

MINUTES OF March 2, 2021

**MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY HOMELESS ALLIANCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/
ORS 190 ENTITY LEADERSHIP JOINT MEETING**

Videoconference Via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT

CHAIR: Mayor Cathy Clark, City of Keizer

VICE CHAIR: Council President Chris Hoy, City of Salem

Commissioner Lyle Mordhorst, Polk County

Leilani Slama, Vice President, Community Engagement, Salem Health

Commissioner Colm Willis, Marion County

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Jan Calvin, MWVHA Consultant

Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant

Carla Munns, MWVHA Consultant

Denise VanDyke Admin. Specialist II, MWVCOG

Scott Dadson, Executive Director, MWVCOG

Councilor Laura Reid, City of Keizer

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. Attendance and the presence of a quorum were noted.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2021

MOTION: By Councilor Hoy, **SECONDED** by Ms. Wolf, to **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2021, AS PRESENTED.**

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Clark, Hoy, Mordhorst, Slama, Wolf. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

SUMMIT DEBRIEF

Committee members shared their thoughts about the Continuum of Care Summit in February.

Councilor Hoy expressed that it was a great event and amazing to have so many participants. The breakout group he attended on the chronically homeless population had great staff present who fielded a question about services becoming enabling. They handled the question wonderfully by reframing the conversation. Hopefully, it helped people understand why we are doing what we are doing. He would like to do this again with more time on the breakouts and less introduction time.

Mayor Clark concurred with doing this again. Ms. Wolf added that her staff person who attended was amazed and impressed.

Ms. Slama was impressed and said that she enjoyed her breakout session on families. She agreed that more time for the breakout sessions is needed next time. Commissioner Mordhorst noted that the diversity of the group gives an idea of the magnitude of what we are doing and all have the same goal. This is something you want to be part of.

Mayor Clark gave kudos to Marion County for its work in response to the ice storm.

Ms. Carlson reported that out of the rural issues breakout session discussion, there should be some additional small group meetings and then discussion at the Collaborative Committee about how to proceed.

Mayor Clark attended the youth services breakout session. She would like to take a deeper dive into the shelter options and needs of unaccompanied youth and families, especially families with teen males. It was identified that Woodburn and Polk County need more youth shelters. The Salem area needs more of other youth services. Councilor Reid is a teacher at McNary High School and may have some insights.

Ms. Carlson stated that Ms. Calvin did a great job organizing the breakout groups. Staff were impressed with the number of participants – more than 100. The depth of expertise in so many areas was impressive. The process of muting and unmuting in Zoom slowed down the process during introductions, along with the sheer number of people being introduced. Extra time for the breakout sessions is needed.

Scott Dadson was introduced by Mayor Clark. Mr. Dadson is the new Executive Director of the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments and comes to the position from a similar organization in North Carolina. Mr. Dadson stated that he is glad to be here and looks forward to continued involvement with the Alliance.

MARCH JOINT BOARD AGENDA

Ms. Carlson reviewed the proposed agenda items. The Longitudinal System Analysis is not yet ready. Staff will bring this item back when the HUD response been received. There will be budget items included with the ORS 190 Entity agenda items. As this is the Alliance's first budget process, the ORS 190 Entity board will need to appoint a budget officer, approve the budget calendar, and appoint budget committee members. The budget committee will meet in April and send the budget for board approval in May. Ms. Carlson asked for direction on newspapers of general circulation for the required legal notices. Committee members agreed that Statesman Journal and the Polk County Itemizer Observer were appropriate newspapers. Ms. Carlson proposed a slate of budget committee members that included the ORS 190 Entity board members, along with eight additional members who serve on the Alliance board to represent the services provided by the ORS 190 Entity.

The agreement for a second-year grant of \$50,000 from Mountain West Investment Corporation on behalf of the Community Business and Education Leaders Collaborative (CBEL) is being prepared for board approval. Jim Seymour expressed interest in attending the board meeting and making comments.

It has been a year since the board's initial organizational meeting, so it is again time for board members and Performance & Evaluation Committee members to complete Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct forms. There are only slight changes to the forms, based on board-approved changes to the governance charter.

Jan Calvin will present Built for Zero measures, highlighted within the larger context of Coordinated Entry. She will then provide the latest report on System Performance Measures that were recently submitted to HUD. This is the first time that the Alliance has submitted data that is entirely ours. The Performance and Evaluation Committee will be taking a deeper look at the measures next month.

The remainder of the joint board meeting will include a debrief on the summit and other business.

Ms. Carlson raised a question about Alliance participation in legislative issues. Staff from Oregon Housing & Community Services will be presenting a legislative update to the Collaborative Committee. We were asked if the board might be interested in a similar presentation. Ms. Carlson stated her concerns. At Marion County, there were protocols established to avoid situations where county leaders may not be aware that county staff was testifying on a particular bill and may not even agree on the particular position being presented. With the Alliance's diverse membership and the many agencies represented, it could become difficult to manage advocacy, which could also become time consuming and divisive. Executive Committee members suggested that information be provided on an educational basis to the Alliance board and that the board not involve itself in taking positions on legislation. Of course, each board member retains the ability to take individual positions and make individual statements, making sure that board members clarify they are not speaking on behalf of the Alliance. It was agreed that the Alliance's strength is as a regional organization. It would, however, be good to have a general awareness of what is happening legislatively. Individuals can seek additional details beyond the information provided. There were concerns that it could become a slippery slope from education to stating opinions. Legislators and staff could be invited to attend board meetings. It was mentioned that Representative Raquel Moore-Green and Senator Deborah Patterson have expressed interest in the Alliance's work. The Alliance can serve as a source of information. Consensus was that the Alliance should not serve as an advocacy agency.

Councilor Hoy reported that he and Ms. Calvin presented to the City of Dallas about potential Alliance membership, and Councilor Hoy was also interviewed recently by KMUZ radio about the Alliance. Ms. Calvin stated that the Dallas presentation went well. Ms. Carlson said that Councilor Hoy did an excellent job with the KMUZ, emphasizing the Alliance role of coordination and working together, along with describing a number of community projects that address homelessness. She added that staff will be scheduling presentations over the next several months with organizations and jurisdictions represented on the board. Councilor Hoy said that the goal here is to educate our colleagues about what we are doing and build a knowledge base and support.

Ms. Munns reported that the Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP) housing workgroup adopted the Continuum of Care Strategic Plan goals for the CHIP housing strategy. Ms. Munns added that she and Ashley Hamilton gave a presentation at a recent federal housing meeting about the region's Point-in-Time Count.

MOTION: By Councilor Hoy, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Willis, to **APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR MARCH 11, 2021, AS PRESENTED.**

Motion carried.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Chair Clark adjourned the meeting at 12:54 p.m.

Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant