

**Multnomah and Washington County Regional Investment Board (RIB)
Meeting Summary, December 18, 2003
Portland State University, Urban Center, Room 710, Portland**

Judson Randall convened the meeting at 12 pm.

The following RIB members attended: Betty Atteberry, Bud Caverly, Bertha Ferran, Paul Ip, Roy Jay, Doug Marshall, Jack Orchard, Judson Randall, Maria Rojo de Steffey, Bob Terry, and Janet Young.

Not attending: Edwin Golobay.

Reporting and Project Update

Michael Ogan, Portland Development Commission staff and fiscal agent for the Board, presented a summary of 01-03 project activities to date. All projects are on track and substantively meeting the deliverables set by the Board.

County Government Update: Next Steps for the RIB

Following discussions with most RIB members and the Regional Economic Development Partners, Duke Shepard with Multnomah County Chair Dianne Linn's office and Gerald Kubiak with the Washington County Commissioners' office presented a joint staff recommendation to the Board. They suggested that the Regional Economic Development Partners be utilized as an intermediary for the Board to meet the state's new objectives in job creation/retention. Use of a single intermediary, as opposed to the awarding of multiple grants that the Board has offered in the past, would address administrative costs which is a concern given the program's reduced funding.

The Board discussed the proposal at length with several members questioning whether the Regional Partners were broadly representative of all segments of the community and whether or not their focus on job creation meant that other intermediaries could contribute to the meeting the additional objectives of job retention. Other Board members supported the proposal although a few expressed reservations as to whether anyone could meet the state's objectives given the paltry funding resource committed to this region.

Maria Rojo de Steffey noted the January "District Eight" meeting of county commissions. She suggested the Washington and Multnomah County Commissioners could jointly discuss the program there, providing further guidance to staff and the Board for the program's future direction.

Final Thoughts on the RIB

Ethan Seltzer, Director of the School of Urban Studies and Planning and staff to the Board, noted the appreciation of the Board's outgoing Portland State staff for their hard work and presented certificates of appreciation to the Board members.