

**South County Health District  
Regular Meeting August 29, 2023  
Catherine Creek Community Center, Union, OR**

**Call to order** 10:02AM by President Susie Wirkkala

**Roll Call:** Present – Fred Hawkins, Maja LeFever, Debbie Clark, Susie Wirkkala, Kathy Kirby, Gerry Zastrow, District Manager Adina Ferguson. Mary Brookshire was not present.

**Approval of Minutes:** Kathy Kirby made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Fred Hawkins. Motion passed with all board members present voting yes.

**Financials:** District Manager noted that she had some non-typical bills to pay in July. Since it was the start of our fiscal year the employee health insurance took effect and we needed to put a 2-month payment into the system. We got rid of our 1990's phone system and have a new VOIP system that is very reliable. We had to pay for the 2023 election of board members, and had to re-stock hygiene supplies as we are very busy in that area. All in all, we still cleared \$10,141 for the month and our bank balance continues to grow. It was pointed out by the board that the district is making incredible progress considering the additional expenses taken on since April for our new dentist and the improvements we have made to staff salaries and benefits.

**City Grant:** Adina informed the board that Doug Wiggins reached out to her and wanted to know if there was some project that the clinic could fund with the grant approved by the city council several months ago. Adina noted that the clinic could use a nitrous setup. Doug asked her to submit a letter with the information. **Adina's letter was taken to the city council and voted on to approve the change in use of the grant.** \*\*Requested by Fred Hawkins to be added and the board asked it be added as a correction but this information was not brought forward and discussed at the 8/29/23 meeting.

**Grassroots:** Debbie and Kathy set up a table on the behalf of SCHED at Grassroots and handed out information. They were able to talk to a few people and get some feedback. They noted that they gained a lot of insight into how they can improve their visibility next year and will be work on designing a booth SCHED can use for attending this type of event.

**Update on building project:** District Manager talked to Nick DuCote about his timeframe for getting our project funded. He noted that he is planning to submit grants for another local non-profit in the coming cycle and will not be able to get to us for at least a year. Adina let him know that we will be working with Cherie Kausler to get the preliminary information about available properties and specifics of what the district wanted to do regarding a new building project. Debbie provided a report to the board with what they have found so far. At Nick's suggestion the district is going to have an engineer, Ralph Edwards, do a study and report for us that we can use to start soliciting grant money for the remodel of the old Boulder Market if the board decides to move forward. The report will include a floor plan and estimate of costs. Ralph gave Adina a preliminary estimate of \$500,000 to set up the clinic and do all needed repairs including the parking lot. The plan is to raise smaller amounts of funds from our local grantors, such as OCF, Ford Family Foundation and other to fund each phase of the remodel. It was noted that SCHED has already garnered a lot of support from local partners who are familiar with our need for more space.

It was asked if we have a conflict of interest because Debbie Clark owns the Boulder building. The District Manager responded that our attorney was asked about the issue during our board training in

April when the possibility of using the building first came up. Eileen's response was that this is common in small communities and was not a problem as long as Debbie recuses herself from the buying decision. It was also mentioned that the Clarks would be essentially donating some of their equity in the building with the proposed purchase of the property, should the board move forward. Several questions were asked about the soundness of the building, condition of the roof. Adina noted that Ralph indicated that the building was sound and we should be able to do what we want with it. The board decided to table further questions about the building until we have Ralph's report.

Kathy made a motion that the board direct the District Manager to hire Engineer Ralph Edwards to move forward with the report and gave her up to \$5000 to spend on that task. Gerry seconded the motion. It passed with 5 board members voting yes and Debbie Clark abstaining after declaring her conflict of interest.

The meeting was about to adjourn when Mary Brookshire arrived. She noted that she would request an environmental study of the property due to its use from 2005-2012 as a gas station with an above-ground tank. Debbie responded that board had already agreed to let our engineer do the study and tell the board what concerns we have with the property. Board President noted that there was no further discussion needed for the time being.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:48 AM

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ 2023

Vote: Fred Hawkins \_\_\_\_ Mary Brookshire \_\_\_\_ Barbara Weeks \_\_\_\_ Debbie Clark \_\_\_\_  
Susie Wirkkala \_\_\_\_\_ Kathy Kirby \_\_\_\_\_ Gerry Zastrow \_\_\_\_\_ Maja LeFever \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ President