MINUTES OF January 12, 2023

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY HOMELESS ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AND
ORS 190 ENTITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JOINT MEETING
Hybrid meeting:
Marion County Commissioners' Board Room
555 Court Street NE, Salem
and via Zoom

MWVHA BOARD
MEMBERS PRESENT
CHAIR: Commissioner Jeremy Gordon, Polk County
VICE CHAIR: Mayor Chris Hoy, City of Salem
Commissioner Danielle Bethell, Marion County
Mayor Cathy Clark, City of Keizer
Councilor Shannon Corr, City of Independence
Tribal Councilwoman Lisa Leno, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Councilor Christopher Lopez, City of Monmouth
Elaine Lozier, Community Health Coordinator, Marion-Polk CCO, PacificSource
Rory Love for Kloi Spencer, Chair, Youth Action Board/Backbone
Renee Pfeffer, Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)
Leilani Slama, Chief Communications and Community Relations Officer, Salem Health
David Zepeda, Subject Matter Expert
Eric Enderle, Veteran Services Officer, Polk County Veteran Services
Jason Icenbice, Executive Director, Marion County Housing Authority
Jimmy Jones, Executive Director, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency
Adam Mennig, Director, Academic Development, Chemeketa Community College; Co-Chair, CoC Collaborative Committee

MEMBERS ABSENT
Dan Clem, Executive Director, Union Gospel Mission of Salem
Christy Perry, Superintendent, Salem-Keizer School District
Kloi Spencer, Chair, Youth Action Board/Backbone
Rhonda Wolf, CEO, United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley
Ian Dixon-McDonald, Vice President of Programs, Marion Polk Food Share; Co-Chair, CoC Collaborative Committee
Christian Edelblute, Executive Director, West Valley Housing Authority
Commissioner Colm Willis, Marion County
Nicole Utz, Housing Administrator, Salem Housing Authority

ORS 190 ENTITY BOARD
MEMBERS PRESENT
PRESIDENT: Commissioner Jeremy Gordon, Polk County
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Mayor Cathy Clark, City of Keizer
Commissioner Danielle Bethell, Marion County
Councilor Shannon Corr, City of Independence
Tribal Councilwoman Lisa Leno, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Councilor Christopher Lopez, City of Monmouth

MEMBERS ABSENT
Christy Perry, Superintendent, Salem-Keizer School District

STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT
Jan Calvin, MWVHA Consultant
Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant
Lisa Trauernicht, MWVHA Consultant
Scott Dadson, Executive Director, MWVCOG
Teresa Davis, Admin. Specialist I, MWVCOG
Chris Berg, Oregon Housing & Community Services
Amanda Foster, Northwest Human Services
Tricia Frizzell, Salem Health
Matt Lawyer, Marion County
Michael Livingston, CANDO Neighborhood Association
Margie Lowe, Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub, Inc.
Ami Maceira, Willamette Workforce Partnership
Alisa Parker, Catholic Community Services
Sabrina Ruffner, Northwest Human Services
Della Shanley, Upstage Events
Josie Silverman-Mendez, Willamette Health Council
Christine Sommer, Marion County Housing Authority
Tim Weese, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency

CALL TO ORDER
Chair Gordon called the joint meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. The presence of a quorum was noted. Commissioner Gordon thanked everyone who participated in the governor's transition team meeting and noted the consensus among officials from the Marion-Polk region.

CONSENT AGENDA
Chair Gordon reviewed the list of Consent Agenda items. Commissioner Bethell requested that Items #3 and #4, letters of support, be pulled for discussion. Commissioner Gordon noted that the name for #7 should be read as "Ben M."

MOTION: By Mayor Clark, **SECONDED by** Mayor Hoy, to **APPROVE ITEMS 1, 2, and 5-9 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.**

1. **1/12/2023 AGENDA**
2. **12/8/2022 JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**
5. **APPROVE LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY'S RENEWAL FOR THE VA GRANT AND PER DIEM GRANT**
6. **APPROVE THE POINT-IN-TIME COUNT ANNUAL PLAN**
7. **ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF BEN M. FROM THE YOUTH ACTION BOARD/BACKBONE**
8. **ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF KAYLA BURDINE-REA, SHELTERING SILVERTON, FROM THE COORDINATED ENTRY COMMITTEE AND HMIS USERS WORKGROUP**
9. **APPOINT YEUDIEL ALVAREZ-FLORES, DE MUNIZ RESOURCE CENTER, TO THE COORDINATED ENTRY COMMITTEE AND ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF MICHELLE ARTMAN.**

Discussion: None.
Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Gordon, Hoy, Bethell, Clark, Corr, Leno, Lopez, Lozier, Pfeffer, Slama, Zepeda. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

MOTION: By Commissioner Bethell, **SECONDED by** Mayor Hoy, to **APPROVE ITEMS 3 and 4 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA, WITH LETTERS REWRITTEN TO BE NEUTRAL IN NATURE.**

3. **APPROVE LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR RENEWAL OF EASTERSEALS SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES GRANT**
4. **APPROVE LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR WESTCARE OREGON'S APPLICATION FOR THE VA GRANT AND PER DIEM GRANT, SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES GRANT, AND TRANSITION IN PLACE GRANT.**

Discussion: Commissioner Bethell asked that the letters of support be neutral, so that one is not supported over the other, after confirming that more than one applicant from a region could be funded for the federal Veterans grants.

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Gordon, Hoy, Bethell, Clark, Corr, Leno, Lopez, Lozier, Pfeffer, Slama, Zepeda. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

ELECTION OF ALLIANCE AND ORS 190 190 ENTITY OFFICERS

Mayor Clark moved that the Alliance board ratify the vote for Commissioner Jeremy Gordon to serve as Alliance Chair. Commissioner Gordon noted that the vote taken in December included the votes of the two candidates for the chair position. It was discovered after the meeting that the Alliance conflict of interest policy based on HUD regulations does not allow candidates to participate in the vote. Mayor Hoy seconded the motion.

IN FAVOR OF COMMISSIONER GORDON: Hoy, Bethell, Clark, Corr, Leno, Lopez, Lozier, Pfeffer, Slama, Zepeda. **OPPOSED**: None. **ABSTAINED:** Gordon.

Commissioner Gordon nominated Mayor Hoy to serve as Alliance Vice Chair. Mayor Clark seconded the motion.

IN FAVOR OF MAYOR HOY: Gordon, Bethell, Clark, Leno, Lopez, Lozier, Pfeffer, Slama, Zepeda. **OPPOSED:** Corr. **ABSTAINED:** Hoy.

Mayor Hoy nominated Commissioner Gordon to serve as the ORS 190 Entity President. Councilor Lopez seconded the motion.

IN FAVOR OF COMMISSIONER GORDON: Hoy, Bethell, Clark, Corr, Leno, Lopez, **OPPOSED**: None. **ABSTAINED:** Gordon.

Commissioner Gordon nominated Mayor Hoy to serve as the ORS 190 Entity Vice President. Mayor Clark seconded the motion.

IN FAVOR OF MAYOR HOY: Gordon, Bethell, Clark, Leno, Lopez. **OPPOSED:** Corr. **ABSTAINED:** Hoy.

Mayor Hoy nominated Ms. Carlson to serve as Board Administrator. Councilor Lopez seconded the motion. Ms. Carlson reiterated that she will not be serving beyond June 30, saying she is happy to continue in the role but urged the board to begin transition planning. Councilor Lopez stated his appreciation for Ms. Carlson's willingness to continue in the board administrator role and that a warm handoff is critical to the integrity of the Alliance work.

IN FAVOR OF MS. CARLSON: Gordon, Hoy, Bethell, Clark, Corr, Leno, Lopez, **OPPOSED**: None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

ORS 190 ENTITY BUSINESS

Commissioner Gordon asked Ms. Carlson to explain the business items. Ms. Carlson noted that three contracts that had originally been scheduled for consideration in January were not yet ready: two contracts from Oregon Housing & Community Services and one contract with Oregon Department of Human Services.

1) Approve a revision to the grant agreement with City of Salem to redirect $10,000 (out of $150,000) to support the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count.

MOTION: By Mayor Clark, **SECONDED by** Councilor Lopez, to **APPROVE THE CITY OF SALEM GRANT AMENDMENT, AS PRESENTED.**
Discussion: None.
Motion carried.
IN FAVOR: Gordon, Hoy, Bethell, Clark, Corr, Leno, Lopez. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

2) Approve adding a volunteer accident/injury insurance policy to cover PIT Count volunteers.

MOTION: By Commissioner Bethell, **SECONDED by** Mayor Hoy, to **APPROVE ADDING THE VOLUNTEER INSURANCE POLICY, AS PRESENTED.**
Discussion: None.
Motion carried.
IN FAVOR: Gordon, Hoy, Bethell, Clark, Corr, Leno, Lopez. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

3) Approve a volunteer waiver form for the PIT Count.

MOTION: By Commissioner Bethell, **SECONDED by** Mayor Hoy, to **APPROVE THE VOLUNTEER WAIVER FORM, AS PRESENTED.**
Discussion: None.
Motion carried.
IN FAVOR: Gordon, Hoy, Bethell, Clark, Corr, Leno, Lopez. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

4) Approve a facility use agreement with Chemeketa Community College for the PIT Count and authorize the board president to sign.

MOTION: By Mayor Hoy, **SECONDED by** Commissioner Bethell, to **APPROVE THE FACILITY USE AGREEMENT, AS PRESENTED.**
Discussion: None.
Motion carried.
IN FAVOR: Gordon, Hoy, Bethell, Clark, Corr, Leno, Lopez. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

STAFFING WORKGROUP UPDATE

Scott Dadson, Executive Director of the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWVCOG), reported that the appointed staffing workgroup members have participated in surveys and interviews and provided input on the roles and what the workgroup members consider important vis a vis the new staff position. The report also includes the day-to-day work being done by Ms. Carlson. There is another workgroup meeting scheduled to go through the information. Strawman proposals will be considered that will lead to a recommendation to the board. Commissioner Bethell requested that Mr. Dadson send

the current report information to Ms. Carlson to provide to the full board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Gordon asked if there was anyone interested in providing public comment. Hailey Hulsey, a youth advocate with Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, has been supporting Backbone since its beginnings. Monday was her last Backbone meeting, as she has accepted a position with Bridgeway as an adolescent substance abuse counselor working with schools. January 20 will be her last day with HOME Youth Services. She expressed her hope that someone will continue to advocate for youth who "speaks youth and adult." Commissioner Gordon thanked Ms. Hulsey for her service and asked Rory Love to keep the board informed about youth perspectives.

PERFORMANCE & EVALUATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL PROGRAM & SYSTEM PERFORMANCE REPORT

Josie Silverman Mendez, Chair of the Alliance Performance & Evaluation (P&E) Committee, began the presentation by introducing herself, inviting co-presenters Chris Berg and Michael Livingston to introduce themselves, and then describing the responsibilities delegated to the P&E Committee: 1) reviewing and evaluating the performance of HUD-funded projects; 2) reviewing and evaluating the overall system performance as it relates to the continuum of services in the local region; and 3) standing up the annual RFP process in support of the annual HUD Notice of Funding Opportunity.

She shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment) of the committee's first annual report. Chris Berg presented data relating the committee's first responsibility, reviewing and evaluating HUD-funded projects. These include projects that receive Continuum of Care Program funding, Emergency Services Grant funding, and Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program funding. The committee reviews Annual Performance Reports (APRs) and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER) and is working towards gathering more qualitative program data through site visits and interviews. Mr. Berg presented several aggregated data sets from the APRs and CAPERs for local programs—including street outreach, emergency shelter, and housing programs—noting that data does not tell the whole story and often data raises more questions than providing answers. Takeaways included noting a new assessment tool being developed for site reviews and acknowledging a need for deeper understanding of how serving chronically homeless populations can affect program performance.

Mayor Clark asked about the impacts of losing one-time ESG-CV funds in the region and noted that finding funding through other sources will be critical to the region's system of services and overall system performance. Mr. Jones stated that street outreach, with new positions funded through ESG-CV, has a positive outcome to overall system performance. Ms. Calvin said that in the prior year, three people moved into permanent housing and this past year, the number was 110. Mayor Hoy added that he was on a call with
Secretary Fudge who talked about new funding coming through Continuums of Care that could provide replacement funding. Ms. Hulsey asked about the youth data and program exits, and she requested training for HOME staff. Mr. Berg summarized how the data can be affected by protocols used in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

Mr. Livingston presented information, in plain language and with illustrations, about System Performance Measures, focusing on three measures:
SPM #1 – The length of time persons remain homeless;
SPM #2 - The extent to which persons who exit homelessness to permanent housing destinations return to homelessness;
SPM #7 - a) successful placement from street outreach; and b) successful placement in or retention of permanent housing.

Key takeaways for the board included, first that, HMIS matters. Mr. Livingston encouraged board members to take advantage of the HMIS Users Workgroup and Oregon Housing & Community Services technical assistance. He emphasized that HMIS participation matters, as well, and that we have a ways to go, including the Men's Mission at Union Gospel Mission. He noted that system performance includes the performance of programs that are HUD-funded and funded with other sources and recommended that work occur across committees, such as the Coordinated Entry Committee, HMIS Users Workgroup, and Performance & Evaluation Committee.

Mr. Jones asked about whether warming shelters data was included in HMIS. Ms. Calvin replied that in System Performance Measures, yes, warming shelters are included but there are problems with data collection. Mayor Clark asked about how people move from residential and transitional programs to permanent housing and whether people in transitional programs are considered unsheltered. Mr. Livingston replied that the path is not the same for everyone. Mr. Jones explained how the Housing First approach is the best practice, moving people directly into permanent housing, rather than using a "step" approach. Councilor Lopez asked about Union Gospel Mission (UGM) barriers to HMIS participation. Ms. Calvin replied that she is in conversation with Executive Director Dan Clem to help engage Union Gospel Mission more fully. Client confidentiality has been a concern of the UGM board.

Ms. Silverman-Mendez recapped the 2022 review and ranking process and the role of the Review & Ranking Subcommittee which operates under the P&E Committee and stated that the process felt improved and more streamlined. Key takeaways included there was value in adding board members to the subcommittee; connection back to the board is important; the need for cross-committee consultation, with emphasis on health and housing partners through the Health & Safety Subcommittee; and further improve the review and ranking process, including member orientation, role clarity between consultants and subcommittee members, and continuing interviews with new project applicants.

Commissioner Gordon thanked committee members for the hard work in preparing the annual report and for their service on the P&E Committee. Alisa Parker, P&E Committee member, expressed that as a newcomer to the Review & Ranking Subcommittee, she thought the participation of committee members was amazing. Commissioner Gordon concluded that this is one of many conversations we will have about this topic.

PIT COUNT UPDATE

Commissioner Corr laid out the issues needing discussion, including the PIT Count budget and how it relates to requests coming to the workgroup for food and supplies and how they are equitably distributed. She is working with Monmouth and Independence about Polk County's budget for the Polk County Connect event. Amber Kramer is leading the Polk County effort. Lisa Trauernicht is focused on Marion County. Councilor Corr described a video about the Polk County Connect and asked members to look for that. Commissioner Bethell confirmed Commissioner Corr's remarks and added that she appreciated Ms. Trauernicht's time in organizing the event. In February, the workgroup will be talking about lessons learned from the event and expressed her desire that she and Councilor Corr lead the event next year. She said the data will be short of what it would have been had there been an earlier start and organized plan. She said there is a significant gap in volunteers for the Salem area. Councilor Corr added that she is hopeful that there will be better data than collected in the past and recommended that the workgroup for next year's event begin in July. She added her appreciation for Ms. Trauernicht's help. Commissioner Gordon offered his help on Saturday and stated his perspective that "there is no perfect PIT Count," expressing appreciation to the co-chairs, workgroup members, and consultants for their work. There was also discussion about approaches being used for the youth count.

MAY CONFERENCE PLANNING

Della Shanley, Upstage Events, introduced herself, and briefly described roles for the workgroup and event coordinator. Mayor Hoy invited anyone who would like to participate in the planning workgroup to send him an email.

JURISDICTION/ORGANIZATION UPDATES

Christine Sommer, Marion County Housing Authority, Housing Choice Voucher Supervisor, reported that the waitlist closed August 2021 and will reopen January 15 at midnight online and will be open until February 1. The housing authority is looking for more people to connect with housing.

Commissioner Bethell reported that she and others from the Willamette Valley participated in an introduction to Governor Kotek's transition team and noted the governor's emergency declaration on homelessness. The goal for Marion County is to request that the State of Oregon work with this Continuum of Care. Commissioner Bethell said the team is optimistic about producing outcomes.

Mayor Hoy stated that Margaret Salazar, HUD Region 10 Administrator, will be joining him for the PIT Count event on Saturday, January 28.

Councilor Corr noted that the new Oregon Health Authority director's background is rural Spanish-speaking communities, particularly migrant workers, which bodes well for Polk County.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Chair Gordon adjourned the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

Attachments: Performance & Evaluation Committee Annual Report