

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Special Meeting with Youth Development Council Representatives
Wednesday, October 16, 2013
8:00 a.m., Room 121, County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

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COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Larry Givens, Chair; George Murdock, Commissioner; Bill Elfering, Vice-Chair (arriving at 8:17 a.m.)

COUNTY COUNSEL: Excused

MEMBERS & GUESTS PRESENT: Iris Bell, Oregon Youth Development Council Executive Director; Matt Morton, Youth Development Council Chair; Carolyn Mason, Umatilla County Human Services Director; Melvaley Carter, Umatilla County Youth Services Office Manager

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m. Chair Givens reminded all present that the meeting was a public forum.

BUSINESS ON AGENDA

Self Introductions: A round of self-introductions was performed to acquaint the board and visitors with one another.

Introduction of Governor’s Plan:

Iris Bell advised the board that the purpose of the visits to the counties by members of the Youth Development Council and staff was to introduce the P-20 Plan. It was in the nature of a comprehensive education and development plan for the state’s residents from the pre-natal stage through grade level 20.

She noted that a youth component was sought because in the gatherings of the council with its partner agencies to discuss the concept, there seemed to be a service gap in the linkage which was serving the birth to 6 years of age and the kindergarten through grade 12 population. The plan was intended to develop a continuum of service, but while the programs were in transition within the Department of Education, input from the delivery entities was identified as a need in order to address

the Council's current task of development of a proposed funding plan.

That funding model would be implemented in the 2014 fiscal year. In the meantime, the council was performing outreach to seek input on what models work from one county to another.

Commissioner Murdock commented that the previous week GOBHI and the county, with other partners, sponsored a behavioral health and education summit the previous Friday, attended by more than 300 providers and others in the youth program delivery system. The county was introducing alcohol and drug prevention services for youth in the school year as a result of a grant stream. During the summit, the interface of the county's unique wraparound concept and the new program were an integral part of the workshops. Iris Bell commented that the intended collective impact was to identify and measure outcomes related to activities.

Carolyn Mason asked if the county knew how much funding it had available currently. Mel Carter provided a copy of a spreadsheet detailing the funds and the programs to which they were applied.

Commissioner Givens expressed concern that, with collaboration, the process was losing connectivity to the parents. Mel Carter explained that parental engagement was addressed by Umatilla-Morrow Head Start.

Commissioner Murdock commented that due to the demographics of the county, the population in some areas fell through the cracks, but as the grant funding concept was described, it seemed the funds were intended to help expand the programs' reach. Iris Bell agreed that would be the hoped for result, but the fund use was intended to be left to the awardees.

Iris Bell commented that some terminology used to describe certain segments of the youth population were indicative of the direction the council hoped to take. Opportunity Youth were identified as belonging to the 16 to 24 year old age range and neither working nor in school. Priority Youth were those in the 9 to 15 year age range who were identified as at risk of achieving the Opportunity Youth designation. The council proposed to concentrate on the Priority Youth with respect to teaching them to build upon their individual strengths.

Commissioner Murdock noted that with competitive grant concept that the plan proposed, there was a greater expectation that those grants were far more difficult to obtain by the smaller and more rural applicants. Iris Bell commented that the grant applications were expected to be no longer than 5 pages and to address the goals and evidence showing that the goals were achievable using the methodology proposed. Target population identification would not be a necessary component of grant applications.

Commissioner Murdock asked if there would be technical assistance available through the grant process and Iris Bell confirmed it was available.

Carolyn Mason asked if it was expected that any funding would be added to the amount already expected to be delivered to the county. Matt Morton responded that a new funding request was expected to be presented during the legislature's special session. The proposed funds were to address community engagement, need and methodology for the youth programs.

Carolyn Mason asked if there were and sort of concept as to applicant identification for those proposed funds. Matt Morton replied that the committee was still building that concept. Iris Bell added that the applicant identification would be derived from information gained by the council's visits to the individual counties. Matt Morton expected that the competitive grant process would be need based.

Other Discussion: None.

Scheduling of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held October 16, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Headley
Executive Secretary
Umatilla County
Board of Commissioners