



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs  
Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office  
"Advocating Equality and Diversity"  
3218 Pringle Road SE, #270  
Salem OR 97302  
503.378.2139  
Fax 503.373-1427  
[oaco.mail@das.state.or.us](mailto:oaco.mail@das.state.or.us)

## MINUTES

### Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs

April 21, 2010

Capitol Treaty Room 167A

Oregon State Capitol

900 Court Street NE, Salem, Oregon

#### ATTENDEES

**Chair:** José Ibarra  
**Vice Chair:** Raymond C. Caballero  
**Commissioners:** Steve Bender, Gilbert Carrasco, Representative Ben Cannon (teleconference), Andrea Cano (teleconference), Marcela Mendoza, David Molina, Dagoberto Morales (teleconference)  
**Speakers:** Xavier Botana (PPS), Barbara Dudley (PSU), Diana Fernandez (PPS-ESL), Ted Fertik (OR Working Families), William R. Long, PhD (OADP), Clarence Pugh (OADP), Miguel Salinas (Retired Educator), Ron Steiner (OADP)  
**Guest(s):** Art Ayre (Dept. of Administrative Services), Cruz Robles Garcia (community member), Carmen Gonzalez, Juan Guzman (Retired Educator), Caren Ann Jackson (OADP), Alex Jara (We The People), Dave Martinez (Retired PSU), Adriana Ortega (BOLI), Ron Petrie (Retired PSU), Carol Suzuki (Comm. on Asian Affairs), Mariano Vega (Retired UPRR), Marie Luz Vega (community member), Gary West (We The People)  
**Staff:** Joy Howard

#### **I. Call to Order**

Chair Ibarra called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM

#### **II. Roll call and attendance record**

Chair Ibarra expressed his dissatisfaction that Daniel did not communicate with commissioners that he would not be present at meeting.

#### **III. Approval of February 24, 2010 meeting minutes**

- 1) Discussion: Commissioner Carrasco recommended the OACO Administrator review minutes before sending to commissioners
- 2) Revision: Commissioner Bender corrected attendee names and affiliations
- 3) Vote: Chair Ibarra moved, Vice Chair Caballero seconded, approved unanimously with revisions

#### **IV. Nomination and election of officers for year June 2010 – July 2011**

- 1) Nominations:
  - a) Chair: Commissioner Carrasco nominated Chair Ibarra
  - b) Vice Chair: Vice Chair Caballero nominated Commissioner Cano

- 2) Vote (hands raised):
  - a) Chair: unanimous approval
  - b) Vice Chair: unanimous approval

**V. Committee Appointments**

Chair Ibarra will work with Commissioner Cano to assign commissioners to committees.

**VI. Executive Committee report: monitoring/reporting, finance, internal review [Ibarra]**

- 1) Budget
  - a) Joy brought copies of OCHA's budget totals from the last reporting cycle
  - b) Per the request of the commission chairs, all commissioners will receive the monthly budget reports
  - c) 2011-2013 budget
    - i. OACO is working with DAS Accounting to determine the projected budget for the 2011-2013 biennium
- 2) 501(c)3 for fiscal independence
  - a) Daniel is researching process to start OCHA non-profit
- 3) Administrator role with Governor's Office and OCHA
  - a) Chair Ibarra would like clarity on the role of OACO and Danny Santos
  - b) Commissioner Carrasco
    - i. Make sure chairs relay to Danny Santos that they would like the Administrator to report to them
    - ii. What submissions require sign-offs and how many people need to sign?
  - c) Carol Suzuki
    - i. It is hard to gauge what the exact role of the Administrator is at the moment because Daniel is serving as a part-time Interim Administrator
    - ii. Recommends that OACO have one Administrator and two support staff (each would staff 2 commissions)
    - iii. This topic should be brought up at the next Joint Chair meeting

**VII. Development Committee Report: website report [Howard]**

Facebook

- 1) Commissioner Molina reported there are currently 283 friends of the OCHA Facebook page. The fans mostly include teens to people in their late thirties. It has proven to be a great resource in connecting with the community

**VIII. Program Committee report: liaison, outreach and future meetings**

Chair Ibarra stated he traveled an estimated 2500 miles in outreach and partnering for OCHA. The Commission is getting a lot more visibility and people are starting to recognize and use them as an outlet.

**IX. Legislative agenda report [Carrasco]**

- 1) Submitted draft bill at last Joint Commission meeting. Received endorsements from Commission on Asian Affairs, legislators Kotek, Hunt, Cannon, Shields, and others.
- 2) Some amendments include: fiscal impact statement, further stated objective of enhancing public safety and driver protection

**X. Barbara Dudley, Adjunct Professor, PSU Hatfield School of Government and Ted Fertik, Oregon Working Families**

Topic: Movement to enhance the use of some state government funds by depositing in local banks or by forming a state bank as was done in North Dakota.

Website: <http://oregonwfp.org/>

The OWFP is working with a broad coalition of organizations to promote the creation of a State Bank of Oregon, modeled after the 90-year-old Bank of North Dakota, which would use money that belongs to the state to invest in job creation, education, and homeownership here in Oregon, rather than giving that money over to big banks to continue to line their pockets. [Click here to read more, and to sign our petition encouraging legislators to support this commonsense proposal.](#)

Questions:

What is the impact of a state bank to the Latino community?

Answer:

North Dakota's local economy has been unaffected by the recession. A state bank would partner with local credit unions and banks and provide loans to community members (e.g. farmers, agriculture, small businesses, construction companies, etc.) at a lower interest rate.

**XI. Miguel A. Salinas, Retired Educator from West Linn, OR**

Topic: The history of some Oregon families who migrated from Asherton, Texas, to the Woodburn-St. Paul area.

1) Pioneer Program

- a) This program has been sponsored by the Salinas and Sauldos family. It has taken a lot of work, time, and money to make this program successful. There is currently no strategic plan in place to generate funds.

2) Resolutions

- a) Mr. Salinas presented resolutions to pioneers who have impacted Oregon's Latino population

3) Questions

- a) Have you considered taking this presentation to schools?
- b) Answer: Working to put syllabus together, however, being an advocate it is difficult and the school system is resistant to change

**XII. Teleconference: Xavier Botana, Chief Academic Officer, Portland Public School Trustee and Ms. Diana Fernandez, Director of ESL at Portland Public Schools**

Website: <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/>

Portland Public Schools, founded in 1851, is an urban school district in Portland, Oregon. With approximately 46,000 students in more than 85 schools, it is the largest school district in the Pacific Northwest.

Recently, PPS received their 2010 Performance Audit on [Supplemental Educational Services](#). Though the report showed improvement in many areas, PPS is still looking on ways to improve strategies and procedures for students, staff, parents, and community members.

Improvement Strategies:

- 1) Improve partnerships with parents and community members

- 2) Train teachers to work with students of diverse backgrounds
- 3) Create ways to implement findings from audit
- 4) Assign equity coordinators with five language groups to work with community members

### **XIII. Oregonians for Alternatives to Death Penalty**

**Panelists: William R. Long, PhD, Ron Steiner, and Clarence Pugh**

Website: <http://www.oadp.org/>

Handouts attached

About:

OADP members are criminal justice activists joined in a concerted effort to increase the effectiveness of Oregon's response to violent interpersonal crime. Their members include victims' survivors, attorneys, religious leaders, teachers and other concerned citizens. OADP evolved out of the Oregon Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, which was organized in 1983. OADP is incorporated in the State of Oregon as a non-profit organization with the purpose of research and education on the effectiveness of the death penalty and its alternatives. They have 501(c)3 status and an Education and Outreach Committee and a Correspondents Committee. They also maintain a list of relevant educational materials, support research, provide speakers, find people to correspond with and visit prisoners on death row, and sponsor events with the aim of raising public awareness.

Goals:

- 1) OADP works towards repeal of the death penalty
- 2) OADP supports life sentence alternatives in response to aggravated murder as effective and sufficient punishment
- 3) OADP promotes research, education and discussion of issues relating to the death penalty
- 4) OADP works to promote principles of restorative justice for all those affected by murder, including victims' family members, prisoners and prisoners' families.

### **XIV. Public comments/testimony**

- 1) We The People – The Dalles, OR - Alex Jara, President and Gary West
  - a) Over the last several years, members of the Latino community of The Dalles, Oregon have been voicing serious concern that they have become victims of abuse from some employees in the justice system in Wasco County. In 2009, We The People was created. They currently have 10 board members.
  - b) Some issues of concern:
    - i. Convicting people with limited English skills and not using certified translators
    - ii. [U-Visa](#) program
  - c) Commissioner Molina stated there will be a meeting with the Mayor on Friday at 11 a.m. to talk about issues. Hopefully, Diane Sykes in Dept. of Justice will be able to attend.

### **XV. Final comments and adjournment**

- 1) Upcoming Events
  - a) Candidate Forums – April 29 and May 4
  - b) Joint Commission meeting – May 4, 2010
  - c) OCHA meeting – June 3, 2010 in Eugene
  - d) Diversity Conference – September 21-22, 2010
- 2) Commissioner Morales – would like to have more time to debrief and analyze content given during meetings. More time for commissioners and less time for speakers.

- 3) Resignation from Commission: Vice Chair Caballero thanked Chair Ibarra and other commissioners for their hard work and support of the Commission.

**XVI. Adjournment at 3:50 p.m.**