

**WHITE RIVER HEALTH DISTRICT
1605 GEORGE JACKSON RD., MAUPIN, OR
DESCHUTES RIM CLINIC FOUNDATION (Steering Committee Meeting via ZOOM)
May 18, 2021
MEETING MINUTES**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Sue Knapp, Dennis Beechler

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Brian Manning, Jim Holycross, Andrew Houck

STEERING COMMITTEE: Merle Hlvaka, Bill Aarnio

Westby Associates, Inc: Beth Ernst, Michael Wilson

GUESTS:

DRHC:

I. CLINIC BUSINESS UPDATE AND NEW BUSINESS:

- Community Outreach: Maupin Daze went well; gave out goodies and raised \$121 for the Foundation. The clinic's website is near complete; the FB page will be managed by Kim.
- MCMC Update: The MCMC tour at the clinic is scheduled for 5/28.
- Operational Update: Thursday vaccinations are going well, with many vaccinations given. Staff are doing what needs to be done to meet Rural Health Clinic requirements; application is due 7/1.
- Board/Steering Committee: Election day is today.

II. FOUNDATION UPDATE:

- Financials: Sue reviewed the financials – balance at Community Bank as of 4/31 is: \$778,135.
- Pledge Recovery: None.
- USDA Loan: A CPA is reviewing the pro forma budget; which is the last piece of information required for the USDA loan. Anticipated completion of the review is this week. If it is submitted soon, notice on the loan should be received by end June to mid-July.
- Grants Update: For the Autzen grant, still need outcomes and measures of outcome success (quantitative and qualitative measures), a one-page budget, support letters, patient numbers, and volunteer hours.
- Operational Update: The R&H budget is now \$2.428M, primarily increased by the cost of lumber. We will have a pre-construction meeting with them and Pinnacle on 5/26 to review the budget and discuss the contract. Have not received an agenda yet. Construction documents have been completed and received. Michael informed that funding received and anticipated needs to be aligned with the construction schedule, and a gap strategy developed when funds run out. Development of a spreadsheet that contains the construction schedule (and expected costs) overlaid with grant/loan timelines would be helpful. The federal piece is a wild card and could be instrumental as a gap strategy if we were recipients. Michael encouraged conversations with Rep Bonham on how to find 'debt relief' with the escalation of materials costs. We should thank him for his support letters in the federal funding packages. Michael will be meeting with Senator Finley and invite him to the ground-breaking event. Sue will be preparing the FY 21-22 Foundation budget, now that construction costs are known.
- Fundraising: Subcontractors can participate in a fundraising event mid-construction ('hard hat tours'). We could mention this at the 5/26 meeting. This could be an important fundraiser.

- Marketing: The new clinic schematics (site plan, floor plan, outside rendering) are now mounted on foam core board. They are on display at the clinic.
- Ground-Breaking: Estimated cost is \$1,000. We are seeking sponsors to help defray the costs.

III. WESTBY ASSOCIATES: The new workplan, pie chart, and contract should be on the 6/15 agenda. The current contract ends on June 30. The new contract will be for 6 months from July – December. Updating the pie chart is necessary to assess the gap strategy; need to find the TRUE gap and define a strategy to close it.

Michael explained the Senate funding process, using ‘earmarks’. We submitted an application on the House side through Senator Bentz, but he was not interested in participating in the process. The two senators in Oregon and Washington form a ‘powerhouse’ given their respective chairmanships in key committees. This could be very helpful for us. We are requesting from \$650,000 to \$1.3M in ‘congressionally directed spending’ funds. The application process was arduous but we put together a competitive package and obtained great support letters. Funding will be for FY 2022. It is a two-year process, so we will have a 2nd chance.

Michael also commented on Wyden’s Wasco County Town Hall and the great conversation on ‘Rural Health Care’.

Sue commented on the new clinic in the works – South Wasco Community Health – being formed by a former provider of ours. It had a booth presence at Maupin Daze. She will send Michael the materials she picked up at the event.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED. NEXT MEETING IS **JUNE 15, AT 11:00AM**:

Respectfully submitted:
Sue Knapp