

**South County Health District
Regular Meeting June 25, 2024
SCHD new clinic building, Union, OR**

Call to order 10:00AM by President Susie Wirkkala

Roll Call: Present –Maja LeFever, Debbie Clark, Susie Wirkkala, Barb Weeks and District Manager Adina Ferguson.

Approval of Minutes: Barb made the motion to accept the minutes from May 30, 2024 and June 18 2024. Maja seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Financials: No discussion on the financials.

In-House Insurance Program: Adina explained that this is not really an insurance program, but a pre-paid deposit for preventative services. Most clinics establish a discounted program that includes two annual cleanings, two exams and x-rays an emergency visit and fluoride treatment. Anyone who purchases one of the plans also receives additional discounts on intervention services during the year. The objective is to establish good hygiene habits that will prevent decay and periodontal issues that lead to more expensive treatment. Even an inexpensive insurance plan runs about \$720 per year per person and often doesn't cover needed treatment or provides no benefit for the first year of coverage. Adina would like to set up the plans and get approval for the program. There will probably be a handful of options with a focus on periodontal, braces and other issues. The plan will be for one person. A family will have to pay for one plan for each member they want covered. The plan would be paid in full at the beginning of each year and our staff will manage the follow-ups to make sure people are using their pre-paid benefits. The board was happy to know that the program will align with our mission to promote preventative treatment.

Need to raise fees for services: Adina shared that the clinic has not raised fees since 2020. At this point, with inflation, Union Family Dental Clinic is far behind the other local providers. We were 20% less than the for-profit clinics, but now much further behind in 2024. She would like to raise our rates 10%. Board discussed and decided they should vote to raise our rates, but would like to wait so Gerry could be part of the discussion. Board agreed to table until the July board meeting.

Ethics/Board Training: Susie brought up the Oregon Special Districts board training in Boardman on August 8th. Eileen Eakins, our attorney, is presenting. District Manager, Adina would like to accompany those board members planning to attend. Susie, Debbie, and Gerry are planning to attend. Debbie will put a notice on the website that the board will be attending in case Maja is able to come so there is notice per meeting law. The board discussed their excitement at being able to get more training. Susie noted that one board member who has since resigned was a constant barrier to getting proper procedures set up for the board because he refused to accept advice from or attorney.

Grassroots Fundraiser/Gun Raffle: Adina shared that she has decided on a Glock 9, 30 caliber revolver and a Henry lever action .22 rifle for the raffle. Estimated cost is \$1500 to \$1700. Ticket sales will

continue until at least sales double the cost of the firearms. Sales will start at Grassroots. The board discussed the need to have Randy at Thunderstick purchase the firearms and hold them for the results of the drawing so he can do the background checks. Barb made a motion to approve up to \$1700 for the purchase of the named firearms. Maja seconded the motion. Board voted and approved the motion unanimously.

Grants: Adina shared that she received a grant from Wildhorse for \$10,500 for hand held x-ray units, but had asked for \$30,000 due to the cost. It worked out, though, because one of the clinic's vendors had just started selling the x-ray units and had a great sale, so she was able to get two units and a sensor for only \$12,000. The clinic only had to put in \$2000. She is also trying to get a grant from our insurance company for 2 security floodlight cameras and 2 sets of gates to block the driveways into our new property after the vandalism to the building during the EO Livestock show. She has not heard back at this point.

Board Members: Adina is hoping to get Mike Colkitt or someone who is a respected business person in Union on the board. The board members discussed the difficulty in getting people to commit to board service. Some don't want to get into the local politics and others don't want to donate the time. Debbie noted that the district needs to work with other groups to increase awareness of SCHD and to look for future board members and building committee members. The group discussed setting up an annual fundraiser to pay for our preventative care program. Debbie noted that a good step forward would be to get Heidi on the EOCCO board to promote our health district and to work on getting the contract with the local schools to have SCHD do the education and hygiene program.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:10AM.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, July 30th at 10:00AM at the new clinic building.

Approval of Document by Board of Directors

Approved _____ 2024

Vote: Debbie Clark _____
Susie Wirkkala _____
Gerry Zamzow _____
Maja LeFever _____

Signed: _____ President