MINUTES
Oregon Commission for Women
Friday, September 21, 2012
12:00 - 3:00 pm
State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon St., Room 710, Portland, OR 97232

Attendance:
Chair: Stephanie Vardavas
Vice Chair: Jeanne Burch
Commissioners: Jennifer Greenleaf, Megan Harris-Jacquot (phone), Sunny Petit (phone), Dr. Cynthia Scheines (phone)
Guests: Jodi Ballard, President, Friends of the OCFW; OCBA Commissioner Lorraine Wilson; Darlene Taylor

I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 12:10pm. Quorum was established.

II. Adoption of the Agenda.
The Commission reviewed the agenda and approved it by common consent.

III. Approval of Minutes
MOTION (Petit/Greenleaf). To approve the meeting notes of July 20 with the change that the notes reflect Sunny Petit was present. CARRIED.

MOTION (Petit/Jacquot). To approve the minutes of August 10 as amended. CARRIED.
Change to be made: Page 2, Section V., Other Business, 3rd paragraph to read: “It was noted that the OCFW, along with the partners AAUW and the LWV, have confirmed a legislative day in Salem on January 17, 2013, from 9:30am – 2:30pm.”

IV. Old Business
1. Review Action Item List:
   Executive Order on Gender Parity – Add a paragraph referring to the current gender balance on boards and commissions and edit the final sentence to allow the Governor to appoint a person of either gender when there is no other suitable candidate.
   ACTION – Chair Vardavas will make edits and share the next draft with the Executive Appointments Office and the OCFW prior to approving the final wording.
OCFW Luncheon with women legislators. Last session the OCFW developed its slate of legislative priorities and visited legislators’ offices to discuss legislation and share their Annual Report. Hosting a luncheon was proposed to further build relationships with women legislators and discuss legislation of interest in the context of the status of Oregon women. ACTION: Cynthia will take leadership on this. Jeanne will work with Cynthia and OCFW legislators to reach out to women legislators and the Oregon Women’s Health and Wellness Alliance for invitations and speakers. They will e-mail in advance to key people that they will be in Salem, and ask when they are available that day.

OCFW Legislation on confidential name change for DV survivors. Commissioner Jacquot has submitted the wording for the legislation to Legislative Counsel which will complete the first draft of the bill shortly. ACTION: Lucy Baker will help Commissioner Jacquot connect with key stakeholders including DMV, so she can submit final edits to Legislative Council.

Through Eyes of a Child – Vice Chair Burch will be sharing further information about this initiative with the OCFW and she receives it.

2. WOA event planning update
Jodi Ballard, President, Friends of the OCFW reported that the work plan for the WOA is progressing. Invitations have been sent by e-mail and in hard copy. The invitation list included female elected officials across the state. Catering and space is secured in the Capitol. The artist creating the awards has been selected. She is designing a cuff for each woman. She will pursue a joint resolution during session. The scripts for the program will be developed soon. Commissioner Jacquot is assisting with the Governor’s comments for each recipient at the time of the award. Suzanne Bonamici is confirmed. AG Ellen Rosenblum is confirmed. SOS Kate Brown is confirmed as the MC. ACTION: Lucy Baker will send the bios of awardees to Megan.

3. Outreach toolkit – this is complete.

4. Status of Oregon Women Report – Sunny Petit reported on the amount of information and data that will need to be incorporated into the Report. Chair Vardavas and Commissioner Greenleaf will assist in compiling the report. The OHA has offered to provide health access data for women by race. ACTION: Lucy Baker will contact Commissioner Stephenson to request information from her work with the Environmental Justice Taskforce and enlist her help with OHA’s health access data.

5. Scheduling an OCFW Retreat – After discussion, it was decided that the regular meeting of the OCFW on November 16 will serve as the retreat and the time of the meeting will be extended from 10 am – 3 pm at the Portland State
The agenda will include review and update of the action plan and update from the Friends of the Commission for Women. In preparation for that, Stephanie Vardavas and Jodi Ballard will meet on October 11th. There will be a working lunch, the costs of which will be covered by OCFW Other Funds.

**ACTION:** Nancy Kramer will provide info on lunch options to the Chair.

### V. New Business:

1. Commissioner Greenleaf discussed recruitment. The Commission has 2 openings since Commissioner Kwon has resigned. After discussion the Commission agreed that it would pursue recruiting a man onto the OCFW in the interests of parity.

2. Oregon Social Business Challenge – The Commission has been invited to attend this event and has been offered a free table of 8. The Commission agreed that Commissioner Greenleaf will attend and that any seats not filled by other Commissioners will be offered to PSU students or members of Girls Inc.

**ACTION:** Lucy Baker will send out the invitation again to everyone.

### VI. Commissioner Reports:

**Commissioner Greenleaf** – attended several meetings on behalf of the OCFW including a meeting with Rep. Dembrow re: potential addition of a 5th Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs to the OACO. The OAC Leadership was clear at the meeting that immigrant and refugee issues are important and can be better represented on the existing Commissions over adding another Commission.

Jenny also represented the OCFW at a meeting with Dr. Bruce Goldberg and Tricia Tillman from Oregon Health Authority (OHA). The OHA was interested in the OCFW’s ability to support legislation and they also offered to share healthcare data for the Status of Oregon Women Report.

She attended the last meeting of the Oregon Women’s Health and Wellness Alliance in Salem and discussed the OCFW’s proposed legislation on confidential name change for DV survivors. The group was very interested.

**ACTION:** Jenny will send out notes from the OWHWA to the Commissioners.

**Vice Chair Burch** – At State Treasurer Ted Wheeler’s forum Eastern Oregon, Jeanne shared how the OAC Office and OCFW are working to stay afloat as government reduces budgets.

**Commissioner Petit** – The Oregon Council on Civil Rights will be hosting a community forum on Pay Equity on 10/2/12 in Portland at the AFL-CIO Office. Sunny and other Council members will be presenting on models that work to improve pay equity.

Sunny noted that the Vision 2020 annual meeting will be held in Portland November 14 – 16th. 100 delegates nationwide will attend the meeting. The
OCFW would like to invite the Governor’s office to talk about the Gender Parity bill at this event and will approach Kendall Clawson about that. Sunny was asked to speak on the progress in Oregon and can mention the Gender Parity bill. ACTION: Commissioner Petit will find out if OCFW Commissioners can attend the Vision 20/20 Annual Meeting and report back.

VII. OACO Administrator’s Report
Budget reductions in the 2013-15 biennium. Lucy reviewed the 2 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) Closing 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 that would significantly reduce the function and effectiveness of the OACO and Advocacy Commissions. LFO has requested OACO to 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.

The Commission thanked Lucy for her report. They noted that the work of the Commissions is on a volunteer basis and that they now also donate their mileage due to reductions in travel reimbursements and other areas. This should be mentioned in the LFO report. Commissioners also commented that adding additional furloughs make it difficult to retain good staff and erode the necessary support for the Commissions.

VIII. Public Comment
There were no public comments.

IX. Adjourn
MOTION (Jacquot/Petit): To adjourn the meeting. CARRIED. The meeting was adjourned at 2:16PM.