

## Meeting Minutes

Oregon Public Records Advisory Council

April 15, 2020

1:30 pm

Virtual

### **Council Members present:**

Rob Bovett, Scott Winkels, Tony Hernandez, Steve Suo, Emily Harris, Stephanie Clark, Senator Thatcher

**Not present:** Liz Craig, Shirin Khosravi, Representative Power, Les Zaitz, Mark Landauer, Michael Kron

**Also present:** Ginger McCall

### **Minutes**

Agenda for April 15th meeting was approved without objection.

Stephanie Clark asked each council member to briefly explain their thoughts and recommendations regarding the applications received for the Advocate. Applicants were scored according to their qualifications, with only 2 applicants scoring high enough to make the council feel as though they were appropriately qualified to hit the ground running with the job of Advocate. It was noted that the council is required to send 3 names to the Governor, not 2. Several council members stated that if the council was going forward with interviews on April 29<sup>th</sup>, they should opt to interview all 5 applicants who met the bare minimum qualifications, provided that they could become members of the State Bar by the time they were able to start in the position of Advocate.

Stephanie Clark explained that she was able to expand the recruitment window further out to allow more highly qualified applicants to apply. The council agreed that the arrival of COVID 19 into the public consciousness during the recruitment window could have had a chilling effect on applications. The council voted unanimously to re-open the recruitment window to Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Note: After speaking with DAS HR, it was noted that the Workday recruitment software doesn't allow changes on Fridays, so the posting will be open until Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

The council voted unanimously to meet on Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> to review applications and to meet on Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> to hold interviews for successful candidates.

The chair stated that she was waiting to hear back from DOJ via a request through DAS regarding two issues: the first was whether or not a non-disclosure agreement was required for participation in the hiring panel, the second was guidance regarding a strategy for the disclosure of certain types of information, should DAS receive a public records request for application materials. The chair stated that she would update the council as she received that information back from DAS.

Todd Albert proposed to the chair that a legislative concept be considered by the PRAC on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. The concept builds on the foundation of SB 1506 and adds a few administrative changes that Todd

sees as helpful to further clarifying independence of the office. Tony Hernandez suggested that Todd also speak about his experience lobbying, and share information about his work for Sunshine Week. Steve Swo would like to also talk with the PRAC about the Data gathering bill that died in the 2019 session.

The council discussed subcommittees and Stephanie agreed to send out the list of current subcommittees, reminding council members to be mindful of public meetings laws. She noted that several members had reached out since the previous meeting in January letting her know that they could no longer chair or participate due to competing work priorities.

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.