Meeting Minutes

Oregon Public Records Advisory Council

September 17, 2020

1:30 PM

Virtual

Council Members present:

Becky Chiao, Adam Crawford, Tony Hernandez, Rob Bovett, Steve Suo, Emily Harris, Stephanie Clark, Mark Landauer, Michael Kron, Senator Thatcher, Les Zaitz, Scott Winkels, Shirin Khosravi, Representative Power

Also present: Todd Albert

Minutes

Becky Chiao asked both council members and members of the public to introduce themselves and share how they were feeling that day.

Becky announced that she will have her hearing with the Senate Interim Rules and General Government Committee on Monday, September 21st.

Becky let the council know that Stephanie Clark would not be completing the minutes going forward, that Becky would take over those duties. Tony Hernandez offered to help create the minutes.

Becky Chiao introduced her agenda item to re-visit the legislative concept. Becky mentioned that she has no issue with the way the PRAC wants to move forward with the bill supported by Senator Thatcher, but that she would like to pursue using the DAS legislative concept process for a bill with different language. Becky opened it up for discussion, the PRAC had lengthy discussion regarding the most appropriate language for each legislative concept "vehicle."

Because of Becky's concern about the budget, Steve Suo and Rob Bovett both suggested this language be added to shore up budget certainty:

"SECTION X. (1) The Office of the Public Records Advocate shall be assigned to the Department of Administrative Services for administrative purposes only.

(2) The Office of the Public Records Advocate shall:

(a) Exercise its authority independently of the department and without approval or control of the department; and

(b) Prepare its budget and submit its budgetary requests through the department.

(3) The department shall include in the departmental budget the budgetary request of the Office of the Public Records Advocate as a separate part of the budget and exactly as prepared and submitted to the department by the office."

Les Zaitz asked Becky to please prepare a letter to send to the Governor asking her to provide independent funding to the Public Records Advocate's Office. Becky initially declined to send the letter as the Public Records Advocate, but then agreed to send it as the Chair of the Public Records Advisory Council. Scott Winkels and Les Zaitz volunteered to help draft the letter.

After further discussion, the PRAC held two separate votes.

Becky proposed that the council add the language suggested by Rob to the DAS bill language used in February 2020 for SB 1506. The motion did not pass. Votes were: Clark – abstain; Kron – yes; Crawford – abstain; Harris – no; Suo – no; Zaitz – no; Winkels – yes; Bovett – no; Landauer – no; Khosravi – yes; Hernandez – no; Chiao – yes.

Les' motion to ask Becky to write a letter, and to add the language suggested by Rob to the bill (as agreed upon during the June 17 meeting) passed with a majority voting in favor. Votes were: Clark – yes; Kron – yes; Crawford – abstain; Harris – yes; Suo – yes; Zaitz – yes; Winkels – yes; Bovett – yes; Landauer – yes; Khosravi – yes; Hernandez – yes; Chiao – abstain.

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.