

**Homeless Advisory Board Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 8, 2023**

Depoe Bay City Hall  
570 SE Shell Ave, Depoe Bay, OR 97341  
and by ZOOM

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Chair Claire Hall called the meeting to order. Karen Rockwell did roll call for the representatives.

**Attendees Present:**

City of Depoe Bay, Kathy Short, Mayor\*  
City of Depoe Bay, Sandi Hollenbeck\*\*  
City of Lincoln City, Daphnee Legarza, City Manager  
City of Lincoln City, Judy Casper, Council President\*  
City of Newport, Cynthia Jacobi, Councilor\*\*  
City of Newport, Jan Kaplan, Councilor\*  
City of Newport, Spencer Nebel, City Manager  
City of Toledo, Betty Kamikawa, Council President\*\*  
City of Yachats, Ann Stott, Council President\*  
Coastal Support Services, Amanda Cherryholmes, Executive Director  
Community Services Consortium, Pegge McGuire, Executive Director\*  
Gary Lahman, Community Member  
Housing Authority of Lincoln County, Karen Rockwell, Executive Director (non-voting)  
Lincoln County School District, Woody Crobar, HELP Program Coordinator  
Lincoln County, Claire Hall, Commissioner\*  
Lincoln County, Jayne Romero, Health & Human Services Director  
Lincoln County, Tim Johnson, County Administrator  
Morant McLeod, Ernest Stephens II, Partner (facilitator)

\*appointed members of the Advisory Committee

\*\*appointed alternates

Since the group is nearing the execution of the intergovernmental agreement it will be falling under a more formal meetings/bylaws structure. Only the official representatives identified by the municipalities (or in their absence their appointed alternates) will be voting participants. Public participation is encouraged in the workgroups and there will be a space for public comments at the business meetings. A new website will also be launched in the future to a consolidated space for information on the HB4123 work and future strategic initiatives.

A motion carried to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2023 and February 8, 2023 meetings.

Tim Johnson gave an update on the status of the deadlines for the state contract with HB4123. The draft strategic plan will be submitted for this Department of Administrative Services report, with the final plan being submitted to Oregon Housing and Community Services once it is complete. There will not be a need to adjust the speed of the public input process with Morant McLeod.

Commissioner Claire Hall gave a report on the Lincoln County State of Emergency surrounding homelessness and the request for inclusion in the Governor's Emergency Declaration. A small workgroup helped draft a proposal for consideration by the County Commissioners, which was then approved and forwarded to the Governor's office. It is not clear if additional funding would be made available if approved, but it would extend technical assistance through the emergency management program. Thank you to Community Services Consortium and the Lincoln County School District for providing data to support this project. Outside of the emergency declaration there is an additional \$26.5 million being allocated to the Rural Continuum of Care counties to address their work with sheltering. The details have not yet been released with how this is going to be made available.

Tim Johnson, Daphne Legarza, and Spencer Nebel have been finalizing the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the governing body of the Homeless Advisory Board. The final version will be distributed for electronic signing.

Commissioner Claire Hall gave an update on the County's winter sheltering/voucher program. Amanda Cherryholmes, Executive Director of Coastal Support Services and one of the administrators of this year's winter voucher program gave a report on the number of people served and the challenges with the program. The County is going to seek out a new solution for the next winter season. Betty Kamikawa, Board member on Grace Wins Haven also expressed concerns about the motel voucher program. There was also acknowledgment and gratitude to the St. Stephen Episcopal Church in Newport for assisting during the week of the Newport Wine & Seafood Festival when the motels were booked.

Spencer Nebel shared an outreach visit to the Devereux Center in Coos Bay. One big success in Coos Bay and Coos County is the use of a mobile response team. Coos Health Department goes out with law enforcement, or may go out by themselves, to address various issues in the field. This has been a huge benefit for Coos County. When the Executive Director started with the Devereux Center seven years ago, she was in a half-time position. Since that time, she has expanded the organization, which now has 22 employees, owns and manages a Pallet house neighborhood for homeless individuals, operates a day center with various support services, and provides a shelter at night during cold weather conditions in their homeless shelter. When the Executive Director started, the budget for the Devereux Center was \$250,000. Today their daily budget is \$1.25 million. Tara indicated that 60% of their funding comes from grants; 20% are contracts or fees for services provided by the Center; and, 15% is from donations. They receive no local funding from either the City or the County for their operations. Karen Rockwell commented that her experience with the sheltering system in Benton County and through her work in the charitable sector, that funding is traditionally found from grants/foundations and

individual donations – with the municipalities not being the primary source of sustainable funding.

Ernest Stephens gave an update on the status of the strategic plan process, which is on track. The workgroups have formed and are continuing to expand. The workgroups are:

- Community Engagement – Chair Pastor Bob Barrett
- Finance & Economics – Chair City of Toledo Mayor Rod Cross
- Mental & Physical Health – Chair City of Toledo Council President Betty Kamikawa
- Service Provision & Policy – Executive Director Samaritan House Lola Jones

The primary mission has been solidified and was presented to the Board: Committed to ensuring that every member of our community has access to the resources they need, while also working to prevent the circumstances that lead to homelessness.

There will be a heavy push for increased participation throughout the community both in workgroups, in the Service Provider panel and in the Lived Experience panel. Morant McLeod's team will also be conducting targeted focus groups and interviews throughout the next few months. This will help inform the recommendations to the strategic plan, which the Advisory Board representatives will be sorting through in a few months.

**Next Meeting: April 12, 2023 from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.**