

**MINUTES OF December 10, 2020**

**MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY HOMELESS ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
AND  
ORS 190 ENTITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
JOINT MEETING**

**Zoom Meeting**

***MWVHA BOARD***

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

CHAIR: Mayor Cathy Clark, City of Keizer  
Leilani Slama, Vice President, Community Engagement, Salem Health  
Commissioner Colm Willis, Marion County  
Tribal Councilwoman Lisa Leno, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
Rhonda Wolf, CEO, United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley  
Commissioner Lyle Mordhorst, Polk County  
Dan Clem, Executive Director, Union Gospel Mission of Salem  
Councilor Shannon Corr, City of Independence  
Jesse Lippold for Christy Perry, Superintendent, Salem-Keizer School District  
Kristin Retherford for Council President Chris Hoy, City of Salem  
Marty Wine for Councilor Christopher Lopez, City of Monmouth  
Ian Dixon-McDonald, Vice President of Programs, Marion Polk Food Share; Co-Chair, Collaborative  
Committee  
Josh Lair, Navigator, Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)  
Nicole Utz, Housing Administrator, Salem Housing Authority

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Eric Enderle, Veteran Services Officer, Polk County Veteran Services  
Candace Jamison, Executive Director, Marion County Housing Authority  
Jimmy Jones, Executive Director, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency  
Christian Edelblute, Executive Director, West Valley Housing Authority  
Kim Parker-Llerenas, Executive Director, Mid-Valley Jobs Council; Co-Chair, Collaborative Committee  
Mayor Chuck Bennett, City of Salem

***ORS 190 ENTITY BOARD***

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

CHAIR: Mayor Cathy Clark, City of Keizer  
Councilor Shannon Corr, City of Independence  
Tribal Councilwoman Lisa Leno, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
Commissioner Colm Willis, Marion County  
Commissioner Lyle Mordhorst, Polk County  
Marty Wine for Councilor Christopher Lopez, City of Monmouth  
Kristin Retherford for Council President Chris Hoy, City of Salem  
Jesse Lippold for Christy Perry, Superintendent, Salem-Keizer School District

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jan Calvin, MWVHA Consultant

Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant  
Carla Munns, MWVHA Consultant  
Denise VanDyke Admin. Specialist II, MWVCOG  
Lisa Trauernicht, Senior Policy Analyst, Marion County (for Commissioner Willis until his arrival)  
Michael Livingston, CAN-DO  
Julie Conn-Johnson, McKinney-Vento Liaison, Salem-Keizer School District  
Lisa Harnisch, Executive Director, Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub, Inc.

### **CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS**

Mayor Clark called the Alliance Board meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. The presence of a quorum was noted. The ORS 190 Entity Board meeting was called to order at 3:14 p.m. when a quorum was present.

### **JURISDICTION/ORGANIZATION UPDATES**

Mr. Lair reported that LEAD is now at 102 clients and may be expanding to Woodburn.

Ms. Wolf announced that the United Way food box program is winding down, working with Marion Polk Food Share. The United Way is still figuring out where they fit into the long-term wildfire recovery efforts. Condolences were given to the United Way and the Pierce family for the recent passing of Selma Pierce. A perpetual fund has been set up through the United Way in her memory.

Mr. Dixon-McDonald said that Marion Polk Food Share is very busy with an approximately 34% increase in requests. The Food Share is working within COVID restrictions and with cold weather. The Miracle of Christmas drive in Keizer is underway which is a significant fundraiser for the Food Share.

Ms. Retherford reported that the City of Salem has just opened the Portland Road duration shelter, using the Urban Renewal Fund. It will be available for eighteen months.

Ms. Utz added that the funding for Sequoia Crossings was just reviewed by the Salem City Council. That facility is expected to have 70-80 units of permanent supportive housing. Salem Housing Authority is also working on Yaquina Hall, which will open in 2021, with eight ADA one and two-bedroom units. Redwood Crossings is about 80% occupied and going well.

Ms. Conn-Johnson announced that the Salem-Keizer School District is seeking students that should be in the McKinney-Vento Program. She recognized the efforts of those working to house families with children and emphasized the huge need for that type of housing.

Mr. Lippold stated that the Salem-Keizer School District is working to reimagine school discipline. The first student advisor has been added to the school board, elected from the student equity committee. Now students will have a voice at the table. Attendance is a big issue that the school board is reviewing.

Ms. Slama said that Salem Health is busy. There are about 70 COVID patients today. Salem Health is working to keep its staff healthy. The first shipment of vaccines should arrive next week. Healthcare workers will be prioritized, then the public – using future shipments.

Ms. Wine introduced herself. She is the new City Manager for the City of Monmouth and is sitting in on behalf of Councilor Lopez. She looks forward to participating with the group on this inspiring work.

Commissioner Mordhorst thanked everyone for their work. Polk County is doing “whatever we can, wherever we can.”

Tribal Councilwoman Leno reported that the Tribe continues to be hypervigilant regarding upticks of COVID. The Tribe is increasing its tracing and testing, as well as trying to be creative about making sure there is stable housing available, even when folks need to quarantine from their families. Self-care is important. She will share the information about a self-care group.

Councilor Corr stated that the City of Independence is concerned about the uptick in COVID cases there. Currently, about three percent of the population has tested positive, which is higher than surrounding areas.

Ms. Trauernicht provided an update on the long-term fire recovery. A program is being created to cover the different areas. The United Way has been an amazing partner. Efforts to organize have been very intense but need to be done thoroughly and thoughtfully.

Mayor Clark asked about displaced homeless persons from the Canyon and if many have come into Salem. She has been directing people to direct service providers, mainly Church@the Park and ARCHES.

Commissioner Willis stated that some people who are homeless were in contingent situations that were burned out in the Canyon. Camp Taloali has done great work to provide shelter.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** By Councilor Corr, **SECONDED** by Ms. Retherford, to **APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.**

- **AGENDA APPROVAL**
- **11-12-20 ORS 190 ENTITY AND ALLIANCE BOARD MINUTES**
- **FINANCIAL REPORT**
- **RATIFY TWO LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR PROJECT TURNKEY**
- **ACKNOWLEDGE RESIGNATIONS OF CRAIG OVIATT AND RYAN GAIL FROM THE PERFORMANCE & EVALUATION COMMITTEE AND SCOTT EASTBURN FROM THE COORDINATED ENTRY COMMITTEE**
- **STAFF REPORTS**

Discussion: Chair Clark noted Mr. Edelblute's last name was misspelled and asked that Mr. Dixon-McDonald be listed as representing Marion Polk Food Share. Motion carried.

**IN FAVOR:** Retherford, Corr, Clark, Slama, Lippold, Willis, Leno, Wolf, Wine, Mordhorst. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

### **ORS 190 ENTITY BUSINESS**

Ms. Carlson reviewed the items listed under ORS 190 Business. The Oregon Housing & Community Services agreement is not yet ready. The other two agreements included have been reviewed by legal counsel.

**MOTION:** By Councilor Corr, **SECONDED** by Mr. Lippold, to **APPROVE THE HMIS AGENCY PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT AND THE MWVHA COMMUNITY SERVICES USER AGREEMENT, AS PRESENTED.**

Motion carried.

**IN FAVOR:** Retherford, Corr, Clark, Lippold, Leno, Mordhorst, Willis, Wine. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

Consultant contracts were presented. This action moves the contracts to the ORS 190 Entity from the Council of Governments. The contract terms are for eighteen months, which was recommended by the Executive Committee, and two hours per week will be added to each contract as approved by board motion in November.

**MOTION:** By Councilor Corr, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Willis, to **APPROVE CONSULTANT STAFF CONTRACTS, AS PRESENTED.**

Motion carried.

**IN FAVOR:** Retherford, Corr, Clark, Lippold, Leno, Mordhorst, Willis, Wine. **OPPOSED:** None.

**ABSTAINED:** None.

The Emergency Solutions Grant-CV application is requiring extra hours. Ms. Carlson referenced sections of the current contracts regarding payment for hours beyond the flat rate under “other special projects”. Ms. Calvin is estimated at requiring 42 additional hours, Ms. Carlson will require 15 hours, and Ms. Munns will require 10 hours for this grant writing project. The hourly rate is \$85. Contingency funds can cover the cost immediately, and once the grant is received, there is a half a percent (.5%) requested for costs associated with serving as the Lead Applicant.

**MOTION:** By Tribal Councilwoman Leno, **SECONDED** by Councilor Corr, to **APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL HOURS FOR THE ESG-CV GRANT PROJECT, AS PRESENTED.**

Motion carried.

**IN FAVOR:** Retherford, Corr, Clark, Lippold, Leno, Mordhorst, Willis, Wine. **OPPOSED:** None.

**ABSTAINED:** None.

### **EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS (ESG-CV) GRANT COLLABORATIVE APPLICATION**

Ms. Calvin participated in a State of Oregon webinar on this grant yesterday. This is a \$5.5 million request to cover the Marion-Polk region, and uses CARES Act one-time funds.

Ms. Carlson contacted Ryan Pasquarella of Grove, Mueller & Swank about auditing costs. This firm also audits the Council of Governments and Community Action Agency. Mr. Pasquarella provided some estimates and reviewed the state and federal audit guidelines with Ms. Carlson. If a full audit is needed, he estimated the cost to be about \$8,000-\$10,000. A federal financial audit, which is required when \$750,000 is spent during a year, is an additional \$5,000-\$6,000. The half percent administration fee is estimated at \$27,500. Ms. Carlson also noted that the Alliance will need to undergo an annual financial review when expenditures exceed \$150,000 during the fiscal year. That review is estimated at \$3,000-\$4,000. So, the maximum net cost for an audit required by the grant would be \$9,000. Staff is looking for direction from the ORS 190 Entity to continue moving forward. The ORS 910 Entity board gave staff direction to proceed.

### **CoC SUMMIT**

Ms. Carlson provided an update on the Summit. The Collaborative Committee generated ideas that are included in the list on pages 62-63 of the agenda packet. Mr. Dixon-McDonald suggested reviewing the comments on page 63 from the Collaborative Committee. The question was asked how to “work through an equity lens”. The Collaborative Committee discussed this, and the PACE program’s analysis and report is forthcoming. Changes in the homeless population over the past year includes a growing population, with an influx to the downtown corridor, Keizer, and Silverton for multiple reasons. A major concern is the number of youths in the camps. Displaced families are another concern. Board members were invited to further review the Collaborative Committee’s suggestions and contact staff with recommendations for the CoC Summit and future board meeting agendas.

### **MARION & POLK EARLY LEARNING HUB**

Lisa Harnisch, Executive Director of the Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub, Inc. (“Hub”) was introduced. The Hub has been working on innovative initiatives and has entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Alliance. Opportunities to work together are eagerly anticipated, and staff is considering where there are overlaps in services. Ms. Harnisch stated that she loves working with this community and has learned a lot. The Hub’s original focus was to have a 100% graduation rate by 2025. To accomplish this, the Hub starts with pre-kindergarten age children and their families using a cross-sector approach. All service providers play roles

in preparing children for school through five sectors: health care, including physical, emotional, and dental health; social services; and the K-12 system. Housing is the sixth sector. Raise Up Oregon is a state-level effort. Funding is primarily from the Early Learning Division. The Hub is responsible for enrollment in Preschool Promise, which allows low-income families access to school preparatory programs and more choices of in-school or alternate locations for school preparation. Work in Marion and Polk counties includes working with county-level services. The Hub serves as the parenting hub for Marion County. The goal is to see parent education as something that everyone does. The Hub also supports service integration teams to help with emergent needs. Housing is a major need. The Hub is part of Family Connects, which provides nurse home visits for new babies and mothers. Integrated care for children focuses on families with high social and medical complexity with a goal to better meet their needs. The Hub offers child care providers with skills and tools to work with children with special needs or who act out. This is a community effort and Hub partners do the real work; the Hub is a convening organization. Ms. Harnisch discussed some strategies specified by Raise Up Oregon. We need to look at children and their needs through a trauma lens, especially in 2020. At Cornerstone Apartments, Ready For Kindergarten trainings are held. Parents can use the tools to get children ready at home. Family Support funds are used to help with housing, as stable housing is vital. Literacy projects, such as Reach Out and Read, have been tied in with pediatrician appointments and other services. Ms. Harnisch is looking forward to refining service crossovers to aid the community even more. Mental health is a major issue for everyone. There is a lot of trauma in today's world. Parent education is also very important, including how to communicate to kids what is happening in the world at an age-appropriate level. Also, everyone needs to know that it's okay to not be okay. She will send out links to the group regarding the Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub and its services: [www.parentinghub.org](http://www.parentinghub.org), [lharnisch@earlylearninghub.org](mailto:lharnisch@earlylearninghub.org).

Thoughts were shared about how to best work together. It was suggested that perhaps each organization having a seat on the other's board. The Hub has a regional implementation team, and perhaps the Alliance could have a representative there for input.

Ms. Munns asked about the Hub's data platform as an opportunity for shared information with HMIS. Ms. Harnisch replied that the Hub has a platform for registration where parents can provide information. They wanted a more robust system, but it didn't work with state direction. It might be possible, down the road, to integrate HMIS into the early learning data system.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Next Executive Committee meeting will be January 5 at Noon. Next board meeting will be January 14 at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Clem provided an update from Union Gospel Mission. The new mission work is ongoing, and he anticipates opening in May. The project is currently coming in under budget. UGM is doing intakes again, with testing at the door.

Mr. Clem expressed concern about growing homelessness in rural communities. Chair Clark replied that Commissioner Mordhorst has brought that topic up and is working on it. Commissioner Mordhorst added that it is a challenge for rural Marion and Polk county areas. A rural partner subcommittee may be needed to make sure that needs are being addressed adequately. For the youth populations, about one-third of youth are handling school closures just fine; about one-third are struggling, but okay; and one-third are losing out. Homelessness just makes it harder. Ms. Calvin added that geographic equity is important. A discussion may be needed about how to include that in the grant process.

The group wants to evolve and grow the work. The City of Dallas has requested a city council presentation about the Continuum of Care. Commissioner Mordhorst will speak to Dallas at the Polk County Breakfast on December 11. Discussion continued about representation in the Alliance from other Marion County communities. It was noted that there is a Silverton representative on the Collaborative Committee and the

HMIS Committee. Woodburn and Silverton were also briefed while the Alliance was in the development phase. Anyone interested in joining the Collaborative Committee should contact Ms. Calvin. The calendar link on the Alliance website was provided.

Chair Clark reminded everyone that neutrality, accountability, and transparency are vital for our growing level of trust in the community. She thanked everyone for saving lives this year.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing no further business, Chair Clark adjourned both board meetings at 5:01 p.m.

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Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant