

**Local Government Advisory Committee**  
**Room 473, Human Services Building, Salem**  
**March 13, 2009**  
**Minutes**

**Attending:**

Randy Blackburn	DHS, Federal Financial Policy Analysis
Rod Calkins	Marion County Health Department
Janet Carlson	Marion County Commissioner
Marsha Clark	Commission on Children and Families
Ron Dodge	Polk County Commissioner
Jim Edge	DHS, Division of Medical Assistance Programs
Gordon Fultz	Association of Oregon Counties
Linda Flaming	Conference of Local Health Officials
Bobby Green, Sr.	Assoc. of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs
Bill Hall	Lincoln County Commissioner
Tony Howell	League of Oregon Cities
Chuck Hurliman	Tillamook County Commissioner
Chris Johnson	Yamhill County Health and Human Services
George Kloepfel	Lane Council of Governments
Mel Kohn	DHS, Public Health Division
Bobby Mink	Oregon Youth Authority
Eric Moore	DHS, Children, Adults and Families Division
Sue Nelson	DHS, Transformation Initiative
Gina Nikkel	Assoc. of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs
Madeline Olson	DHS, Division of Medical Assistance Programs
Clyde Saiki	DHS, Deputy Director of Operations
Jim Scherzinger	DHS, Deputy Director of Finance
Mary Shortall	Multnomah County Area Agencies on Aging
John Swanson	DHS, Financial Services
James Toews	DHS, Seniors and People with Disabilities Division

**Welcome and Introductions**

Chuck Hurliman welcomed everyone to the meeting and roundtable introductions were made. The minutes from the last meeting were approved with no additions to the agenda.

**Director's Report – Clyde Saiki**

Clyde Saiki gave the director's report.

Sue Nelson gave a brief update of phase 2 (implementation) of the Transformation Initiative. One example of improvements made is providing same-day services for food stamp applicants who, in the past had waited two weeks or more for applications to be processed.

John Swanson gave an update of the DHS budget, both the ending of the 2007-09 and the 2009-11 budgets. DHS was fortunate that the federal stimulus package helped with the current deficit. The 2007-09 budget rebalance will be due to LFO and BAM by mid-April. We are looking to finalize the caseload forecast by the end of March. The reshoot for the 2009-11 biennium has a target date of mid-May.

Randy Blackburn gave an update on the federal stimulus package. DHS is determining what is in the bill and how we can access it. There are a significant number of unknowns and a lot of questions to be answered.

The Governor's Office is launching a website for the state on March 18 that will be a very high level of what the federal law says and what it means to Oregon and that site will link to the DHS website where we will post current information as it becomes available.

### **Overview of Budget Reductions**

#### **Oregon Youth Authority – Bobby Mink**

Bobby Mink discussed the reductions to the 2009-11 budget for the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA). So far, OYA cuts have not been extensive, but additional cuts may be on the horizon. Many of the future planned programs were cut (\$48 million) which saved most of the currently funded programs and the increase in the Medicaid match also helped.

### **Budget Reduction Meetings Update**

#### **Public Health - Mel Kohn/Linda Fleming**

Good groundwork was laid in presenting the principles of both state and county public health at the Ways and Means budget hearings. The presentation was well received by the committee. Rep. Kotek requested a report on the outcomes of the \$4.2 million increase in funding for public health from last session. Linda Fleming has sent out a survey to all the counties asking for this information and will report back to Rep. Kotek next week.

### **Oregon Commission on Children and Families – Marsha Clark**

The OCCF reduction for 2007-09 was 5%. The budget workgroup is meeting on April 7 to look at reductions beginning at 20% and beyond for the 2009-11 budget. OCCF is looking at the possibility of shared service areas with the counties and the commission.

### **Senior and People with Disabilities – James Toews/Mary Shortall**

SPD will be repricing some of the budget reductions especially on in-home services and looking at alternatives. There will still be significant cuts, but will look at rationing and distributing hours so everyone would still get something.

### **Addictions and Mental Health – Madeline Olson**

The cuts to Addictions and Mental Health are about 16% across the system and some parts of the system are obliterated. The group began working with the counties on identifying the 2007-09 reductions and continued with strengthening the principles. The next meeting is scheduled for April 16 where the discussion will be around identifying the core services.

### **MMIS Update – Clyde Saiki**

Clyde gave a brief update on the MMIS system. Many of the issues have been addressed and payments are being generated, but many issues still remain to be resolved. In a meeting with SPD and AAA managers they said things are getting better. No one has asked for a transitional payment in the last week. The number of claims being paid is going up and the number of claims being suspended or denied is going down. Clyde acknowledged that even though things are getting better, there are parts that still need work.

### **Action Item:**

Mental health is still having problems getting paid. Clyde offered to set up a meeting with mental health staff and MMIS to help address these problems.

Linda Fleming discussed the formation of the public health district of Wasco, Sherman and Gilliam Counties. The intent is to begin functioning as a health district on July 1, 2009.

### **Topics for Next Meeting:**

Budget

Caseload projections

To include a quick review of the Blueprint for Action from the Governor's Council on Alcohol & Drugs and Community Services Workgroup report for mental health (Chris Johnson)

Direct contracting bills (HB 2736)