



# Work Session Summary Minutes

OREGON

## Quarterly Meeting with the Marion County Health & Human Services Executive Team

December 17, 2024. 1:30 PM

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem

5th Floor, Suite 5232, Commissioners Board Room

### ATTENDANCE:

**Commissioners:** Kevin Cameron, Danielle Bethell, and Colm Willis.

**Board's Office:** Trevor Lane, Alvin Klausen Toni Whitler, Chris Eppley, Jan Fritz, and Matt Lawyer.

**Legal Counsel:** Steve Elzinga.

**Health and Human Services:** Katrina Griffith, and Ryan Matthews.

Kevin Cameron called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

### **Summary**

The Marion County Health and Human Services team discussed several key updates and changes at their quarterly meeting on December 17, 2024. They addressed the transition in Ambulance Service Area (ASA) leadership, with Shawn Baird remaining as Chair and Kyle Amsberry as Vice Chair. Discussed potential reapplication process for Santiam Hospital's franchise transfer to Samaritan and the need for a new division director for housing services to better manage the growing housing needs. The team emphasized the importance of centralizing housing resources and improving access to services, particularly for unaccompanied minors. They also highlighted the need for strategic data to measure the impact of their programs and the importance of community partnerships.

### **ASA**

#### **Committee Appointments**

- Terms are ending January 31, 2025, for Dan Mullen and Stephanie McClung and one other member.
- The current approach of having a representative from each ambulance service area will be maintained for committee appointments.
- All three members with expiring terms are interested in reappointment and have submitted their application.

#### **Chair & Vice Chair**

- The chair and vice chair positions need to be reconsidered, as it has been about two years since the current appointments.
- Shawn Baird will continue as the chair, and Kyle Amsberry from Salem Fire will be the new vice chair, with terms beginning January 1, 2025.
- The roles of the chair and vice chair include agenda setting, meeting facilitation, and calling for votes.

## **Salem Fire**

- Salem Fire plans to take over the ambulance service area starting July 1, 2025.
- Monthly meetings held to discuss their deployment plan and budgetary issues.
- Salem Fire has a recruitment process and expects to be fully staffed.

## **Santiam Hospital**

- Santiam Hospital is going into business with Samaritan, retaining its tax ID number and maintaining its services and staffing:
  - A documentation process to memorialize would be sufficient.

## **Behavioral Health (BH) Performance Measures**

- Improvements in youth same-day access, appointment attendance rates, and adult enrollment and discharges are presented.
- The no-show rate for youth same-day access has improved from 60% to 4%, and the appointment attendance rate is now 90-99%.
- Actions taken to improve appointment attendance include prioritizing therapists based on caseload and making intake packets valid for 30 days.
- Goal to increase discharges from adult BH services by 5% to reduce caseload size

## **Housing Program Discussion**

- The potential elimination of the intensive services and supports program.
- Need a dedicated leadership role for the housing program, propose a new division director position.
- The potential impact of these changes on the budget and organizational structure.
- The board expresses support for the proposed changes and the need for dedicated leadership for the housing program.
- Need partnerships with organizations like the Salem Housing Authority to stabilize housing placements

## **Next Steps**

- The importance of involving the board in the recruitment process and ensuring buy-in on the new hire is emphasized.
- Potential funding sources for the new position, including Medicaid dollars and Pacific Source funding, are discussed.
- The board commits to continue working on the proposed changes and recruitment process.
- Bring the ASA committee appointments to the board session for approval.
- Provide documentation to memorialize the decision regarding Santiam Hospital's member substitution agreement.
- Prepare a memo on the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Legislative Concept for civil commitment, including pros, cons, and opportunities.
- Obtain and review the draft bill from Anna Williams regarding youth consent for substance use treatment.
- Sign the letter acknowledging David Beam as an honorary member of the Intellectual or Developmental Disability (IDD) Advisory Committee.
- Consider creating a new Housing Services division director position and include it in the upcoming budget process.

**Adjourned** – time: 2:41 p.m.

**Minutes by:** Mary Vityukova

**Minutes by:** Gary White

**Reviewed by:**

**Reviewed by:**

**Reviewed by:**

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