

MEETING #396
OREGON STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
Friday, April 29, 2010

Conference Call

COMMISSIONERS

Brain Lemos, Chair
Philip Shilts, Vice Chair
Cap Sharples
Bridget Burns
Bart Howard
Alethia Miller

STAFF

Mike Marsh, Interim Executive Director
Dennis Johnson, Former Executive Director
Susan Degen, Opportunity Grant Administrator
Cheryl Connolly, Operations Assistant

GUESTS

Tracy Reisinger, Marylhurst University
Margie Lowe, Governor's Office
Barb Greisel, Ford Family Foundation
Randy Choy, Oregon Community Foundation

Twyla Lawson, Department of Administrative Services
Brett Rowlett, Lane Community College
Alisha Lund-Chaix, External Stakeholder
Bill McGee, Department of Administrative Services

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Lemos called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Having a quorum, the meeting proceeded. Commissioner Glenda Melton was unable to attend.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECRUITMENT

Discuss recruitment documents

Twyla Lawson, Department Administrative Services (DAS), outlined the recruitment plan.

- The position will open today April 29, 2010
- The position will close May 19, 2010
- Review of applicants will begin May 24, 2010
- First interviews will begin May 31, 2010
- Final interviews will commence the week of June 11, 2010
- Position filled by the first week in July

This is a very tight timeline to have the position filled by the first week in July. Ms. Lawson will send the recruitment documents out by direct mail and e-mail. The documents will go to agency heads, professional associations, interest groups, local government and any additional parties e-mailed to Ms. Lawson. If a cost is involved with the posting Ms. Lawson will ask Chair Lemos to approve the expense before posting. Commissioner Shilts asked why the timeline is so tight. Commissioner Lemos stated that the timeline can be adjusted, if the right individual is not found. Commissioner Howard wanted to know if an individual could nominate someone for the process. Ms. Lawson stated that the nomination process is used more for commissioner seats, but if an individual wanted to send a contact name to Ms. Lawson, she could contact the person and encourage application.

Ms. Lawson suggested a public session to involve stakeholders and OSAC staff in the selection process. Another tool used in the process will be a stakeholder survey; this survey can be sent out with the position announcements. The Commission is supportive of a public session forum to be included in the interview process. Margie Lowe, Governor's Office representative, requested time in the process for the

Governor to interview the finalist. Commissioner Howard made the motion to accept the open selection process. Commissioner Shilts seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Shilts is concerned about the short timeline; he does not see a benefit to rushing the process. Commissioner Howard is willing to extend the timeline. Commissioner Lemos again stated that the timeline is flexible; the most important issue is to get the right person for the position. The Commission will know if they have good candidates during the pre-selection process; during this phase the timeline can be extended.

Ms. Lawson presented an overview of the Application Invitation. Randy Choy, Oregon Community Foundation, commented that the position review online briefly refers to the stakeholders but does not refer to working with private sector partners, or cultivating those partnerships. Margie Lowe would like the OOG referred to by name, in place of the verbiage "state funded need-based grant". Ms. Lowe also stated that the duties and responsibilities do not state the specific duties in terms of legislative relations. Commissioner Lemos suggested scheduling another conference call to discuss the recruitment documents.

Commissioner Burns made the motion to schedule a conference call on Monday May 3, 2010, to discuss extending the timeline to allow 30 days, from the date of notice to the date of closure. This will also give the Commissioners time to review the recruitment documents. Commissioner Shilts seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

OREGON OPPORTUNITY GRANT ISSUE

Report on total disbursed for 2009-10

Susan Degen, Oregon Opportunity Grant Administrator, presented information about funding for the 2009-11 biennium. With Commission approval, OSAC will request from the Emergency Board at the May meeting, the \$5 million in special purpose appropriation that has been allocated for the OOG. Margie Lowe stated that there is a possibility that the \$5 million may not be awarded. Disbursement from the OOG fund for the 2009-10 year is \$76,766,849. The total number of recipients is 43,667.

The deadlines for the 2010-11 year were initially based on the assumption that the OOG would have \$35 million to spend, which is unlikely at this current time. OSAC proposes additional controls to freeze student awards based on their fall enrollment. If the student had a half-time award in the fall, the same student would receive a half-time award for winter and spring term as well. OSAC also proposes freezing awards at the amount the student was eligible to receive at the deadline, or by the date of the first viable FASFA transaction. The final OSAC proposal would be to accept no professional judgments until fall 2010 disbursements are known. Commissioner Shilts commented that this will be hard on students who have had a negative change in income.

In each of these scenarios, additional funds may be available after fall disbursement reporting. A second round of awards would be made based on remaining funds.

Commissioner Sharples moved to accept these very conservative award controls. Commissioner Howard seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discuss letter to Governor

The Commissioners received and reviewed the draft letter to the Governor. Commissioner Lemos thanked Commissioner Howard for the hard work he put into the letter. Commissioner Sharples would like to have the opportunity to view changes before the letter is finalized. Commissioner Lemos

requested collaboration with the Governor's Office, prior to sending the letter to the Governor. Commissioner Howard and Commissioner Sharples did not agree with sending the letter to the Governor before it is finalized, stating that the letter is from the Commission, and it is up to the Commission to decide the appropriate content. Commissioner Lemos wanted the Governor's staff to be part of the discussion and be involved in communication about the intent of the letter. Margie Lowe, representing the Governor's Office, stated that this would be one way to ensure that there are no surprises when the letter arrives. Chair Lemos requested Mike Marsh to collaborate on the letter and review with the Governor's staff when the Chair indicates the draft is ready.

There being no other business, Commissioner Shilts moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sharples seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED AT COMMISSION MEETING #398 MAY 21, 2010

Mike Marsh, Interim Executive Director

Brian Lemos, Chair

Philip Shilts, Vice Chair

Cap Sharples, Commissioner

Bridget Burns, Commissioner

Bart Howard, Commissioner

Alethia Miller, Commissioner