

MINUTES OF January 14, 2021

**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

VICE CHAIR: Council President Chris Hoy, City of Salem

Councilor Shannon Corr, City of Independence

Tribal Councilwoman Lisa Leno, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Commissioner Lyle Mordhorst, Polk County

Commissioner Colm Willis, Marion County

Rhonda Wolf, CEO, United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley

Kristin Retherford for Mayor Chuck Bennett, City of Salem

Ian Dixon-McDonald, Vice President of Programs, Marion Polk Food Share; Co-Chair, Collaborative Committee

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dan Clem, Executive Director, Union Gospel Mission of Salem

Josh Lair, Navigator, Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)

Councilor Christopher Lopez, City of Monmouth

Christy Perry, Superintendent, Salem-Keizer School District (SKSD)

Leilani Slama, Vice President, Community Engagement, Salem Health

Christian Edelblute, Executive Director, West Valley Housing Authority

Kim Parker-Llerenas, Co-Chair, MWVHA Collaborative Committee

Nicole Utz, Housing Administrator, Salem Housing Authority

ORS 190 ENTITY BOARD

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CHAIR: Mayor Cathy Clark, City of Keizer

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Tribal Councilwoman Lisa Leno, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Commissioner Lyle Mordhorst, Polk County

Commissioner Colm Willis, Marion County

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councilor Christopher Lopez, City of Monmouth

Christy Perry, Superintendent, Salem-Keizer School District

OTHERS PRESENT

Gretchen Bennett, Human Rights and Federal Compliance Manager, City of Salem

Commissioner Danielle Bethell, Marion County
Jan Calvin, MWVHA Consultant
Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant
Emily DuPlessis-Enders, Public Information Officer, City of Salem
Michael Livingston, CAN-DO
Carla Munns, MWVHA Consultant
Sarah Owens, CAN-DO
Councilor Laura Reid, City of Keizer
Janet Scott
Denise VanDyke Admin. Specialist II, MWVCOG
Sara Webb, Program Manager, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Clark called the ORS 190 Entity board meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. The presence of a quorum was noted. The MWVHA board meeting was called to order at 3:09 p.m. when a quorum was present.

ORS 190 ENTITY BUSINESS

Ms. Carlson reviewed the items listed under ORS 190 Business that included an agreement with Oregon Housing & Community Services (OHCS) to support Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) licenses and associated staff time.

MOTION: By Commissioner Willis, **SECONDED** by Councilor Hoy, to **APPROVE THE OHCS AGREEMENT, AS PRESENTED.**

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Clark, Hoy, Corr, Willis, Mordhorst. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

A revision of the Letter of Support policy was discussed. The policy was adopted at the September 2020 board meeting. This revision allows the board chairperson to write a letter on behalf of the entity in an emergency situation and defines emergency situation.

MOTION: By Commissioner Mordhorst, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Willis, to **APPROVE THE REVISION TO THE LETTERS OF SUPPORT POLICY, AS PRESENTED.**

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Clark, Hoy, Corr, Leno, Willis, Mordhorst. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

INTRODUCTIONS & UPDATES

Commissioner Willis introduced Commissioner Danielle Bethell, the newest Marion County Commissioner, who is attending as a guest.

Candace Jamison announced that the Marion County Housing Authority (MCHA) is working to secure a Mill City property for future development in areas affected by wildfires. Oregon Housing & Community Services is providing funds for eviction prevention for both MCHA and Salem Housing Authority. Marion County's portion is estimated at \$12 million. Landlords are required to not evict if they accept the funds but receive only 80% of what they are owed. There are no income limits.

Commissioner Willis added that Marion County is working with partners on housing in the Santiam Canyon area, including fourteen manufactured homes.

Rhonda Wolf noted a Jordan Truitt organization public relations opportunity. A family in the Santiam Canyon has received a tiny home from International Housing Concepts and will be receiving the keys to the home on

television on Monday at 10 a.m. There are three trailers ready to be assigned to families. United Way hopes to have houses on the ground by the end of April.

Jimmy Jones reported that Community Action has provided about 1,500 bed nights at the shelters. Warming and duration shelters are up and running. As many people as possible are being housed in hotels. The day shelter work has been at a level not seen before. There is also COVID-impacted shelter assistance available. The duration shelters are at full deployment. Hotels are working well due to the COVID requirements.

Councilor Hoy introduced Gretchen Bennett. Ms. Bennett reported that community partners have been vital to respond to the rising water situation in the City of Salem parks. The city has changed the areas available for camping to higher ground. In response to concerns about trash floating in the waterways, staff is being more vigilant about trash removal and looking at a plan to safely wind down camping in the parks without breaking the connections between people experiencing homelessness and service providers. Vehicle repair is another project to help people stay in the safe vehicle parking program, operated by Northwest Human Services. The city is working with trash haulers to provide alternatives for trash pickup. The Oregon Department of Transportation has agreed to service property at Market Street by doing a trash pick up every two weeks and may help with trash pickup at other locations. Church@the Park may operate two additional locations in partnership with Community Action.

Ian Dixon-McDonald reported that Marion Polk Food Share is available to help. If there are food needs, the Meals on Wheels and other programs can help with food at hotel locations. Also, there are programs targeted for wildfire victims in the Santiam Canyon. Donation levels were great in December, and the need continues to be high, remaining at 30%-35% higher than normal.

Commissioner Mordhorst announced that Polk County purchased industrial grade refrigeration equipment for food banks. Trucking to deliver the refrigerators was donated.

Eric Enderle reported that at Gale's Lodge, two Veterans are moving into permanent housing, and others are ready to fill those spots.

Tribal Councilwoman Leno reported that Carla Munns helped connect the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to the Point-in-Time Count for the first time this year.

Councilor Corr said that Monmouth is primarily focused on helping local businesses stay afloat. She hopes to have more to report after the city council priority setting session in February.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Clark read the list of items on the Consent Agenda.

MOTION: By Councilor Hoy, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Willis, to **APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.**

- **AGENDA APPROVAL**
- **12-10-20 ORS 190 ENTITY AND ALLIANCE BOARD MINUTES**
- **FINANCIAL REPORTS**
- **UPDATED MONEY MAP**
- **APPOINTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE TO COMMITTEES AND WORKGROUPS: MARGIE LOWE, MARION & POLK EARLY LEARNING HUB INC., AND NICHOLE DICKEY, CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES, TO THE PERFORMANCE & EVALUATION COMMITTEE; SHAIN OLESON, COMMUNITY ACTION, TO THE PIT COUNT WORKGROUP; GLENN MUNA, COMMUNITY**

ACTION, TO THE COORDINATED ENTRY COMMITTEE; AND KAELA LOMBARDI, COMMUNITY ACTION, TO THE HMIS USERS WORKGROUP

- **ACKNOWLEDGE RESIGNATION OF DANA SCHULTZ AND CHRISTINA KORKOW FROM THE COORDINATED ENTRY COMMITTEE**
- **BRANDING DESIGN MOCKUPS DEVELOPED THROUGH THE COMMUNICATIONS WORKGROUP**
- **STAFF REPORTS**

Discussion: None.

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Clark, Hoy, Corr, Leno, Mordhorst, Retherford, Willis, Wolf. **OPPOSED:** None.

ABSTAINED: None.

ESG-CV COLLABORATIVE GRANT APPLICATION

Ms. Calvin referred to the summary of the Emergency Solutions (ESG-CV) grant application, provided in the agenda packet, and gave an overview. She reported that applicants will be informed by mid-February about the awards. Rapid Re-Housing funds will add nearly 80 additional staff to assess and guide clients. Training and cross-organization coordination will occur.

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

Ms. Munns reported that this year, the count will be done between January 26-30. Sara Webb, Community Action, is working with the PIT Count Workgroup. A recruitment flyer will be distributed, and personal protective equipment (PPE) will be provided for volunteers. People involved with the count are using the Counting Us app. Organizers are allowing socially distanced events to draw people. The event received a \$1,000 grant from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde for incentives, and organizers are collecting donations. Incentives include tents, sleeping bags, PPE, and sanitizing products. There may be stationary sites in Silverton and in the Santiam Canyon, maybe one with a food cart, possibly others. Organizers still need leads in South Salem, downtown Salem, and Stayton. The volunteer hub is the best place to get up-to-date information. The volunteer hub can be accessed at: <http://mwvhomelessalliance.org/point-in-time-pit-count-2021/>.

MEASURES OF ALLIANCE PROGRESS

Ms. Munns reported that the Performance and Evaluation Committee has been reviewing System Performance Measures data. The data is limited to service providers using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The quality and consistency of the data varies. About 25% of housing and homeless services programs were using HMIS in February 2020; by September 2020, about 50%-56% of programs were using HMIS; and by the end of January 2021, 75% will be using HMIS. Ms. Munns reviewed the seven System Performance Measures required by HUD. The document provided made comparisons between two years of data. However, Ms. Munns noted that the data changes significantly when new providers come on board. There are national benchmarks and state benchmarks. It may be a couple of years before we have a clear picture of the region's performance. She cautioned that we need to be careful in interpreting the data.

Discussion included data elements related to SOAR, meaning SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, Recovery. Trained employees make help SSI/SSDI eligible people with paperwork. Up to 70% of those assisted get funds.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Executive Committee meeting will be February 2 at Noon.

The Collaborative Committee and the boards of directors will meet on February 11 from 3:00–5:30 p.m. in a virtual, joint meeting. Staff is continuing to work on the agenda. It will include a roundtable discussion, a presentation, and five break-out groups on different topics. Commissioner Mordhorst asked if the rural subcommittee will be formed before or after the summit. Ms. Carlson replied that rural needs will be a topic

during the summit breakout sessions. Ms. Calvin noted that there are about 300 people on the Collaborative Committee list.

Ms. Calvin announced that there is officially no NOFA for FY 2020. Staff is working with HUD on whether the region is eligible for a planning grant.

Chair Clark thanked the City of Salem for allowing Emily Duplessis-Enders to work on the branding effort with Leilani Slama, Elizabeth Schrader, and others. Next, the workgroup will build a consistent presentation to help grow community awareness and recognition.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Chair Clark adjourned the joint board meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant