



October 2024 Meeting

Board Of Directors

Thursday, October 24, 2024

Addendum A

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COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE

Community Action changes people’s lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

Helping People Changing Lives

Board of Directors Agenda

Date: Thursday, October 24, 2024

Time: 5:30 pm

Location:

2475 Center Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301

Virtual:

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 254 477 902 631 **Passcode:** wcPp7o



Mission

Empowering people to change their lives and exit poverty by providing vital services and community leadership.

Vision

All people are respected for their infinite worth and are supported to envision and reach a positive future.

I. Welcome and Introductions	5:30
II. Public Comment	5:35
III. Declaration of Conflict of Interest	5:40
IV. Approval of Agenda	5:45
V. Consent Calendar	5:50
1. September 2024 Full Board Meeting Minutes	
2. October 2024 Executive Director Report	
3. October 2024 Regional Poverty and Legislative Report	
4. October 2024 Chief Financial Officer Report	
5. October 2024 Chief Human Resources Officer Report	
6. October 2024 Program Director Reports	
7. October 2024 Program Committee Meeting Minutes	
8. October 2024 Executive & Finance Committee Meeting Minutes	
VI. Board Business	5:55
1. Financials (Hoyle) – <i>Approval</i>	
2. Family Services Project (Poynor & Webb) – <i>Informational</i>	
3. Harvest Fest Update (Jennings) – <i>Informational</i>	
4. Health Related Social Needs (Hamilton) – <i>Informational</i>	
5. Strategic Planning Update (Hamilton) – <i>Informational</i>	
6. Executive Director’s Report (Jones) – <i>Informational</i>	
VII. Executive Session	7:15
VIII. Adjournment	7:30

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, November 21, 2024

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Actual to Budget, July 2024 - August 2024

	Jul 2024 - Aug 2024		FY25 - Budgeted	Expected Spent %	Actual Earned/Spent %	Difference
Grant and awards	\$ 9,470,356		\$ 76,460,608	17%	12%	-4%
Other program revenue	211,367		505,000	17%	42%	25% (a)
Contributions	9,459		500,000	17%	2%	-15%
Total Revenue	9,691,182		77,465,608	17%	13%	-4%
Expenses						
Community resource programs	3,675,583		32,408,567	17%	11%	-5%
Reentry services	64,691		368,999	17%	18%	1%
Child care resource and referral network	378,304		2,533,760	17%	15%	-2%
Energy assistance programs	927,600		6,199,647	17%	15%	-2%
Weatherization services	767,459		2,978,302	17%	26%	9%
Nutrition first USDA food program	422,745		4,577,844	17%	9%	-7%
Head start	2,451,057		16,536,748	17%	15%	-2%
Home youth services	757,972		5,794,441	17%	13%	-4%
Management and general	1,048,859 (b)		5,742,300	17%	18%	2%
Total Expenditures	10,494,270		77,140,608	17%	14%	-3%
Revenue Over/(Under)						
Expenditures	\$ (803,087)		\$ 325,000			

(a) Other program revenue includes miscellaneous rebates for the Programs, CCR&R class fees, and rent income (offset against grant funding).

(b) MG&A percentage 10%

Executive Director's Report
to the Executive Finance Committee
MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY
COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

Regional Service and Legislative News

October 2024

Deschutes County commissioners refused to move forward a long-in-the-works plan to create a 170-acre “temporary safe stay” area for homeless campers living at **Juniper Ridge**, north of the City of Bend. The lightly managed camp was designed to reduce the fire risk on government land. When the Commissioners refused to endorse the plan, **Bend Mayor Melanie Kebler**, with the support of the Bend City Council, shelved the plan. They then moved their soon to be expiring federal money to other options, particularly to expand Bend’s favored “safe parking” sites within Bend city limits. The Commissioners were concerned, among other matters, with potential legal action around land use issues, knock-on effects from some of the regulations for the proposed population (like perhaps driving some campers out of Juniper Ridge to other locations), and service design.¹



Figure 1 Western Pond Turtle

The **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** has moved to add additional protections for the **Western Pond Turtle**. This turtle is a fresh water and wetlands aquatic turtle found west of the Cascades, from Washington down to California. The turtle is under increasing pressure from droughts, habitat loss, and invasive species, in particular large-mouth bass and bullfrogs, which eat the baby turtles. (I grew up in a part of the United States where large bullfrogs are ubiquitous, and often hunted as food. They eat, literally, everything from fish to small birds to bats to sometimes

¹ [Bend-Deschutes County plan for 'temporary safe stay area' for Juniper Ridge homeless appears to be falling apart - KTVZ](#)

each other). The turtles are extinct in British Columbia, declining rapidly in Washington, and holding on in Oregon and California.² The turtle has not yet been approved for the **Endangered Species List**, but City of Salem outreach efforts to campers in **Wallace Marine** (as part of the City's efforts to restore the wetlands in Wallace) have included information about the wildlife impact of camping, trash, and habitat destruction. I am not sure how these conversations are going, but people living unsheltered likely see this as yet more evidence that rich folks care more about turtles than they do about people. This conversation seems silly on its face, but it will be a greater and greater problem in the generation ahead. Right now, we are holding the line on the homeless condition in Salem, having moved the majority into shelters and prevented the size of the unsheltered population (essentially) from doubling in the past five years.



Figure 2 Wallace Marine Homeless Camp



Figure 3 KGW follows ARCHES Outreach to Wallace Marine (July 2024)

Until government takes housing justice seriously, there is no end in sight to this current problem. Global climate change will have profound impact in Oregon. **Oregon's Sixth Climate Assessment** (published every two years, and due again in early 2025) demonstrates that carbon emissions have increased the Oregon average annual temperature by 2.2 degrees (Fahrenheit) over the last 100 years. The projected increase is an additional 5 degrees by 2050 and 8.2 degrees by 2080, reducing snow packs, exacerbating wildfires, and turning Oregon summers in particular sweltering (projected average summer annual increase of 6.3 degrees by 2050 and 10.2 degrees by 2080). The summer heat wave in Oregon in 2021 killed 116 people, but it was a 1-in-100 year event (and possibly even more rare). These kinds of projected increases will turn that 1-in-100 year frequency to a 1-in-6 year frequency.³ That heat increase will have a devastating impact on turtles and many other species, but given the extraordinary cost of living and housing cost generally on the west coast, the poverty population and especially the homeless will suffer devastating consequences. The conflict between preserving wildlife habitat and protecting humans in deep poverty will grow more pronounced in the years ahead.

² <https://www.opb.org/article/2024/04/29/think-out-loud-federal-protections-western-pond-turtle-oregon/>

³ <https://energyinfo.oregon.gov/blog/2023/1/11/occris-sixth-climate-assessment-outlines-climate-change-effects-on-oregon>

The **Portland City Council** is moving to end its financial commitment to the joint homeless services department in the metro, and sever its organizational relationship with **Multnomah County**. The **Joint Office of Homeless Services** was established in 2016, as an effort to provide housing assistance, shelter, outreach, and other services.⁴ Both Portland and Multnomah County fund the Office, which was created (in part) to develop one central homeless entity (and policy) that controlled the nonprofit community and held in check the unavoidable temptations that most newly elected metro officials have had toward tinkering with long-term homeless plans. In my view, it is the most effective failure in Oregon history, having sheltered and housed tens of thousands of homeless persons, even while the public believes it is (conversely) either wasting money or failing to spend it quickly enough. The Joint Office was the primary target for **People for Portland**, a conservative group that sought to seize control of the homeless issue and drive unsheltered populations away from wealthy neighborhoods and business districts. Portland politics, however, have grown more conservative on the homeless issue than most across Oregon understand. I would cite **Mayor Ted Wheeler's** dream of driving the homeless population into large camps by reinventing the often failed “arrest our way out of this nightmare” strategy.

Portland (the city) has long favored sheltering solutions (an out of sight, out of mind strategy) while the County has focused on permanent housing (the most cost effective and evidenced based strategy, though very slow in execution and irrelevant to those who are trying to hide the homeless). Portland City Councilors **Rene Gonzalez**, **Mingus Mapps**, and **Dan Ryan** have attempted to limit nonprofits from helping unsheltered people with live saving measures, like tents and tarps. Just this last week, those three Councilors drew up plans to sever the relationship with the Joint Office. It is not likely to stand, because Portland is completely redesigning its Council system in the new year.⁵ But it is important, because many of the Portland homeless services nonprofits are funded almost exclusively by the Joint Office.⁶ Without that funding, they will not exist. Portland does not have an independent nonprofit Community Action Agency. It is an arm of local government there. As such, the mission-driven nonprofit work is dependent on local elections.

Legislative Updates

The **83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly** will convene on January 21st, a mere 90 days from now. Revenue forecasts have expanded the available funds to spend, but the requests for funds will still wildly exceed what is available. For early learning, this will be a “maintaining budget” session, as the public school systems, housing and transportation look to dominate the budget conversations. I do not expect any additional funds (unfortunately) for energy, weatherization, or food, which is

⁴ Several of my colleagues led or played a critical role in the Joint Office, including Governor Brown’s housing policy advisor (Ryan Deibert) and Governor Brown’s former racial justice advisor (and current Multnomah County Commission candidate) Shannon Singleton.

⁵ [3 Portland City Council members move to dissolve homeless services agreement with Multnomah County](#)

⁶ [Homelessness nonprofits roiled as Portland poised to pull funds | kgw.com](#)

tragic given the poverty need in Oregon. The pre-session budget conversations have set the stage to see big expansions in housing and behavioral health.

The **Oregon Health Authority** is seeking a \$39 billion budget. It includes POPs (policy option packages) inclusive of a new \$176.1M to add residential treatment beds, \$117.4M for Oregon's behavioral health workforce expansion, and \$121.8M for medical care for those incarcerated and leaving incarceration. Of the \$39 billion, more than \$20 billion is federal funds through the **Oregon Health Plan** (Medicaid).⁷

The **Higher Education Coordinating Commission** (which controls state funding for public institutions of higher education) submitted an ARB (agency request budget) of \$4.75 billion, but they were unhappy with the "low" number, a product of the Governor's instruction for modest investments in higher education. Higher Education was not part of the Governor's three priorities (the Governor limited agencies to a 1 percent of base budget request for new funds, unless it related to housing, behavioral health, or child literacy).⁸

Oregon Department of Human Services is seeking \$7.05 billion from the General Fund, and \$21.75 billion in other (largely federal funding) for the 2025-2027. Like many state agencies, ODHS has millions in roll up costs from 2023-2025 (cost adjustments for overspends or labor cost increases).⁹

Oregon Housing and Community Services is proposing its most ambitious budget in its history, capitalizing on the \$1.6 billion in housing and homeless services work in the past four years. Those investments have provided homeless services to 70,000 Oregonians in the past year, created/preserved 10,200 affordable rental units, built 500 new homes, kept 1,100 households out of foreclosure, and helped finance 985 new homeowners. The 2025-2027 budget ask is for \$3.712 billion, inclusive of \$1.1 billion in homeless services funding.¹⁰

The **Oregon Department of Early Learning and Care** (which funds our Head Start and CCR&R programs) is proposing a \$1.528 billion budget; while the **Oregon Department of Education** is asking for \$18.23 billion.¹¹

Jimmy Jones
20 October 2024
Salem, Oregon

⁷ <https://www.thelundreport.org/content/oregon-health-authority-seeks-39-billion-budget>

⁸ <https://www.opb.org/article/2024/08/08/oregon-higher-ed-board-proposes-budget-jeopardize-programs-raise-costs/>

⁹ <https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/about/budget/2025-2027-arb-section-1.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/about-us/Documents/budget/91400-OHCS-Agency-Request-Budget-25-27.pdf>

¹¹ <https://www.oregon.gov/delc/Documents/delc-budget-overview-and-reductions-25-27-arb.pdf> ;

[https://www.oregon.gov/ode/schools-and-](https://www.oregon.gov/ode/schools-and-districts/finance/Documents/58100%20Oregon%20Department%20of%20Education%2025-27%20ARB.pdf)

[districts/finance/Documents/58100%20Oregon%20Department%20of%20Education%2025-27%20ARB.pdf](https://www.oregon.gov/ode/schools-and-districts/finance/Documents/58100%20Oregon%20Department%20of%20Education%2025-27%20ARB.pdf)