

Local Government Advisory Committee
Room 473, Human Services Building, Salem
December 12, 2008
Minutes

Attending:

Randy Blackburn	DHS, Federal Financial Policy Analysis
Ben Boswell	Wallowa County Commissioner
Ron Calkins	Marion County Health Department
Jarred Clark	DHS, Transformation Initiative
Hersh Crawford	DHS, Administrative Services Division
Morgan Cowling	Association of Oregon Counties
Ron Dodge	Polk County Commissioner
Mary Lee Fay	DHS, Seniors and People with Disabilities Division
Linda Fleming	Conference of Local Health Officials
Gordon Fultz	Association of Oregon Counties
Bruce Goldberg	DHS, Director
John Hartner	Oregon Association of Community Corrections
Tony Howell	League of Oregon Cities
Chuck Hurliman	Tillamook County Commissioner
Cathy Iles	DHS, Transformation Initiative
Chris Johnson	Yamhill County Health and Human Services
George Kloeppe	Lane Council of Governments
Judy Mohr-Peterson	DHS, Budget and Policy Analysis
Jim Neely	DHS, Children, Adults and Families Division
Madeline Olson	DHS, Addictions and Mental Health Division
Clyde Saiki	DHS, Deputy Director
Mary Shortall	Multnomah County Aging and Disability Services
John Swanson	DHS, Budget and Policy Analysis
Sandy Wood	DHS, Division of Medical Assistance Programs

Welcome and Introductions

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

Director's Report – Bruce Goldberg

Recent state unemployment figures went from 6.4 to 7.3%. The state anticipated revenue for the remainder of the biennium is down another \$170-180 million. The state budget now has a shortfall of \$142 million for 2007-09. New unemployment

numbers come out on Monday and the next revenue forecast is due out in March. Bruce does not foresee any positive changes in the next forecast.

The department has seen 20% increase in new applications for food stamps and 25% increase in new TANF cases in October 2008 over October 2007. The department budget is about \$33 GF million short. We went to E-Board last week with a plan to decrease the deficit by \$26 million, which still left us about \$7 million short.

The plan included cutting down Vocational Rehabilitation services to individuals based on need, so those with the greatest need get served first. The JOBS program is still in effect, but limited only to core services. TANF recipients coming out of the program, who have secured employment were receiving a post-TANF subsidy of \$150 was cut to \$100.

The Governor has asked each agency to take an allotment cut of 1.2%. This adds another \$40 million deficit to the DHS budget.

Everyone is hoping for a state stimulus package. Congress is working on having a stimulus bill ready for President-elect Obama to sign on January 21, 2009. There is a proposal to increase the FMAP rate by 5-8%. A 1% increase would give Oregon \$10 million per quarter. An 8% increase over 5 quarters is \$400 million.

DHS needs to take care over the next biennium to not cut programs that could potentially be funded by a federal increase in FMAP. Bruce suggested devoting the January LGAC meeting to strategize how to get through the remainder of the biennium and a contingency plan if the March forecast is worse than expected.

Governor's Recommended Budget – John Swanson/Judy Mohr-Peterson

John Swanson discussed the differences between the Agency Request Budget and the Governor's Recommended Budget.

Judy Mohr-Peterson discussed what goes into caseload forecasting and how it relates to the budget.

Clyde suggested having program people attend LGAC next month to discuss the specifics on why cuts were made to the budget the way they were.

MMIS Update – Clyde Saiki

MMIS went live on Tuesday, December 9, 2008. The system is not without issues, however claims are being processed, clients and providers are being enrolled. So

far there have been no surprises. There are work arounds in place for issues that have not been resolved.

Transformation Initiative Update – Jarred Clark

Jarred Clark gave an update on the Transformation Initiative, what milestones have been accomplished and what projects are planned for the future. All roadmaps have a partnering component, so county partners have the opportunity for input. Many Rapid Process Improvement (RPI) sessions have been held and those process times have been significantly reduced, which results in improved customer service and reducing administrative costs. The focus is now shifting toward implementation and results. We will continue the RPIs and learning about Lean and how to implement the results.

Clyde will be putting together a small group of program people along with county partners to discuss how to proceed in moving forward with our partners.

DHS Key Performance Measures – Cathy Iles

Cathy Iles gave an update on the DHS Key Performance Measures for the next biennium. Cathy is compiling all of the feedback received and will share with each division within DHS. The deadline for entry into the DAS system is Monday, December 15, 2008.

Topics for Next Meeting:

Strategizing the Remainder of Biennium – Bruce Goldberg
Budget Discussion – DHS Program People