



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, Governor

Oregon Commission for Women
"Advocating Equality and Diversity"
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OCHA Meeting Notes
September 13, 2012
Capitol Building, Room 243
900 Court St., NE, Salem, OR 97301

ATTENDEES

Chair: Andrea Cano
Vice Chair: Gil Carrasco
Commissioners: John Haroldson, Lupita Maurer (phone)
Staff: Lucy Baker, Nancy Kramer
Guests: Consuelo Saragoza, Oregon Latino Agenda for Action; Daniel Vasquez

I. Meeting called to order

Meeting started at 3:06. Roll call taken. A quorum was not present. Approval of the Minutes of 5/21 was tabled until a quorum is present.

II. Chair's Report:

Chair Cano reported on the number of community groups and meetings that OCHA Commissioners have attended and presented. She has met with the Hispanic Nurses Association and many others. Commissioner Ventura will be presenting on Indigenous groups to Hispanic Interagency networking Team (HINT). Commissioner Parker has been taking part in the New American Voters initiative through SOS Kate Brown's office and also attended the Oregon Commission for Women's meeting in July 2012 to report on the initiative.

Today's attendance of about 100 state elected officials, agency directors, Hispanic/Latino leaders and community representatives in the Governor's Ceremony Room for the singing of the Hispanic Heritage Month Proclamation. Moderated by Chair Cano, the event's featured speakers included Secretary of State Kate Brown, the first OCHA Executive Director Annabelle Jaramillo, and Senator Chip Shields. Frank Garcia from the Office of the Governor introduced Gov. John Kitzhaber. During the OCHA 30th Anniversary event following, Chair Cano and Commissioners Carrasco, Haroldson, Moreno, and Perez gave excellent presentations on their OCHA foci including public safety, education equity, hate crime protections, health issues and others. Frank Garcia spoke of the driver's permit issue and Consuelo Saragoza about the upcoming OLAA statewide summit.

Oregon Latino Agenda for Action Summit

The Commission welcomed Consuelo Saragoza, co-chair and co-founder of OLAA. She congratulated the OCHA on the wonderful celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month and the inauguration of OCHA's 30th Anniversary celebration.

Ms. Saragoza reported on the upcoming OLAA Summit which will be held on 10/6/12 at Concordia College in Portland and OCHA is invited. The theme is *Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders*. The Governor will be addressing the attendees and Arturo Vargas, president of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Leaders, will provide the keynote address. OCHA is a supporter and a long time participant in the OLAA leadership and events. In 2012 there will be 2 breakout sessions on a number of key issues for the Latino community including public safety, education, immigration, and health access/outcomes. OCHA Commissioners are invited to the Summit and to the Reception on 10/5 at the Quintana Gallery.

Consuelo thanked Chair Cano for her continuing support of the OLAA's efforts and the Commissioners for their active involvement in the issues.

Because the Commissioners present at the current meeting comprise the Executive Committee of the OCHA, they approved the following:

Executive Committee decision of the OCHA: That OCHA be a Sponsor of the OLAA Summit 2012. **Approved.**

This approval will be ratified by the full Commission at its next regular meeting.

ACTION: Send Consuelo Saragoza the OCHA logo.

The Commission thanked Ms. Saragoza for her report.

III. **Commissioner Reports:**

Commissioner Haroldson reported on the upcoming USHLI Conference in Portland on Saturday 11/10 all-day at Doubletree Lloyd, Portland.

Dr. Juan Andrade, Director of USHLI, will be in Corvallis as the Keynote speaker the University of Oregon on October 9th at 6:30 pm. He will be discussing the *Global Implications of Latino Population Growth and the Search for Common Ground*.

Commissioner Haroldson also announced that as part of Hispanic Heritage Month, Dr. Manuel Pastor will speak on Latino Health: *Social Determinants of Health and the Demographic Shift*. It will be on October 9th, 2012, 11am – noon, Elliot Center in Portland. It is being sponsored by a number of Hispanic community organizations and Multnomah County Public Health.

Commissioner Maurer will be discussing immigration issues on September 14th.

ACTION: Andrea will send Commissioner Maurer her data & handouts and Nancy Kramer will update the PowerPoint on OCHA website using Chair Cano's information.

IV. **Debrief of meeting with Attorney General Rosenblum**

The Commissioners discussed their meeting earlier in the day with Attorney General (AG) Ellen Rosenblum. The meeting was attended by Chair Cano, Vice Chair Carrasco, Commissioner Haroldson, and OACO staff Lucy Baker. Joining Attorney General Rosenblum was Diane Schwartz Sykes, Director of the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Unit.

The meeting anchored on the agenda items of: hate crimes legislation and SB44, retaining U.S. Civil Rights staff, the death penalty and life without parole, policy on detainees and ending practice of law enforcement (police, sheriffs, et al) questioning of immigrants, the Vienna Convention on the right of immigrants to contact the consulate in concert with the Miranda warning and not after they are booked, and wage theft and prosecutions.

Issues discussed with the AG included:

- Death penalty,
- ICE holds,
- Hate crimes, and the AG's potential interest in resubmitting a hate crimes bill this session with some possible amendments. Commissioner Haroldson discussed hate crime legislation that he has worked with his legislators to propose which would create a tool for a prosecutor to seek justice and address civil compromise.
- Closing gap on hate crime punishment –
- Under reporting of hate crimes and potentially changing the name of the crime from intimidation to hate crime.
- Commissioner Haroldson noted that hate crime has increased against Latinos in past 4 years. FBI stats broken down by race. If you look at cultural demographics, hate crime increased fastest amongst Latinos than any other group.
- The Commissioners also noted that the driver's license issue is about Public Safety.

V. Legislative Issues

The chair and commissioners are monitoring issues being submitted for the first round of summary measures by the September 17 deadline, as well as what other proposals will emerge by the December deadline. Among others, the OCHA will be watching the bills from the OEIB on reducing the education gaps and other supports to reform. Bills being drafted are not yet available for viewing but will after their review period and final drafting in November.

Once the bills for the 2013 session have their final review by agencies and legislators proposing specific legislation and in final form from the Legislative Council, then they will be loaded into the State's legislative tracking software called LINUS. The OACO Office will work with each Commission and use LINUS to search for legislation of interest before session begins, provide bill summaries for Commissions, and track legislation that Commissions have identified as important over the course of the session.

ACTION – Lucy Baker will help prepare a list of legislative search words for OCHA to review and edit.

Commissioner Maurer requested that the legislative tracking reports produced by OACO include who the sponsors are for each bill. Senator Shields and Rep. Keny-Guyer are both interested in supporting a driver's license bill if one is put forward this session.

Each year the Governor's Office provides guidelines for all state agencies including the OACO and the Advocacy Commission on supporting legislation. Lucy Baker will send the guidelines for the 2013 session to all Commissioners this month.

Senator Shields has expressed his willingness to submit bills for drafting to Legislative Council that may come from OCHA.

VI. OACO

Lucy Baker asked that Commissioners send her internship ideas for the Spring semester that can be drafted into legislative concepts for approval by the Commission and as a recruiting tool for interested students. Ideas included:

- Hate Crime reporting training: Commissioner Carrasco noted that he serves on a committee that advises about training for Law Enforcement Officers. They are very active in developing curricula for State Police. He will contact them to see if they would be interested in a joint internship on improving hate crime curricula. PSU Professor Brian Renauer is part of this group and may be interested in developing the internship concept with OCHA and recruiting the students. Commissioner Carrasco will talk with him. Also, Lucy will follow up with Diane Schwartz Sykes at the DOJ Civil Rights Unit to see if there are other aspects of Hate Crime protections or training that they wish to partner again with OCHA and OCBA to explore with an internship.
- Human trafficking for the purposes of exploiting undocumented laborers. Commissioner Haroldson noted that this is a long standing problem and there may be an internship that would be helpful in pooling and analyzing data on various aspects of it. Knowing where in Oregon it occurs would be key.
- Growing Latino/as in government: Chair Cano noted that Flora Melhouse is on the OLAA Summit planning and implementation team and also masters student at PSU. She is studying barriers to Latino leadership in government and elected positions. This might be an interesting internship concept for OCHA and the OCFW, particularly in the wake of OPB Radio's multi-part series about Latino elected officials in the Northwest.

Budget reductions in the 2013-15 biennium. Lucy reviewed the two 5% proposed budget reduction scenarios that are a required part of the OACO Agency Request Budget (ARB) for the 2013-15 Biennium that was submitted to DAS at the end of August. These are scenarios that the Commissions considered and approved in

September 2012 as they prepared a set of potential budget reduction scenarios for the OACO office. Since that time, 3 reductions have already been implemented by the OACO in the current biennium: 1) reductions and restrictions on Commissioner/Staff travel reimbursements, 2) reduction of phone and postal expenses, and 3) reduction of rent.

The 2 proposed reductions for the 2013 – 15 biennium for OACO would be very difficult and would impact its ability to support the Commissions. They would include 1) Close the physical OAC Office and have staff telecommute from their homes. And 2) add 53 additional furlough days for staff over the biennium amounting to 1.5 additional furloughs per person per month.

Lucy met with the OACO budget analyst in the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) about this situation, which would significantly reduce the function and effectiveness of the OACO and Advocacy Commissions. LFO has requested OACO submit a 2 page piece detailing the reductions that the Advocacy Commissions have already sustained and provide an outline of how additional cuts would adversely affect the function of the Commissions. She will report on the proposed reductions to all Commissions by mid October and will work with them to prepare a draft for LFO by the end of October.

Commissioner Haroldson asked that the significant shifting of cost to Commissioners and Staff for travel is already large and that it be included in the analysis we prepare for LFO along with other contributions of the Commissioners.

VII. OCHA Meeting dates

OCHA will meet again in the 2nd week of November, and during legislative days in December.

VIII. Public Comment

None was heard.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49pm.