST GIVEN HOW BROAD THE COUNTY'S INTERESTS ARE AND WHAT'S GOING ON IN SALEM, I KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A LOT OF WORK JUST FOLLOWING ALL THE MOVING PARTS SO JUST THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR THAT WORK.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU, AND WHILE YOU DID MENTION AND I KNOW WE HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT, AS WELL. YOU DID MENTION THE NEWISH POSITION THAT YOU'RE IN. I ALSO WANT TO REMIND YOU THAT YOU'VE GOT SOME MIGHTY BIG SHOES TO FILL! [LAUGHTER] WE'VE HAD SOME REALLY SUCCESSFUL SESSIONS WITH YOUR SISTER CLAUDIA BLACK RUNNING OUR TEAM.

JUSTIN BLACK: FOR THE RECORD, WE ARE NOT RELATED.

CHAIR KAFOURY: SO WE WON'T JUST BE WATCHING. WE WILL BE HELPING AND PLEASE KNOW THAT ALL OF US ARE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY BECAUSE WE KNOW THIS IS A TEAM EFFORT.

JUSTIN BLACK: I THINK YOU SHOULD ALL BE EXPECTED TO BE CALLED UPON AS MANY TIMES THROUGH THE SESSION TO COME DOWN AND HELP.

CHAIR KAFOURY: WE HAVE SOME PUBLIC COMMENTS?

BOARD CLERK: YES, MADAM CHAIR. WE HAVE TWO SIGNED UP. [READING NAMES]

CHAIR KAFOURY: YOU CAN BEGIN, GO AHEAD.

CEDRIC WILKIN: I LIKE ONE OF YOUR THINGS IS TO PROTECT HEALTHCARE, ACCESS TO CHILDREN AND OREGONIANS, JUST FOUND OUT THERE'S A THING CALLED COVER ALL, WHICH COVERS ALL CHILDREN FOR HEALTHCARE. THE HEALTHY KIDS THING PASSED AROUND 2011, DID NOT. DID NOT COVER UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS, AND I THINK THIS IS KIND OF A GREEN LIGHT FOR OREGON TO BE AN AMNESTY STATE SINCE ALL CHILDREN ARE COVERED BASICALLY AND SO WE'RE GETTING BEYOND THAT SEVEN YEARS LATER. ON THE ISSUE OF EXPANDING REGULATION TO TOBACCO SALES OF YOUTH SMOKING, I TELL THIS STORY, I'M VERY PROUD OF THIS STORY. MY DAUGHTER IS 20, AT AGE ONE, SHE HAD BLADDER CANCER. A SURVIVOR. DOERNBECHER'S, CHEMOTHERAPY, RADIATION, ALL OF THAT. WHEN SHE WAS 10, THOUGH, WE HAD A THING CALLED THE MEASURE 50, WHICH WAS A CIGARETTE TAX FOR KIDS. IT FAILED BY 20%. BUT MY DAUGHTER AUDITIONED, BECAME THE SPOKESPERSON.

MY FATHER, HE WAS IN HIS 70S, SAW HIS DAUGHTER SAY AMANDA WILKINS ON TV IN OCTOBER, THIS WAS LIKE A DREAM, WHAT'S EVEN WORSE IS IT FAILED, BUT GOVERNOR -- THEY SAID THIS WAS A FAILED FIRST STEP AND SAID IT RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY DAUGHTER AND MY DAUGHTER PLAYED IT PERFECT, SHE DIDN'T LAUGH OR DO ANYTHING, AND AGAIN, THAT WAS ON AN ELECTION NIGHT SO SHE HAD BEEN ON OREGON TELEVISION FOR A MONTH. UNFORTUNATELY, IT WAS PERCEIVED AS A SALES TACTIC. IN THE OBAMA CARE SITUATION, THERE'S A FEDERAL TAX AND IT WAS JUST DECIDED THAT OREGON WANTED TO TAX CIGARETTES TO BE EQUIVALENT TO WASHINGTON STATE. THERE WAS THE IDEA, TOO, IF PEOPLE WOULD BE TAXED FOR CIGARETTES, THEY WOULD SMOKE LESS AND THERE WOULD BE REVISIONS FOR HYPNOSIS THAT WOULD GET YOU OFF CIGARETTES AND IT WAS A DREAM. IN FACT, TED KULONGOWSKI. MY SON KEPT SAYING WHY IS MY DAUGHTER ON TV AND SHE'S 10. BUT IT WAS JUST A BLAST. AND I WAS THE ONE THAT SUGGESTED THAT SHE AUDITION AND THEY AUDITIONED SOME OTHER PEOPLE, AND WHAT'S EVEN WORSE IS MY EX-WIFE WAS -- THEY TOOK A PICTURE WITH HER TALKING, THEY CUT MY EX-WIFE OUT, JUST

HAD MY DAUGHTER ON TV. WAS JUST SO FUN. AND MY DAUGHTER'S CANCER HAS NOT COME BACK, THANK GOD, AND SHE IS INVOLVED WITH MEDICAL MARIJUANA AND I HAVE MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT THAT, I DO FEEL THAT MARIJUANA MAY CAUSE MEMORY LOSS, BUT SHE'S IN SUCH GREAT PAIN THAT SHE CLAIMS THAT COMMON PILLS DON'T WORK. [TIMER BEEPS] ENOUGH SAID.

CHARLES BRIDGECRANE JOHNSON: GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS, FOR THE RECORD CHARLES JOHNSON, AND, YOU KNOW, IT'S INTERESTING THAT WHEN WE GO AND ASK TINA KOTEK AND LOU FREDERICK FOR MIRACLES, WE HAVE TO GET SPECIFIC BECAUSE THESE FIRST THREE HIGHLIGHTED ITEMS ON THE SHEET, IT'S SORT OF A HOLISTIC WHOLE AND MAYBE EVEN THE FOURTH, PREVENTING GUN VIOLENCE. WE NEED SPECIFIC, BETTER LANGUAGE FROM THE LEGISLATURE, BUT, YOU KNOW, GUN VIOLENCE IS NOT JUST AN ISSUE OF GUNS. IT'S ALSO THE HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITION OF PEOPLE THAT ARE ABLE TO GET THEIR HANDS ON GUNS SO I APPLAUD YOU ON THIS LEGISLATIVE AGENDA. IT WAS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT DOWN ON THE BOTTOM HALF, THE THIRD BULLET POINT, WHICH WE'VE TALKED ABOUT ON THE PREVIOUS R.1 KIND OF DOVETAILS WITH THE SECOND-TO-LAST BULLET POINT, IMPROVING OUR EFFORTS TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE, CARBON EMISSIONS AND CLEAN ENERGY, WHEN WE NEED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION WE HAVE TO KIND OF CRAFT THAT OUT.

WE CAN'T JUST SAY OH, SALEM GIVE US A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT, WE HAVE TO GET REALLY SPECIFIC WITH THEM. AND MAYBE WE COULD HEAR SOME MORE SPECIFICITY LATER ON IN THE YEAR ABOUT WHAT WE'RE HOPING TO GET FROM SALEM ON CLIMATE CHANGE. PARTICULARLY TOWARDS THE TOP, FUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE. NO. FUND EFFECTIVE PATIENT-CENTERED RESULTS FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS. LATER ON, IN A SPAMMY E-MAIL, YOU CAN LOOK RIGHT NOW IF YOU WANT TO TYPE IT IN MANUALLY OR GO TO CASCADIABHC.COM/ CASCADIABHC.COM/BOARD-OF-DIRECTORS. YOU'LL BE BASED HOW -- AMAZED HOW THAT LIST PRESENTS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, YOU'LL BE AMAZED OR DISAPPOINTED, THE FIRST DIRECTOR THAT COMES UP AND GIVEN THE AWESOME SITUATION THE VOTERS HAVE CREATED HERE WITH THE NUMBER OF WOMEN I GET TO TALK TO EVERY WEEK, IF YOU GO OVER THOSE TWO LISTINGS THAT COME UP, UNDER THAT CASCADIA BHC, WE'VE GOT A HELLA EQUITY PROGRAM WITH WHERE THAT MONEY IS GOING. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. HAVE A GREAT AFTERNOON -- IT'S NOT AFTERNOON YET? OH, BYE, LUNCH.

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. DO WE HAVE ANY OTHER PEOPLE SIGNED UP?

BOARD CLERK: NO MADAM CHAIR, THAT'S IT.

CHAIR KAFOURY: ALL RIGHT. WE'RE ALL ANXIOUSLY AWAITING TO SEE WHETHER THIS LEGISLATIVE AGENDA IS GOING TO PASS OR NOT. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, VOTE AYE. [CHORUS OF AYES] THE RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED. THANK YOU.

R.3 Order Appointing Jason Plush as Commissioner to the Ramsey-Walmer Special Road District. Presenter: Courtney Lords, Assistant County Attorney (5 min)

CHAIR KAFOURY: COMMISSIONER STEGMANN MOVES, COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON SECONDS APPROVAL OF R.3. GOOD MORNING OR AFTERNOON.

COURTNEY LORDS: GOOD AFTERNOON, I'M COURTNEY LORDS, I ALSO HAVE A COLD SO PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU CAN'T HEAR ME. I AM HERE ON A FORMAL MATTER TODAY, REGARDING RAMSEY-WALMER SPECIAL ROAD DISTRICT, WHICH MOST OF YOU PROBABLY HAVE NEVER HEARD OF THIS. IT'S A SMALL ROAD DISTRICT THAT WAS CREATED IN 1985 BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO DEAL WITH ROADS THAT THE COUNTY WAS NOT MAINTAINING IN NORTHWEST PORTLAND. THERE IS A VACANCY ON THAT BOARD AND THERE HAS BEEN FOR A YEAR AND THEY HAVE FINALLY FOUND SOMEBODY TO FILL THAT VACANCY SO THE ORDER BEFORE YOU IS FOR YOU TO APPOINT THE PERSON TO THAT VACANCY WHO IS JASON PLUSH. UPON YOUR ADOPTION OF THIS ORDER, JASON PLUSH WILL -- ACCORDING TO LAW, HE WILL TAKE AN OATH AND SERVE ON THAT BOARD. SO WITH THAT, ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS?

CHAIR KAFOURY: QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? I HAVE A QUESTION. HOW LONG IS THE TERM?

COURTNEY LORDS: IT'S A TWO-YEAR TERM BECAUSE ALL TERMS ON THIS BOARD ARE FOR THREE YEARS AND, AS I SAID, IT WAS VACANT FOR A YEAR SO IT WILL BE THE FINAL TWO YEARS OF THE POSITION.

CHAIR KAFOURY: AND IS HE ALLOWED THEN TO REUP?

COURTNEY LORDS: YES.

CHAIR KAFOURY: SO WE WON'T BE BACK TRYING TO DO THIS AGAIN.

COURTNEY LORDS: WHO KNOWS.

CHAIR KAFOURY: OKAY. WE HOPE NOT. THANK YOU, JASON FOR ACCEPTING THIS POSITION AND ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, VOTE AYE. [CHORUS OF AYES] THE ORDER IS ADOPTED.

BOARD COMMENT – 11:00 am

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

CHAIR KAFOURY: THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT. WE HAVE NOW COME TO THE TIME ON OUR AGENDA FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS. DOES ANYBODY HAVE ANYTHING TO DISCUSS? ALL RIGHT. WELL, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING TODAY AND WE WILL SEE YOU ALL NEXT WEEK. [GAVEL]

ADJOURNMENT – 12:03 PM

[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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SUBMITTED BY:

LYNDA J. GROW, BOARD CLERK AND
MARINA BAKER, ASSISTANT BOARD CLERK
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON