**WFC Board Meeting Minutes**

September 27, 2023

Yakima, WA held with annual conference

**In attendance**: Cecilia Chavez, **Treasurer**; josh martinez, **Chair**; Andra Smith, **Past** **Chair**; Sara Osborne, **Vice Chair**, Alan Hamilton, David Bobanick, At-Large, Jose Garza, Erik Mora, Stephani Smith, Scott Rossiter, Bob Mark, Jay Kang, Leon Brauner, Kathleen Murphy, Cecilia Chavez and Trish Twomey, staff

Absent: Michelle Douglas, VJ Meadows

Guest:

1. **Introductions:**

Executive Committee Update: How to transition into the next phase with a new chair, Andra and josh proposed that she will move the Past Chair role and josh martinez will step into the Chair position. Sara Osborne has expressed interest in serving as the Vice Chair.

**Andra Smith nominated Sarah Osborn to fill the position of Vice Chair. Alan Hamilton seconded, *nomination passed.***

Discussed an updated budget:

The American Heart Association offered the coalition $90,000 to continue our nutrition work but staff felt that an additional $10,000 is needed. The Executive Board voted to use $10,000 from our reserves to cover this deficit.

Proposed a 20% increase to Trish’s salary with a 4% COLA to vote on every year.

***Leon Bruner moved to increase Trish's salary by 20%, an annual COLA tied to CPI by board vote, and up to $175 technology reimbursement. David Bobanick seconded, motioned passed.***

District Updates:

District 1: Stephani Smith -food box deliveries have seen an increase, with a decrease in what is being given. Started a grow-your-own produce program.

District 2: Bob Mark -Cuts in benefits in the area, community action council new facility.

District 3: Jose Garza - Started bicycle programs, seeing more people using the pantries as their primary source of shopping and food. Some programs are shutting down.

District 4: Ariel Medeiros- Students are back, and volunteers have seen an increase as they need hours. This is the time of the year that Greek Organizations start doing food drives.

District 5: Cecilia Chavez - New families, food prices have gone up, hard to get enough food because of it, seeing people go to multiple pantries in the area.

District 6: No representation

District 7: Erik Mora - Lots of need, able to purchase food, and good relationships with growers through farm-to-food pantry. Helping with delivering food to pantries.

District 8: Scott Rossiter - Shortage of food, higher numbers of families, shortage of volunteers. Fresh produce and proteins are the challenge to get.

District 9: Kathleen Murphy - New families visiting pantries in the area and seeing the same families visiting multiple pantries to get enough food.

District 10: No representation

District 11: Jay Kang - Not seeing a lot of fresh produce.

District 12: Alan Hamilton - Food supply is at an all-time low and is spending more on food to supplement the lack of food. Partnership between the Washington Food Coalition and Feeding America.

District 13: Leon Brauner - Lacking fresh food, Coastal Harvest has expanded its warehouse space, and most pantries have seen an increase of 30% in client numbers. Half of all produce from a community garden goes to the local food bank.

District 14: Andra - Knows that clients are visiting multiple pantries to get enough. Has some produce, with help from small local farms.

At-Large:
No Updates

1. **Approval of Minutes:**

***Leon Bruner motioned to approve the July 2023 minutes as presented. David Bobanick seconded the motion, motion passed.***

1. **Treasurer’s Report** by Trish Twomey

Trish assisted Cecilia in making the treasurer’s report since the Finance Committee was unable to meet due to receiving the financial statements so late. We continue to struggle with bookkeeper issues. The board reviewed the dashboard for June, July and August. Lots Conference sponsorships have come in.

***Cecilia Chavez motioned to approve the treasurer's report as stated. Jay King seconded the motion, motion passed.***

1. **Executive Director’s Report** by Trish Twomey

Trish shared her director’s report. Highlights include publishing the Fall Quarterly newsletter, participation in the Back to Action Campaign, recruiting volunteers into food pantries, funds from the American Heart Association and funding for our Resiliency Grant.

1. **Board Development Exercise** by josh martinez

josh conducted a board development exercise asking board members questions regarding leadership and participation on the board.

1. **Committee Reports**
	1. **WSDA/FA Advisory update** - Kim Eads and Michelle Douglas

No representation

* 1. **Conference Committee** - Trish Twomey

Trish thanked everyone for being here for the conference and shared a bit about the schedule and board member participation. If you signed up to introduce one of our presenters/sessions. The envelopes for each session are at the registration desk.

No representation

* 1. **Advocacy Committee** by Steven Curry

No representation

1. **Close**

The next meeting will be in January 2024, virtually.

