

# Minutes

## Governor's Commission on Senior Services April 22, 2005 Department of Human Services

**Members:** Dolores Hubert, Chair; Elaine Barrett; Jack Ewing; Don Butsch; Chris Flammang; Marilyn Hinds; Kay Kirkbride; Charles Kurtz; Barbara Nelson; Jack Roberts; Maria Smith; John Helm; Bob Lawrence; and Tim Malone

**Excused:** Linda Miller; Mary Harvey; Estill Deitz; Eunice Dutton; Dolores Raymond; Remona Simpson; and Marjorie Reuling

**Guest:** John Brenne; Kathleen Schonau; and Chuck Frazier

**Staff:** Marc Overbeck; Morgen Brodie; and Kim Hector

### *Called Meeting to Order*

Approved March 2005 Minutes with minor corrections.

### **Announcements**

Received a letter from the Governor stating Chris Flammang will go to the Whitehouse Conference on Aging October 23 – October 26, 2005.

The Governor's office is aware of our recruitment efforts. There are six openings and two will be filled before October 1, 2005.

Washington County Agency on Aging has volunteers to help people sign up for prescription drug changes related to the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA).

John Helm and his wife Betsy Johnson were awarded for their volunteer efforts at the Annual Hunger Busters Award ceremony.

Bob Lawrence handed out "Overview of Budget Proposals for 2006-2010." He announced that the Hallmark Hall of Fame produced "Riding the bus with my sister", a book by Rachel Easton. The show will air May 1, 2005. He also explained the Network of Care website that the Department of Human Services will be implementing.

### **Legislative Committee Update**

Don Butsch reported the subcommittee on Federal Issues recommended a letter be sent to Senator Smith regarding Medicaid cuts. The Commission reviewed recommendations on legislative bills. The following action was taken by the full Commission:

HB 2629A     Priority 1 and Oppose  
HB 2940     Do Not Track  
HB 3440     Priority 3 and Neutral  
SB 778A     Neutral

The meeting resulted in the following motions:

**MOTION: Send a letter to Senator Smith regarding Medicaid cuts, encouraging him to stand firm to protect seniors. (Dolores Hubert) *Passed***

**MOTION: Change priority on HB 3226 from a 1 to a 2. (Dolores Hubert) *Passed.***

**MOTION: “Support” SB 430A as a priority 2. (Dolores Hubert) *Passed***

**MOTION: “Support” HB 3149 and HB 3229 as priority 2s. (Charles Kurtz) *Passed***

**MOTION: Send letter to Speaker Minnis and Senator Scott and Representative Schrader stating we are encouraged by your attitude toward the OPI Modernization Act. (Bob Lawrence) *Passed***

### **General Issues Committee Update**

It was reported that the committee discussed the Senior Financial Abuse Coalition, the End-of-Life Guide, SB 71- Governor’s transportation bill, future committee topics, and a housing presentation. The meeting resulted in the following motions:

**MOTION: Recommend to the full Commission that we set up a subcommittee to develop a proposal for dissemination of the end-of-life guides. (Dolores Hubert) *Passed***

### **SPD Update (Cathy Cooper, Seniors & People with Disabilities)**

Cathy stated Rebalance was postponed so instead the Legislature will start Phase II. Phase II will be from a program prospective, not high level, then it will drill down into what is in the Governor’s Recommended Budget. She explained the new forecasting methodology stating it changed from county settings to counting individuals as a client once a month. Because the April Rebalance uses the new methodology, SPD will now have to translate from settings and budget by settings into cost per client. SPD will keep the Committee updated on Rebalance issues.

### **Mental Health & Addictions Committee Update**

Elaine Barrett reported that the committee discussed their review of the county mental health plans, progress on their legislative platform, SPD mental health issues, OMHAS issues, and their guest Judy McKeller, Executive Director for the Alzheimer’s Association for Oregon.

### **Health, Abuse & Long Term Care Committee Update**

It was reported that the committee discussed the Health and Wellness Platform and the Caregivers Platform; heard an update on MMA from Jane-ellen Weidanz, and an update on the Older Americans Act Reauthorization from Lee Girard (SPD). The committee also received an update on their legislative issues and they discussed their subcommittee structure.

**Eric Barger, Director of Finance, Tuality Community Hospital & Ellen Pinney, Oregon Health Access**

Eric Barger gave a presentation on the growth of uninsured patients and how that impacts the community hospitals. Ellen Pinney joined by phone stating 17 percent of Oregonians are uninsured; 105,000 are children; three-fourths of the total are eligible for the Oregon Health Plan, but are not enrolled. She also discussed several legislative bills they are monitoring, most of the same ones the Commission also monitors.

**Executive Committee Report**

The Executive committee discussed the revision of the Commission’s proposed state budget platform. They determined that the platform should include points on the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA).

**MOTION: Change state budget platform to include MMA. (Bob Lawrence) *Passed***

**Liaison Reports**

Home Care Commission (HCC) Update – It was stated the Governor recommended that the union’s (SEIU) requested Home Care Workers’ compensation package be approved, costing approximately \$65- \$75 million.

Adult Protective Services – The rules go into effect July 1, 2005. Assisted Living Facilities and Residential Care Facilities rules are not completed.

<b>Action Item:</b>	<b>Assigned To:</b>	<b>Deadline:</b>
Send a letter to Senator Smith regarding Medicaid cuts, encouraging him to stand firm to protect seniors.	Marc	April 29, 2005
Change priority on HB 3226 from a 1 to a 2.	Marc	April 25, 2005
Update LINUS to “Support” SB 430A as a priority 2.	Marc	April 25, 2005
Update LINUS to “Support” HB 3149 and HB 3229 as priority 2s.	Marc	April 25, 2005
Send letter to Speaker Minnis and Senator Scott and Representative Schrader stating we are encouraged by your attitude toward the OPI Modernization Act.	Dolores Hubert	April 29, 2005
Organize a subcommittee to develop a proposal for dissemination of the end-of-life guides.	Sherry	May 25, 2005
Change state budget platform to include MMA	Marc	April 25, 2005