

**Minutes for the Board of Commissioners  
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100  
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Portland, OR 97214  
Tuesday, May 15, 2012**

**Budget Work Session #5**

Chair Jeff Cogen called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. with Vice-Chair Loretta Smith and Commissioners Deborah Kafoury, Judy Shiprack, and Diane McKeel present.

Also present were Jenny M. Morf, Acting County Attorney, and Lynda J. Grow, Board Clerk.

**BWS-5 Department of County Human Services (DCHS) with the Citizens Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC). Presenters: Susan Myers, Director, Human Services; Steve Weiss, Chair, DCHS CBAC; Kathy Tinkle, Deputy Director, DCHS; David Hidalgo, Director, Mental Health & Addiction Services Division; Joanne Fuller, County Chief Operating Officer.**

Ms. Myers provided the opening remarks and discussed DCHS' mission to enhance the quality of life for individuals and families and their vision for a safe, healthy, caring and diverse community where hope, independence, learning and opportunity prevail for all.

Mr. Weiss spoke on behalf of the DCHS CBAC and shared their recommendations, input and concerns, including recommendations to restore funding for seven program offers, listed respectively in order of higher to lower priority: 1. Program #25111B - Rapid Re-Housing Initiative (\$325k); 2. Program #25133B - Short-Term Rent Assistance (\$500k); 3. Program #25023 - ADS Long Term Care (\$153,546); 4. Program #25135 - Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (\$420k); 5. Program #25090B - Addictions Detoxification & Post Detoxification Housing Scale Up (\$205k); 6. Program #25139B - Action for Prosperity Family Reunification Project (\$195k); 7. Program #25145C - SUN Community Schools Expansion (\$144k). He said that ideally, CBAC would like to see funding restored to all of these program offers, but understands the current budgetary limitations which could limit the Board ability to do so. He thanked Chair Cogen for his recommendation to fund six of the seven programs and said that he hopes the Board will support his recommendation in their vote on the final budget.

Ms. Myers gave an overview of DCHS. The total proposed DCHS program offers for FY 2013 equal \$208,714,032. This program includes 708 full-time employees (FTEs), an increase of 19.87 FTE from FY 2012, which reaches a span of control ratio of 1:10 for supervisors to subordinates. Ms. Myers provided a breakdown of the budget by County General Fund (GF); expenses by type; and workforce distribution. She discussed their system of care, which includes: prevention, early intervention, and access to services; community support; treatment; and safety net and crisis services. She spoke about DCHS successes, including the impact of SUN Community Schools; Homeless Benefits Recovery; Intensive Case Management Program's effect on reducing hospital use for clients with a serious mental illness; and the Gatekeeper Program's efforts to protect vulnerable older adults and persons with disabilities.

Ms. Tinkle discussed FY 2013 GF increases and reductions and impacts of State, Portland, and Federal revenue reductions. She covered the issues, risks, and challenges, such as health care

transformation, increased rapid discharge from the State hospital, Mental Health Crisis System reductions, and defining the County's role in the Early Learning Council.

The presenters responded to Board questions and comments.

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

Commissioner Shiprack asked how much money the County spends on housing, including emergency shelters, through the Community Services Division; how much money the County spends overall on housing; and what housing resources have been cut, and from what funding sources.

Commissioner Kafoury asked the Board to be provided with a briefing on the pilot program being developed by the Domestic Violence Coordination Office that involves 211 and centralized access to shelters. She asked them to cover how this pilot came about, what the need is for such a program, the history leading to the program, and the current state of the pilot.

Commissioner Kafoury asked how many beds are being cut in the DCHS programs and what the funding source(s) was for the cut beds. She asked them to address all types of beds, including treatment beds and emergency shelter beds.

Commissioner McKeel proposed an amendment to restore a 0.50 FTE providing a Veteran's Services Officer to provide support services for Veterans in jail. This restoration will cost \$45k in additional expenditures.

The Board thanked the presenters for their briefing.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

**The minutes reflect the actions of the Board. For more detail, you are welcome to view the presentation material and/or video at:**

**[http://multnomah.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=3](http://multnomah.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=3)**

Submitted by:  
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Board of County Commissioners  
Multnomah County