

## **MINUTES**

Lane County Commission for Children and Families  
Serbu Youth Campus – 2727 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard  
Eugene, Oregon

October 22, 2008  
5:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Judith Hampton, Chair; Marty Beyer, Chuck Boyer, Elizabeth Clewett, Rich Cook, Sharri da Silva, Debi Farr, Abigael Fender, Karen Hamilton, Teresa Kintigh, Kevin Maloney, Gail Parr, John Radich, Faye Stewart, Ryan Stroup, Shirley Swank, Phil Walker, Commission members; Alicia Hays, Diana Avery, Serafina Clarke, Christine Rogers, DCF staff.

**ABSENT:** Kitty Piercy, Peter Sorenson, and Joachim Schulz, Commission members.

### **I. WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PUBLIC COMMENT**

- **WELCOME**

Ms. Hampton convened the meeting at 5:34 p.m. and asked those present to introduce themselves.

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Hamilton and Ms. Kintigh noted that they had attended the recent Brain Conference and had found it to be very informative and provided excellent opportunities for professional networking.

Ms. Hamilton added that all of the materials and research presented at the conference will be posted on the website, and encouraged the LCCCCF members to visit it.

Mr. Radich noted he had attended part of the conference and had found the research presented there very compelling.

Ms. Hays suggested any Commission members who were planning to attend any of the remaining portions of the Brain conference feel free to bring back their findings and reactions for the Early Childhood Planning Team agenda.

Ms. Hays reminded the Commission that LCCCCF was a gold sponsor for the Brain conference, providing scholarships to many local non-profit agencies.

Ms. Hays introduced Hillary Saraceno, the Director of the Deschutes County Commission on Children and Families, and Melissa Smith, a member of the of Lane County branch of AmeriCorps Vista.

Ms. Hampton noted that Item III of the agenda was being moved up to accommodate Commissioner Faye Stewart's schedule, and the Consent Calendar agenda item was being postponed until later in the meeting.

- **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.

## **II. SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS FUNDING**

Mr. Stewart reported that the Secure Rural Schools Funding (SRS) program had been attached to the recent federal bailout bill, and Lane County will receive four additional payments as part of the program. He reported the payments will be at a reduced rate from the funding that had been received during the current year, with 90% of the current year's funding being provided in the first year totaling approximately \$36 million, and 81% and 73% of the current year's funding in the second and third years, respectively. He noted that the specific breakdowns of each of the four payments were still to be determined.

Mr. Stewart noted that the Lane County Commissioners had their first board meeting since learning of the SRS funding payments earlier in the day, and at the meeting, they gave staff general guidelines around the distribution process. He commented that the Lane County budget committee would convene to discuss the funding in greater detail on December 8, 2008. He noted a general concern among the Lane County Commissioners is the level of public safety that the County would be able to provide, in light of service cuts that were made in that area over the last year. He was fearful that the Lane County government would not be able to meet the basic service needs of its citizen should the budgetary conditions at the local and national level continue to deteriorate.

Mr. Stewart noted that the County Commissioners and budget committee would most likely not be meeting as frequently during the holiday season as it had in the past several months.

Mr. Stewart added that the Lane County Deeds and Records division, whose revenues went directly into the general fund, was down \$1.5 million from their initial projections.

Mr. Stewart, responding to questions from Mr. Radich, responded that new revenue sources will need to be identified in order to adequately fund the County's adult corrections facilities, as well as address the rest of the County's public safety concerns.

Mr. Stewart, responding to a question from Mr. Boyer, noted that the County would be providing extra opportunities and avenues for public input regarding the budget shortfalls in addition to the public comment opportunities at the regular County Commissioner meetings.

Ms. Hays reminded the Commission of their joint meeting planned between the LCCCF and the Board of County Commissioners on December 10, 2008.

Mr. Stewart, responding to a question from Ms. Hays, noted that the County had hired a consultant named Steve Schreiber to conduct public outreach efforts in Lane County, adding that Mr. Schreiber had interviewed representatives of 17 different Lane County neighborhood associations to solicit input and suggestions regarding issues of public safety, communication, and budget allocations. He noted that Mr. Scheiber's report would be completed and available soon.

Mr. Stewart, responding to a question from Ms. Hays, noted that carbon offsets were indeed being investigated as a possible replacement source of revenue for Lane County. In responding to a question

from Mr. Stroup, Mr. Stewart noted that potential carbon offsets for Lane County might be supplemented by the County's use of hydroelectric dams, as well as by the number of trees throughout the County.

Mr. Stewart excused himself from the meeting at 6:02 p.m. to attend a previous engagement.

### III. CONSENT CALENDAR

#### a) Approve September 24, 2008 Minutes

Mr. Cook noted corrections to the minutes from the September 24, 2008, LCCCF meeting. They are as follows:

Mr. Cook noted the revision recommendations were very ambitious and felt it would be important to determine exactly what was within the local control of the ~~LCCF~~ OCCF and what inter-departmental issues might be outside of it. He asked Ms. Miller what action plans might be considered to address those issues outside of the ~~LCCF's~~ OCCF's control.

Mr. Radich, seconded by Ms. Farr, moved to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2008 meeting of the LCCCF as corrected. The motion passed unanimously, 11:0.

### IV. *COLLABORATING TO CARE LANE COUNTY CHILDREN AND YOUTH VIDEO*

Ms. Hays and Ms. Rogers noted that Lane County staff had the opportunity to produce an informational video regarding their Youth Services programs, and proceeded to show the "Lane County Working For You: Collaborating to Care For Lane County's Children and Youth" program, which they noted was also available on the LCCCF website, to the Commission members.

Ms. Hays thanked those staff and Commission members who had assisted in the production of the video production.

### V. LANE COUNTY COMMUNITY PLANNING UPDATE

Ms. Clarke distributed a presentation outline document entitled "Highlights: Activities Focused on SB555 Top Three Community Priorities October 2008" to the Commission and proceeded to elaborate on each of the three community planning priorities outlined therein which were: 1) the reduction of child maltreatment, 2) an increase in quality child care for infants and toddlers, and 3) an expansion of transitional services for moderate to severely psychiatrically impaired youths/young adults ages 16-24.

Ms. Clarke, responding to a question from Ms. Farr, asked what the potential course of action would be recommended once the data from the Early Childhood Planning Team (ECPT) survey as described in Item 1 of Ms. Clark's planning document had been finalized. Ms. Clark noted that any such action would ultimately depend on the final results of the survey.

Ms. Clarke, responding to a request for clarification from Ms. Hamilton, noted that the rationale behind conducting the ECPT survey was that the results of it might indicate ways for Lane County providers to encourage more families to participate in home visiting programs. Ms. Swank added that the Commission hoped the surveys would help capture a clear idea of where the gaps in health and human services practices were.

Ms. Farr hoped that there might be ways to prevent duplication of services by the collaborative groups described in Ms. Clarke's community planning document. Ms. Clarke expressed that the ECPT survey results might indicate ways in which high-risk family home visitation visits could be increased without any duplication of effort.

Ms. Clarke, responding to a question from Mr. Cook, confirmed that while an analysis of the ECPT survey results did not specifically include a review of confidentiality restrictions between collaborative agencies, she did not discount the possibility that such an analysis might be incorporated into subsequent analysis of the survey data.

Ms. Hamilton noted that the survey was kept as simple as possible to encourage respondents to fill it out. She commented that the survey results would provide an indication as to what portions of the population of Lane County were not being served.

Ms. Swank hoped that it would be possible to sift through the survey data results to assist in the LCCCF's community planning efforts, potentially by encouraging the various service providers identified in the survey responses to come together to discuss community planning strategies.

Ms. Clarke proceeded to brief the Commission on the elements of the second community planning priority from her presentation outline, an increase in quality child care for infants and toddlers.

Ms. Hays said that LCCCF staff would be contacting Commission members to ask them to attend a one-time meeting with the goal of moving forward with community planning efforts as they related to the three priorities discussed by Ms. Clarke.

Ms. Clarke suggested, with regard to the second community planning priority, that it might be a good idea to personally visit those ECPT survey respondents who had given their names to solicit their further input and participation in the LCCCF community planning efforts.

Ms. Clarke proceeded to brief the Commission on the elements of the third community planning priority from her presentation outline, providing transitional services for moderate to severely psychiatrically impaired youth and young adults, with particular emphasis given to those young adults who had already been involved with social services systems and programs in the area.

Ms. Kintigh commented that the Commission's community planning efforts were in their infancy, and that she was pleased to see involvement from service providers at the various subcommittee meetings related to community planning.

Ms. Hays commented that staff would be willing to assist the newer Commission members with integrating them into the community planning efforts described by Ms. Clarke.

Ms. Hamilton and Ms. Clarke stated that the ECPT subcommittee meets the first Wednesday of each

month at Lane County Mental Health.

Ms. Swank commented that the community planning efforts as described would most likely be very successful in Florence as it was a town that was struggling to provide adequate child care services to its citizens.

## **VI. PLANNING FOR THE NOVEMBER & DECEMBER MEETINGS**

Ms. Hays reported that the November 19 LCCCF meeting would be a joint meeting with the ECPT, and asked for suggestions from Commission members. Ms. Hays confirmed that the Children First report cards would be discussed at the November joint meeting between the LCCCF and the ECPT.

Mr. Cook suggested it might be wise to discuss the analysis of the ECPT survey results at the November meeting.

Ms. Hays reported that the LCCCF meeting on December 10 would also be a dinner with the Lane County Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Hays suggested that the LCCCF present the Children First report card results to the County Commissioners at the December meeting, and also that LCCCF members rather than staff provide a community planning update the County Commissioners in a manner similar to what Ms. Clark had done earlier in the meeting.

Ms. Hays expressed that it would be important for the LCCCF to reiterate its commitment to issues of public safety at the December meeting, and also they communicate to the County Commissioners concerns regarding potential budgetary shortfalls.

Ms. Hays commented that the LCCCF chair would be writing a letter to Governor Kulongoski regarding the Commission's regarding educational and social services initiatives.

Mr. Stroup, responding to Mr. Stewart's comments from earlier in the meeting, maintained that it might be advisable to discuss Mr. Stewart's concerns about basic service needs not being able to be met with the County Commissioners at the December meeting.

Ms. Smith and Ms. Hays, responding to a question from Ms. Hamilton, confirmed that Project Homeless Connect was still going forward and would be taking place in March of 2009. Ms. Hays noted she would be sending information regarding the event to Commission members in due course.

## **VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Hays commented she had met with the new Commission members and thanked them for their efforts thus far.

Ms. Hays reported she had attended the 2008 Youth Gang Prevention Intervention Conference, and further noted that staff had discussed the possibility of inviting one of the conference speakers from Portland State

University to meet with Commission members. She further noted that the conference was highly informative and provided a wealth of information for teachers and social service professionals regarding youth gang prevention efforts.

Ms. Hays noted that the Looking Glass Youth & Family Services organization had recently received a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the Rural Host Home Pilot Project discussed at the October meeting.

Ms. Hays noted that Governor Kulongoski's budget would be out by the first part of December and worried funding for Runaway Homeless Youth might be eliminated due to economic downturns. She added that she had given a recent news interview where she had reported that social service programs, like the Rural Post Home Pilot Project, would most likely be eliminated if the state budget were cut, which would have extremely negative effects upon the community.

Ms. Hays noted that staff will begin planning for the upcoming budget process in February of 2009, noting that the LCCCF budget process took place in the Executive Committee who then makes recommendations to the full Commission.

Ms. Hampton, noting no further business to be discussed, adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

(Recorded by Wade Hicks)