

**Report on issues discussed at the weekly
Management Update meeting on July 13, 2009**

Commissioners present: Commissioner Milne and Commissioner Brentano

INFORMATIONAL

Opening audit conference

Jeff White introduced Chuck Swank of Grove, Mueller, and Swank, P.C. who will be performing the annual county audit. Mr. Swank said auditors are currently on-site performing interim procedures. These include looking at systems and single audit procedures. He said a new procedure includes the auditing of all federal economic stimulus funds. In response to a question by Commissioner Milne, Cynthia Granatir, chief accountant, provided an example of federal stimulus funding received to enforce child support decrees. She said that the finance department is working with the auditors to coordinate between all departments receiving stimulus funding. John Lattimer, chief administrative officer, asked if this would result in higher fees. Mr. Swank said he wasn't sure at this point. He said they follow a formula for auditing federal programs and several programs were audited last year. The same programs may be audited again if they contain stimulus funds. He said the contract has a provision for over run and contingencies. The auditors will be on site for the rest of the week then will return in the fall once the financial statements are complete.

Cottages on Oregon State Hospital grounds

Rod Calkins, health department administrator, introduced Scott Richards, behavioral health division manager. Rod discussed a constituent letter the board received regarding Oregon State Hospital (OSH) cottage residents who smoke on the sidewalk across from private homes. Marion County rents two of the cottages from the Department of Human Services (DHS). Rod said that the problem was precipitated by a DHS policy change that makes the entire OSH campus non-smoking. Rod and Scott explained that residents in one of the county cottages are transitioning back into the community and are not under the jurisdiction of the psychiatric security review board (PSRB); therefore there is no legal authority to keep them from smoking on or off the sidewalks. Scott said he and members of the Salem city council and DHS have met with neighbors and the neighborhood association in an attempt to resolve the problem. Rod said they are instituting a curfew and will work with the residents to be attentive to the community. Rod and Scott will be meeting with DHS this week and would like to investigate the possibility of designating a smoking area on the campus. Rod will report back to the board after the meeting.

OTHER

Rod reported that the county's offer on a house to be used for the Her Place program has been accepted.

Jo Stonecipher, legal counsel, reported that the county had been awarded attorney fees in a recent case. Jo said it is unusual for the defense to be awarded attorney fees in a civil rights case. When a plaintiff prevails the award of attorney fees is required by law, however, the defense is awarded fees only when the judge determines the plaintiff's claims were frivolous. She said Kirstin Lurtz, assistant legal counsel, did an excellent job, both at trial and in the motion for attorney fees.

COMMISSIONERS' UPDATE

Commissioner Brentano gave a brief overview of the Saturday evening events at the Marion County Fair. They included the conclusion of the 150 miles for 150 years relay and the city/legislative dinner. He said everything went very well.

Commissioner Milne said that the annual Striking Out Meth in Marion County is scheduled for Friday, July 17, at Volcanoes Stadium. She said planning for the event is going well and there will be more participants this year than last year.

WORK SESSIONS AND OTHER MEETINGS

- 7/14 Stayton/County meeting, 7:30-8:30
- Service District meeting, 10:00-11:00
- Quarterly meeting with commissioners and CAO, 2:00-3:30
- 7/15 Board Session, 9:00-1:00
- 7/20 Commissioners' calendar review, 8:30-9:00
- Management Update, 9:00-11:00