

AGENDA COVER MEMO

AGENDA DATE: March 30, 2005
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Department of Health & Human Services
PRESENTED BY: Rob Rockstroh



AGENDA ITEM TITLE: ORDER _____ /IN THE MATTER OF PARTICIPATION IN FUNDING ACTIVITIES OF THE OREGON DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMISSION

I. MOTION

Order _____ /In the Matter of Participation in Funding Activities of the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission.

II. ISSUE OR PROBLEM

In order for Lane County to provide assistance to the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission in their funding process, a formal adoption of resolution to participate must occur. Lane County must also name its dispute resolution program coordinator to oversee the County's involvement in the process.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Background / Analysis

In the 1989 Session, the Legislature created the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission, one of whose charges is to foster the development of community based mediation programs by making available to participating counties, funding from civil filing fees. The Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission has asked Lane County to assist in the selection process for awarding the 2005-2007 Community Dispute Resolution Program Grant Funds. In order to do so, the County must first formally adopt a resolution to participate in this process and name the County's dispute resolution program coordinator to oversee the County's involvement in the process.

The County's participation will consist of issuing a Request for Applications, which are sent to the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission for determination of eligibility. Once eligibility for each applicant has been determined, Lane County will be responsible for determining which applicant receives funding. If only one eligible applicant applies, Lane County will not need to review the applications. The Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission will enter into agreements with the

grantee, directly.

Lane County has been involved in this process with the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission since 1999. Deborah Heeszel has coordinated this process since that time and would continue as the dispute resolution program coordinator.

B. Alternative / Options

1. To formally adopt a resolution to participate in the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission's funding process, including naming a dispute resolution program coordinator.
2. Not to formally adopt a resolution to participate in the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission's funding process.

C. Recommendation

To approve number one above.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION / TIMING

Upon approval by the Board, a letter indicating formal adoption of a resolution to participate in the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission's funding process will be sent. The request for applications process will begin.

V. ATTACHMENTS

Board Order

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

**RESOLUTION) IN THE MATTER OF PARTICIPATION IN FUNDING ACTIVITIES
AND ORDER:) OF THE OREGON DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners believes that the settlement of disputes by mediation may lead to more long-lasting and mutual satisfactory agreement; and

WHEREAS, mediation may reduce the need for time consuming and costly litigation; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Legislature in the 1989 session created the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission, one of whose charges is to foster the development of community based mediation programs by making available to participating counties funding from civil filing fees; and

WHEREAS, any county wishing to participate in the program must formally notify the commission of its intentions.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Board of County Commissioners notify the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission of Lane County's desire to be a participant in the expenditure of funds for dispute resolution program.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Lane County agrees to engage in a selection process for the 2005/2007 biennium and to select, as funding recipients, those entities both qualified by the standards and guidelines adopted by the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission and capable and willing to provide services according to the rules adopted by the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Lane County name Deborah Heeszal as the dispute resolution program coordinator for Lane County.

DATED this _____ day of March, 2005.

Anna Morrison, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 3/21/05 lane county
J. Zaidlaw
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL