



**Marion County Extension and 4-H Service District (MCE4H)
Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2025**

SERVICE DISTRICT SPECIAL MEETING

Open Meeting

The meeting of the Marion County Extension and 4-H Service District (MCE4H) was called to order by Director Danielle Bethell at 11:40a.m. Introductions were made.

Board Members Present: Commissioner Danielle Bethell, MCE4H Director; Commissioner Colm Willis, MCE4H Director; Commissioner Kevin Cameron, MCE4H Director

Attending: Matt Lawyer, MC Board's Office; Toni Whitler, MC Board's Office; Trevor Lane, MC Board's Office; Scott Norris, MC Legal; Laura McClellan, MC CEDD; Kelli Weese, MCE4H Secretary and Budget Officer; Eric Mason, MC CEDD; Krista Ulm, MC CEDD; Elvira Alvarez, OSU Extension; Amy Goulter-Allen, MCE4H Budget Committee Member, Destinee Schuster, MCE4H Budget Committee Member; Jessica Otjen, YMCA; Suzie Johnson, Silverton YMCA; Marty Limbard, Silverton YMCA

Community Projects

Background Summary – Presented by Kelli Weese

- Project Overview
 - The YMCA of Marion & Polk Counties submitted a YEDAAG grant application to support the development of *The Bridge*, a new community facility in downtown Silverton that will serve as the permanent home of the Silver Falls YMCA.
 - The project will expand youth development, family engagement, and healthy aging programs for the greater Silver Falls area.
 - Grant funding would support staffing, healthy snacks, and program supplies.
- Critical Timing
 - The YMCA has been given a community challenge to raise \$200,000 by December 15, 2025. Meeting this goal would unlock an additional \$50,000 gift to furnish and equip the facility, supporting an early 2026 opening.
 - MCE4H currently has \$64,593 in grant funds that remain unallocated.

Summary of Presentation – YMCA Team

- Project Overview
 - A community needs assessment conducted in the Silver Falls area identified a gap in after-school programming for middle school aged youth and teens outside of youth sports.
 - The YMCA purchased a building on November 26, 2025, using funds from the Larry and Jeanette Epping Family Foundation.
 - Total program cost is \$300,000:
 - \$225,000 for furniture, fixtures, and equipment.
 - \$75,000 for operational and staffing ramp-up costs.



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- YEDAAG funds would support the youth development component of the project by filling funding gaps for programs such as robotics, art and other enrichment activities.
- The facility will be within walking distance of all Silverton schools.
- The YMCA is exploring coordinated access for youth from neighboring communities.
- Partnerships are underway with FFA and the local agricultural community.
- As of December 11, 2025, the YMCA received \$25,000 from the MAPS Community Foundation, bringing secured grant funding above the campaign goal while leaving a remaining funding gap of \$41,213.

Summary of Discussion,

- Kelli Weese confirmed that \$64,593 in grant funds remain unallocated.

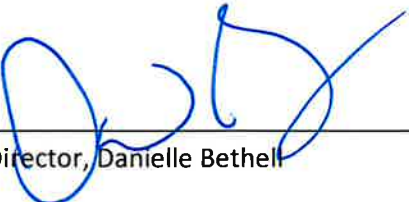
MOTION: Director Cameron made a motion to approve the Family YMCA Silverton Bran YEDAAG application in the amount of \$30,000 and to authorize the signing of the enclosed letter commitment. Director Willis seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. **MOTION PASSED**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:54a.m.

MARION COUNTY EXTENSION and 4-H SERVICE DISTRICT

 2/3/2026
 Chair, Colm Willis Date

 2-3-2026
 Director, Kevin Cameron Date

 2/3/2026
 Director, Danielle Bethel Date

Orig: Clerk
Cc: Board of Commissioners – MCE4HSD
Community Services