

MINUTES OF April 8, 2021

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

Zoom Meeting

MWVHA BOARD

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Christian Edelblute, Executive Director, West Valley Housing Authority
Kim Parker-Llerenas, Co-Chair, MWVHA Collaborative Committee

ORS 190 ENTITY BOARD

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

ORS 190 ENTITY BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIR: Mayor Cathy Clark, City of Keizer

VICE CHAIR: Council President Chris Hoy, City of Salem

Dan Clem, Executive Director, Union Gospel Mission of Salem

Councilor Shannon Corr, City of Independence

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

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

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

None

STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT

Jan Calvin, MWVHA Consultant

Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant

Carla Munns, MWVHA Consultant

Denise VanDyke Admin. Specialist II, MWVCOG

Julie Conn-Johnson, McKinley-Vento program, Salem-Keizer School District

Emily Mooney, Chief of Staff to Senator Deborah Patterson

Councilor Laura Reid, City of Keizer

Scott Dadson, Executive Director, MWVCOG

Renata Wakeley, Community Development Director, MWVCOG

Julie Conn-Johnson, McKinley-Vento program, Salem-Keizer School District

Lisa Trauernicht, Senior Policy Analyst, Marion County

Jullian Schrup, Willamette University PACE Team

Ryan Whithorn, Willamette University PACE Team

Clara Boline, Willamette University PACE Team

Miranda Bernhard, Willamette University PACE Team

Marianne Bradshaw, Willamette University PACE Team professor

John Wang, Willamette University PACE Team

Ashley Hamilton, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency

Breanna Harig, Easterseals Oregon

Nikki Rak, Polk County Veteran Services

Laurel Dixon, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency

Robert Garcia, Salem Leadership Foundation

Maureen Casey, Catholic Community Services
Tim Buckley, Oregon Network for Compassionate Communication
Raymond Powers, Westcare VETCare

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Clark called the joint meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. The presence of a quorum of the Alliance Board, the ORS 190 Entity Board, and the ORS 190 Entity Budget Committee was noted.

INTRODUCTIONS & UPDATES

Mayor Clark reported that the City of Keizer is working to partner with many organizations to keep services going. The city is looking for a new home for the local food bank.

Councilor Hoy deferred to Ms. Utz who reported that the Salem Housing Authority has submitted a second grant application for Sequoia Crossings. Redwood Crossings is full. Salem Housing Authority is recruiting landlords. Ms. Retherford noted that there is a DEQ time limit on the shelter activities at the Silverton Road location due to contamination on site. To solve that situation, a full clean and cap project would be needed. The Hillcrest purchasers are looking to establish a drug and alcohol recovery facility at the Hillcrest site. They are open to partnering to establish alternate housing elsewhere on the property.

Commissioner Mordhorst reported that Polk County is looking for locations for transitional housing for families.

Mr. Enderle state that Gale's Lodge is at full capacity, and vaccinations are going well.

Tribal Councilwoman Leno reported on the ongoing vaccine clinics being done by the Tribe. A new tribal clinic opened in Salem, with comprehensive wraparound and treatment options. Ms. Calvin mentioned that the director of the new clinic has reached out about participating with the Collaborative Committee.

Councilor Lopez spoke with Brent DeMoe about the Dallas resource room and met small/tiny home builders in the area.

Ms. Slama reported that the mobile vaccine clinic now has two locations. About 157,000 people in Marion and Polk counties have been vaccinated.

Councilor Corr is working with local people to learn what is available. She is gathering information about microsheltering.

Ms. Wolf said the United Way has a lot of "balls in the air." She gave a "shout out" to Josh Lair and the team from Be Bold Street Ministries who created an "incredible opportunity" to provide a trailer and supplies to a family in Detroit.

Mr. Lair reported that he was working with the 127th client in the LEAD program, which is promoting greater participation from service integration teams and law enforcement. The delivery of the trailer was not associated with LEAD but was a great experience that went surprisingly smoothly. The family also received a car.

Commissioner Willis said the Santiam Canyon is a big focus for Marion County right now. The county hired Scott McClure as a new coordinator for Canyon recovery work. Detroit should have potable water next week. About a third of the population 16 years and older in Marion County has been vaccinated.

Ms. Perry announced that grades K-5 are in hybrid schooling, two days a week. Next week, grades 6-12 should be in hybrid schooling. It's exciting to have kids back in the buildings, even if only part time. The district is now thinking about next year. If the three-foot distancing rule is in place, we should be able to do full-time, in-school learning. The district is also looking at differences in the needs of homeless students. The contract with Comcast for connectivity will be extended for at least one year.

Mr. Clem reported a changing demographic for Union Gospel Mission services. Simonka House was intended for single women, but more women with children are coming. Through a generous donor, UGM set up a computer lab and is advocating for stabilization centers, like the sobering center. The new men's mission will be occupied on June 18, with a July 17 ribbon cutting and tours.

Ms. Jamison reported that Marion County Housing Authority is continuing implementation of the landlord compensation fund and is looking at doing something good with a Mill City property.

Mr. Dixon-McDonald stated that Marion Polk Food Share is still very busy. He received the results of a national study on food insecurity that he is willing to share. According to a study, about 11,000 individuals in Marion and Polk counties experienced food insecurity for the first time in 2020. The Food Share is continuing to stay on top of emergency services for the homeless, partnering with Church@the Park for pallet homes. A shipment of military MREs has come in; please contact him to access them.

Mr. Jones said that Community Action is expanding its motel program. There are about 150 rooms in the program now, all being sheltered by this program. The people are truly homeless, and many are very sick. Community Action is working on a Project Turnkey site. Community Action has \$20-30 million to spent on rental assistance. There are about 3,200 households on the wait list; 14,977 clients were served in Marion and Polk counties in 2020.

Ms. Calvin reported that the ESG-CV grant program launched today. There is \$5.5 million from Oregon Housing & Community Services available directly to service providers, with some administrative funds to the Continuum of Care.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Carlson stated that an item needs to be added to the joint board agenda. The new item is consideration of approval for two consultant staff to attend an HMIS conference sponsored by HUD.

MOTION: By Commissioner Willis, **SECONDED by** Councilor Hoy, to **ADD THE CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL FOR STAFF TO ATTEND A HUD HMIS CONFERENCE TO THE AGENDA AS ORS 190 ENTITY BUSINESS, AS PRESENTED.**

Motion carried.

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

Ms. Carlson reviewed the consent agenda items, including the agenda as amended.

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

- **AGENDA APPROVAL (adding one item)**
- **3-11-21 ORS 190 ENTITY AND ALLIANCE BOARD MINUTES**
- **FINANCIAL REPORTS**
- **STAFF REPORTS**

Discussion: None.

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Clark, Hoy, Clem, Corr, Lair, Leno, Lopez, Mordhorst, Perry, Retherford, Slama, Willis, Wolf.

OPPOSED: None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

Ms. Carlson provided additional detail regarding the HMIS conference. Ms. Calvin and Ms. Munns would be attending, if approved. The registration cost is \$150 per person, plus a \$19.34 fee. The conference will be virtual and will be available from April 12-29, 2021. The Oregon Housing & Community Services grant for HMIS work can reimburse the cost, but board authorization is needed to incur that cost.

MOTION: By Councilor Hoy, **SECONDED by** Commissioner Willis, to **APPROVE TWO STAFF REGISTRATIONS TO ATTEND THE HUD HMIS CONFERENCE, AS PRESENTED.**

Discussion: None.

Motion carried.

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

At 3:40 p.m., Mayor Clark recessed the joint board meeting and called to order the ORS 190 Entity Budget Committee meeting.

***ORS 190 ENTITY, MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY HOMELESS ALLIANCE
BUDGET COMMITTEE***

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ms. Carlson explained the membership of the Budget Committee, being half elected representatives from the participating jurisdictions in the ORS 190 Entity, and half citizen members of the Alliance Board for a total membership of sixteen. A quorum is nine members. Officers need to be elected. Mayor Clark volunteered to serve as Chair. Councilor Hoy agreed to serve as Vice Chair/Secretary.

MOTION: By Commissioner Willis, **SECONDED by** Commissioner Mordhorst, to **ELECT KEIZER MAYOR CATHY CLARK AS CHAIR, AND SALEM CITY COUNCILOR CHRIS HOY AS VICE CHAIR/SECRETARY OF THE ORS 190 ENTITY BUDGET COMMITTEE.**

Discussion: None.

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Clark, Hoy, Clem, Corr, Dixon-McDonald, Enderle, Jones, Lair, Leno, Lopez, Mordhorst, Perry, Slama, Willis, Wolf. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

ADOPTION OF BUDGET COMMITTEE RULES

Ms. Carlson explained that the proposed rules were created based upon those used by Marion County. She reviewed the rules. Ms. VanDyke confirmed that there were no members of the public who had contacted her in advance and no written comments submitted. Commissioner Willis asked about specific provisions under the governor's executive order related to COVID-19. Ms. Carlson responded that the budget committee rules will be approved each year, so changes in situation can be addressed.

MOTION: By Councilor Hoy, **SECONDED** by Councilor Lopez, to **APPROVE THE BUDGET COMMITTEE RULES, AS PRESENTED.**

Discussion: None.

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Clark, Hoy, Clem, Corr, Dixon-McDonald, Enderle, Jones, Lair, Leno, Lopez, Mordhorst, Perry, Slama, Willis, Wolf. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

BUDGET MESSAGE

Ms. Carlson presented the budget message, included in the budget document beginning on page 9. The history of the formation of the Continuum of Care and the ORS 190 Entity was reviewed, along with highlights and milestones achieved along the way. The process began only fourteen months ago. Challenges have included the COVID-19 pandemic, September 2020 wildfires, and February 2021 ice storms. Achievements included the establishment and recognition of the Continuum of Care, the formation of the ORS 190 Entity, the first Point-in-Time Count under the new Continuum of Care, the first CoC Summit, improvements in services due in large part to numerous partnerships, and the receipt of grants to continue forward momentum. Significant issues included public perceptions and high expectations, the shortage of permanent affordable housing, and recognizing the value of a systems level approach.

The Budget Officer's proposed budget is \$365,574. Ms. Carlson reviewed the funding and expenditures details. The contributions of the eight ORS 190 Entity jurisdictions and the three non-governmental voting members of the Alliance Board provide the bulk of the sustainable funding for the organization. A healthy balance forward is anticipated this year. Expenses were estimated for the coming fiscal year, and contingency funds will be available for use as needed.

Ms. Carlson reviewed the budget process and schedule. She thanked the Alliance staff, Council of Governments staff, the Alliance board members, and others who have helped with the budget process and in creating the Continuum of Care. Next steps include:

1. Approve the proposed contribution amounts for ORS 190 Entity jurisdictions
2. Approve an additional five hours per week for ESG-CV grant coordination, through contract amendments for Ms. Calvin and Ms. Munns which will require future authorization by the board
3. Approve the budget as presented or amended – or continue the Budget Committee meeting to a future date

Chair Clark invited questions. Clarification about the ESG-CV grant was requested. Ms. Calvin provided additional information. The ESG-CV grant will go to ten organizations on a reimbursement basis. The ORS 190 Entity will approve the work done by the organizations. Once approved, Community Action will provide funds to the organizations for the work. Community Action will request reimbursement from Oregon Housing & Community Services under the grant. Only the \$27,000 for program coordination will be deposited in the Alliance budget. There \$5.5 million is allotted as follows:

- 18% for outreach
- 48% for emergency shelter
- 24% for Rapid Re-Housing
- 10% for data collection/HMIS

Councilor Lopez requested clarification on the changes in contribution amounts from 2019 to 2020. Ms. Carlson explained the process and work that resulted in the formula now used to calculate the recommended contribution of each member.

Chair Clark invited any members of the public present at the virtual meeting to provide public comment. There was no public comment.

MOTION: By Councilor Hoy, **SECONDED by** Ms. Perry, to **APPROVE THE PROPOSED CONTRIBUTION AMOUNTS FOR THE ORS 190 ENTITY JURISDICTIONS, AS PRESENTED.**

Discussion: None.

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Clark, Hoy, Clem, Corr, Dixon-McDonald, Enderle, Jones, Lair, Leno, Lopez, Mordhorst, Perry, Slama, Willis, Wolf. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

MOTION: By Councilor Hoy, **SECONDED by** Commissioner Willis, to **APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL FIVE HOURS PER WEEK FOR ESG-CV GRANT COORDINATION, AS PRESENTED.**

Discussion: None.

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Clark, Hoy, Clem, Corr, Dixon-McDonald, Enderle, Jones, Lair, Leno, Lopez, Mordhorst, Perry, Slama, Willis, Wolf. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

MOTION: By Councilor Hoy, **SECONDED by** Commissioner Mordhorst, to **APPROVE THE BUDGET, AS PRESENTED.**

Discussion: Councilor Hoy gave kudos for excellent work on the budget.

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Clark, Hoy, Clem, Corr, Dixon-McDonald, Enderle, Jones, Lair, Leno, Lopez, Mordhorst, Perry, Slama, Willis, Wolf. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

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

JOINT BOARD MEETING

PACE TEAM PRESENTATION

Ms. Carlson introduced the Willamette University PACE (Practical Application for Careers & Enterprises) team that conducted a study on racial and ethnic equity and disparities in the region's system of homeless and housing services. The team consisted of Jullian Schrup and Miranda Bernhard, who will be presenting today, and Clara Boline, Ryan Whithorn, and John Wang. Ms. Calvin noted that a number of guests were in attendance because of the presentation.

Mr. Schrup began the presentation with a reference to Robert Moses, who was instrumental in the creation of 2.6 million acres of parks and other public facilities in New York City. However, many facilities were built intentionally inconvenient or difficult for people of color to access. Many of these public facilities are still in existence and the barriers to allowing the full population to enjoy them are still in place. We need to address the legacy of the past and redirect resources to help address injustices of this nature. Ask yourself "What can I do?"

The PACE team undertook an eight-month project that included in depth interviews, data analysis, a survey, a forum with the Collaborative Committee, and synthesizing their findings into this report.

The in-depth interviews demonstrated that there is often a lack of awareness of other programs, there are bureaucratic barriers, BIPOC are often tasked with extra emotional labor (e.g., sharing experiences they

would prefer not to discuss), and financial barriers that include requirements to access funding sources. Data analysis shows that native and Latinx persons are overrepresented in the homeless population, minorities underutilize vouchers, and BIPOC often encounter barriers. The survey revealed that more than 75% of respondents feel inclusion is important. Language barriers have improved but are still there. Diversity will increase and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) includes more than just racial diversity.

The take-aways from the Collaborative Committee forum included that DEI is an ongoing process, not a check box; there is a fear of change and/or opening oneself to the vulnerability of the DEI process; and some leaders are actually pushing back against DEI. Leaders can reinforce either the positive or negative legacy.

Recommendations from the PACE team:

1. Ingrain DEI at all levels
 - Designate a seat at the table for diverse voices
 - Prioritize promoting/hiring culturally and/or linguistically diverse staff
 - Recognize that job requirements regarding education and/or experience can be a barrier for diversity
 - Conduct annual performance audits re: DEI
 - Create a DEI committee
2. Reverse Mentoring
 - Junior employees are paired with and mentor senior executives to bridge the gaps in age/experience/knowledge/culture
3. Establish a clearinghouse to share information on:
 - Language services
 - Trainers
 - DEI consultants
 - Grant writers
 - A centralized talent acquisition system – like a job board

DEI is a culture that needs to be upheld. Think about:

- What is a decision legacy I have control over?
- Am I doing all I can to confront my bias and pave the way for others?
- Do I have a clear vision for my organization?
- Am I doing all I can to reinforce DEI culture in my organization?

An executive summary for this report was provided in the agenda packet.

Ms. Perry asked that this topic be brought back as an agenda item to keep it in front of the board. She stated that the Alliance needs to be public about it and needs to work on it here and in each organization or jurisdiction.

In response to the question of whether it should be expected that an organization will pay a premium to an employee serving as a reverse mentor, Ms. Bernhard and Mr. Schrup stated that it should be expected as the employee would be paid for their experience/expertise and knowledge, as well as for any emotional burden.

Chair Clark handed the meeting over to Vice-Chair Hoy.

Councilor Hoy stated that board members should look into implicit bias training for as many as possible. Ms. Perry shared that she knows of a trainer and will share the information.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Vice Chair Hoy adjourned the joint board meeting at 5:04 p.m.

Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant

